

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF PLAINFIELD
IN UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

MINUTES of a **WORK & STUDY** Meeting of the Board of
Education Held on Tuesday, May 1, 2012

A **WORK & STUDY** Meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Plainfield was held this day in the Plainfield High School Conference Room. Notice had been provided to Board members and to the Courier-News, Star Ledger, Public Library, City Clerk, Plainfield Police Department, and posted in all Plainfield Public Schools and on the Plainfield Public Schools' website. Mr. Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. and the following action took place:

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. WELCOME

WELCOME to a Work & Study Meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Plainfield. Members hope you will find the meeting interesting and informative. We thank you for taking the time to attend. Please be advised that this and all meetings of the Board are open to the media and public, consistent with the OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT (Ch. 231 Laws of 1975), and that advance notice required therein has been provided to the Courier News and the Star Ledger on Thursday, April 26, 2012 for advertisement on Saturday, April 28, 2012.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Renata A. Hernandez, President
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell, Vice President
Mr. Alex O. Edache, arr. @ 7:00 p.m.
Mrs. Keisha Edwards
Mrs. Brenda L. Gilbert, arr. @ 7:05 p.m.
Mr. Dorien Hurtt, arr. @ 7:15 p.m.
Dr. Susan Phifer
Ms. Jameelah Surgeon

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Interim Superintendent
Mr. Gary L. Ottmann
Mr. Robert Pickett, Esq.
Mr. Charles Craig, Esq.
Ms. Lauren Craig, Esq.
Mr. Nixon Kannah, Esq.
Ms. Adia Perry, Esq.

Mrs. Lisa Logan-Leach, excused

The following resolution was moved by Mrs. Campbell seconded by Mrs. Edwards, and unanimously approved by the Board:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-11, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss:

- Personnel
- Legal

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

The Board of Education adjourned into its Executive Session at 6:51p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of the Work & Study Meeting at 8:05 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Hernandez reviewed five (5) core goals of the Board. Dr. Phifer will lead a board team in further development/refinement. "One Board, One Voice".

Mrs. Hernandez reviewed Board self-evaluation which was to be completed by April 30, 2012. Gwen Thornton will review the evaluation at the May business meeting.

Mrs. Hernandez wants to ensure that every (chair) part of the organization knows what is going on and can break it down for their colleagues.

All board members should have updates at Board meetings, as this is their responsibility as a board/school liaison.

V. REMARKS FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Harold Gee and Yolanda Henry gave a presentation on District Facilities.

The Board had many questions on the work being done, orders and building walk-thru, etc.

VI. REMARKS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

The Board reviewed the C & I, Finance and Policy agendas

The Board agreed to allow public speeches regarding the Penn Relays.

The Board heard from the aunt of the Plainfield High School student who was allegedly assaulted by a staff member at the Penn Relays last weekend.

VII. REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

N. Revise the 2011-2012 District Calendar

The Interim Superintendent of Schools recommends, and moved by Ms. Surgeon and seconded by Mr. Hurtt adoption of the following:

RESOLUTION

A revision to the 2011-2012 academic school year calendar, which will address the reallocation of three unused snow days.

RESOLVED, that the Plainfield Board of Education approves the proposed revision to the 2011-2012 School District Calendar.

The motion passed on a roll-call vote with Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Edache, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Gilbert, Mrs. Hernandez, Mr. Hurtt, Dr. Phifer and Ms. Surgeon in favor and none were opposed.

Ms. Surgeon moved, and seconded by Mr. Hurtt and unanimously approved by the Board to return to executive session at 10:00p.m.

Ms. Surgeon moved, and seconded by Mrs. Edwards and unanimously approved by the board to return to the public session of the meeting at 11:00 p.m.

Mrs. Campbell moved, and seconded by Mrs. Edwards and unanimously approved by the Board, to adjourn the meeting at 11:01 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary
GLO/bsc