

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, October 12, 2010

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 6:30 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, September 30, 2010 for advertisement on Saturday, October 2, 2010.

III. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Lisa C. Logan-Leach., President
Mr. Rasheed Abdul-Haqq, Vice President
Ms. Patricia I. Barksdale
Mrs. Wilma G. Campbell
Mr. Agurs Linward Cathcart, Jr., left @ 8:00 p.m.
Mrs. Keisha Edwards
Mr. Brenda Gilbert
Mrs. Renata A. Hernandez
Ms. Katherine Peterson

ALSO PRESENT

Mrs. Anna Belin-Pyles, Interim Superintendent
Mr. Gary L. Ottmann
Mr. Robert Pickett, Esq., arr. @ 6:50 p.m.
Mr. Charles Craig, Esq., arr. @ 7:00 p.m.
Mr. Lauren Craig, Esq., arr. @ 6:40 p.m.

The following resolution was moved by Ms. Barksdale, seconded by Mr. Cathcart, 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 adjourned to closed session to discuss:

- personnel and 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 6:31 p.m.

The Plainfield Board of Education resumed the public session of the Work & Study Meeting at 8:00 p.m.

IV. REMARKS FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mrs. Logan-Leach indicated that the Board has received a dinner invitation from Sodexo during the NJSBA annual conference on October 19, 2010 and the Business meeting has been moved to October 20, 2010.

VI. REMARKS FROM THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Belin-Pyles indicated that the "State of the District" presentation will be at this month's Business meeting. It will be a very comprehensive presentation.

IX. REMARKS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

The Board reviewed goals and feedback for the 2010-11 school year.

Ms. Barksdale believes curriculum is a concern shared by many board members.

Mrs. Edwards believes that we need to look closely at the existing strategic plan.

Mrs. Hernandez wants to see bilingual level goals.

Mrs. Campbell indicated that the Ad Hoc Food Service committee met today and identified some areas of concern.

Mr. Abdul-Haqq believes that we haven't placed any demands on Sodexo.

Mrs. Edwards reported out on the Ad Hoc Committee review of proposals for auditors and health benefit brokers.

There was also board interest in identifying opportunities for local vendors to obtain Board of Education business, as well as providing workshops to get vendors certified by the State.

Mr. Abdul-Haqq questioned the legality of minority set-asides. Mr. Pickett indicated the Board probably needs to develop a formal policy based on facts.

Mrs. Logan-Leach distributed a summary of the July 15, 2010 board meeting which was completed by a Professional Learning Program student.

Under the Finance agenda, there was discussion of obtaining alternative pricing for drug testing for students.

The Board approved moving all committee agendas to the business agenda.

Ms. Barksdale moved, seconded by Mrs. Edwards and unanimously approved by the Board, return to executive session of the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Mrs. Edwards moved, seconded by Ms. Peterson and unanimously approved by the Board, return to the public session of the meeting at 10:44 p.m.

Mrs. Edwards moved, seconded by Mrs. Campbell and unanimously approved by the Board to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Recorded by:

Gary L. Ottmann, Board Secretary
GLO/bsc