

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Plymouth Public Schools is to challenge, inspire, and prepare all students for success in an ever-changing and complex world.

PLYMOUTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
33 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CT 06786
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020

Erica Colville
TOWN CLERK
JAN 17 4:11:34
TERRYVILLE, CT

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Walter Seaman, Chair; Mrs. Karen Kulesa, Vice Chair; Mrs. Cindy Candra-Florenciani, Mr. Josiah Elsaghir, Mr. Richard Foote, Mrs. Melissa Johnson, Mrs. Melissa Kremmel, Mr. Gregory Showers

Absent: Mrs. Michelle Lucian

Also Present: Dr. Martin Semmel, Superintendent; Ms. Lindsay Aronheim, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Education Services; Mr. Paul Hendrickson, Business Manager; Mrs. Jennifer Parsons, Director of Curriculum; Mr. Richard Trudeau, Director of Technology

1. **Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag** – Chair Seaman called the Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education to order on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 7:01 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Terryville High School. The group joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented by Mr. Foote; seconded Mr. Showers. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous and motion passes.

3. **Approval of Minutes** – December 11, 2019

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 11, 2019 by Mr. Showers; seconded Mr. Foote. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous and motion passes.

4. **Presentations**

2020 – 2021 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Presentation to the Board of Education – Dr. Semmel presented and reviewed a slide presentation on his proposed 2020-2021 budget stating the presentation can also be viewed on the website at this time. Review of major components of the budget, successes in the District, challenges and needs going into next year. The overall budget increase is \$752,060 or 3.071%. There will be a special meeting of the Board on Wednesday, January 15th from 6 pm – 8 pm in

the THS Library to hold a budget workshop, a line by line review of each department will be done and at that time administrators will be able to speak to individual positions within their budgets. The Board of Education will present their budget to the Town Board of Finance on March 19th and the tri-meeting of the Board of Finance, Board of Education and Town Council will be held on April 20th.

5. **Superintendent's Update**

*Vision of The Graduate information has been sent out and the link will again be included in his monthly update looking for input on what people feel the THS graduate should look like. People can go into the site multiple times, enter thoughts, see what others are thinking and all information and feedback will be compiled and reviewed by the Committee on January 27th.

*Brown Bag Lunch is January 22nd from 12 pm – 1 pm in the Central Office Conference Room with items for discussion to include budget and the facilities study.

6. **Student Representatives**

* Taylor Greenwood: The winter concert and staff concert were held and amazing; chorus, band, drum line and color guard all performed as well as staff; PTSA fundraiser on the 16th featuring Dan LaRosa, hypnotist, doors open at 5:30 with 7 pm show; February 8th is a PTSA fundraiser at Crabby Al's starting at 5 pm.

* Julia Zaniewski: on January 7th National Honor Society went to FES and PCS to read and make bookmarks with students; Terryville vs Thomaston game is Friday January 10th.

* Tyler Mendela: Blood drive was a major success with 36 pints collected; mid terms are coming up at the end of the month.

7. **Public Comment** (limited to 3-minutes per speaker) -- No comment.

8. **New Business**

A. Board of Education Meeting Dates and Subcommittees -- Chair Seaman stated he has decided to try something different, except for Finance/Operations, and will have ad hoc committees and assign if needed; everything will come to the full board. Any presentations or policy changes will come to the full board and voted on then.

9. **Board Member/Committee Reports**

A. Finance/Operations - Cindy Candrea-Florenciani, Chair

- The Finance/Operations Subcommittee met prior to the Board Meeting. The subcommittee reviewed the Accounts by Facilities report for the Month of December. The same will be forwarded to the Town of Plymouth, Board of Finance. The committee reviewed the Personnel Report.

B. Student Achievement -- Mrs. Parsons stated a meeting was not held.

10. **Public Comment** (limited to 3-minutes per speaker) -- No comment.

11. **Board Liaison Reports**

Chair Seaman -- Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Meeting will be January 21st.

Mr. Elsaghir -- Plymouth Center School
Meeting cancelled.

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani -- Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Skate night is February 11th
Winter sports are under way and t-shirts will be given away starting Thursday
Comedy night fundraiser is being put together at Nuchie's and adults only

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani -- Booster Club
T-shirts for games will be given away, 10 per game
Concessions are doing well
Received approval for Emily, who is a senior, to do canvasses in the gym featuring the Kangaroo

Mrs. Kulesa -- Terryville High School
Two fundraisers are coming up: Dan LaRosa, hypnotist, on Thursday, January 16th and Saturday, February 8th at Crabby Al's

Mrs. Johnson -- SEPTA
Adding a meeting date of February 19th, 7 pm in THS Library and Ms. Aronheim will do a Tier 1 and Tier 2 presentation with snow date of February 26th.
Cancelling March meeting date
April 23rd will be FOCUS in auditorium and an amazing event
Looking at May meeting to have Emily from our staff to hold program on behavior
This Saturday is paint day and have 22 spots with 17 gone, \$25 per person

Mrs. Kremmel -- CABE
Offering a leadership institute, free workshop, at EdAdvance
No meeting in December
Legislative Breakfast was well attended and thanked Jeff Kitching for hosting

Mrs. Johnson -- EdAdvance
Received a letter from EdAdvance regarding scholarship information and they give out (4) \$1500 scholarship

Mr. Showers -- District Safety Committee
Met this morning on safety policies and procedures discussed and reviewed.
Chair Seaman stated he attended as well, and this district is ahead of the game and take student/teacher safety very seriously

12. Board Comments

Chair Seaman stated last night the Board held a Retreat and discussed the NESDEC proposal and the Superintendent did a fantastic job on Option 1 and Option 5. Option 1 was to make one elementary a PreK – 2 and the other 3 – 5. Not closing any schools and keep middle and high schools the same. He highlighted advantages and one minor disadvantage is bus routes and timing which will be looked into further. Option 5 would cost the town money and more disadvantages and at end, the Board eliminated Option 5. Option 1 remains on the table and once have more information, there will be a public hearing for input and questions. As a Board a decision needs to be made for budgetary reasons for 2021-2022. Calls/texts will go out, information will be on Facebook and in principal updates.

13. Next Board Meeting --The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday February 12, 2020 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.

14. Executive Session

a. Collective Bargaining Issue with the PEA

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session at 7:59 p.m. for the purpose of discussing a Collective Bargaining Issue regarding the PEA inviting Dr. Semmel, Mr. Hendrickson and Mr. Hults by Mrs. Johnson; seconded Mr. Showers. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous and motion passes.

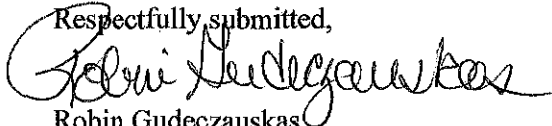
MOTION: To return to Regular Session at 8:50 p.m., by Mr. Showers; seconded Mr. Foote. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous and motion passes.

15. Possible Action From Executive Session – Chair Seaman stated no action.

16. **Adjournment**

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:51 p.m., by Mr. Showers; seconded Mr. Foote. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous and motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,



Robin Gudeczauskas
Recording Secretary