

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  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014  
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL  
CAFETERIA  
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Board Members – Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Goodwin, Mr. Orsini and Mr. Engle

Absent: Mrs. Kulesa, Dr. Wheeler, Mr. Perugino and Mr. Gentile

Others Present: Ms. Cruz, Superintendent, Mr. Santogatta, Business Manager, Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Mr. Parenti, Director of Pupil Personnel and Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology

1. Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag

Mr. Engle, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and the group joined in the pledge to the flag.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting of April 23, 2014. Motion Mr. Orsini, seconded Mr. Melchionna motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment

None

5. Presentations

- Japan Trip – On April 8 – April 18, six Terryville High School students, two principals, two superintendents (one a Plymouth Board of Education member), four staff members and one parent had an opportunity to travel

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abroad and experience the Japanese culture. The students presented a video to the Board of their trip abroad.

- Documentary - Pasqual Martino, Jr., a senior at Terryville High School, presented a documentary on Sergeant Major Phillip Albert honoring him as a true hero.

6. Communications

CABE Student Leadership Award Winners – The following Terryville High School students were selected as the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education student leaders for this school year: Ronnie Brock and Bailey Doran.

7. Unfinished Business

None

8. New Business

A. Resignation

Ms. Cruz accepted the resignation of **Charlotte Jenner**, part-time paraprofessional at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School effective May 9, 2014.

B. Childbearing Leave

MOTION: To approve a childbearing leave for **Sherry Napychank**, Mathematics Teacher at Terryville High School beginning May 12, 2014 and for the remainder of the 2013 – 2014 school year. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passed unanimously.

9. Board Member/Committee Reports

A. Curriculum – Mrs. Kulesa, Chair – Excused Absence

B. Facilities – Mr. Goodwin, Chair – The Facilities Subcommittee met on May 13, 2014 and reviewed the following: Harry S. Fisher Elementary School Bid; Capital Improvement Plan; Mayor's Proposal for Main Street School; and the Egress Proposal for Eli Terry Jr. Middle School.

C. Finance – Mr. Melchionna, Chair – The Finance Subcommittee met on May 13, 2014 and reviewed the accounts by facilities report for the month of April and will forward the same to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.

D. Negotiations – Mr. Gentile, Chair – In lieu of Mr. Gentile's absence, Mr. Melchionna made the following motion: MOTION: To authorize the superintendent to work with the non-certified UAW Staff and the Non-Bargaining Employees on the early retirement incentive. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mrs. Johnson. At this time the chair took a role vote:

Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Orsini, Mr. Goodwin and the Chair all voted in favor of the motion. Motion passes.

E. Personnel – Mr. Goodwin, Chair – All items were addressed under New Business.

F. Policy – Mrs. Johnson, Chair – No Report

G. Safety/Transportation – Mr. Orsini, Chair – The subcommittee did not meet, however, everything is moving safely and smoothly.

H. Education Connection – Mrs. Kulesa - absent

I. Student Representatives

**Alexandra Bellanger** – Briefly discussed the students who will be attending the Berkshire League.

- May 22 Hypnotist Show – 7 p.m.
- June 4 Sports Award Ceremony – 6:30 p.m. @ THS

**Sazan Dauti**

- May 16 Spring Extravaganza @ 7 p.m.
- May 21 Mentor Picnic @ the fairgrounds
- May 13 Music Awards Night @ Nuchie's in Forestville @ 6:30 p.m.
- June 9 THS Spring Music Concert 7:30 p.m.

**Jonathan Zalaski**

- May 18, PTSA After grad Car Show 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- May 23 Sr. Class Trip to Holiday Hill
- May 29 Awards Day – 12:30 p.m.
- Scholarship Night – 6:30 p.m.
- May 31 Sr. Prom – Farmington Country Club – 6 p.m.
- June 13, 16, 17, 18 half days
- June 18 Graduation

10. Administrative Reports / Requests / Information

**Dr. Tenney**, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Tenney presented an overview of the meeting on May 7, 2014 which addressed the following: Terryville High School Course changes – 2014 – 2015; Math Text Book Vendor Fair – June 17, 2014 and an Update on Curriculum Development.

**Mr. Trudeau**, Director of Technology

Thanked the camera crew and the technology team. Appreciated the patience of the staff and their help during the installation of the new phone system and the technology team is getting ready to prepare for work that needs to be done during the summer months while school is out.

**Mr. Parenti**, Director of Pupil Personnel

Thanked Mark and Jan for all of their support. They both help to keep the day to day operations going. The special education department is beginning to wrap up the school year and is in the process of finalizing the summer school program.

**Mr. Santogatta**, Business Manager

As reported the Finance Subcommittee met on Tuesday, May 13 and reviewed the accounts-by-facilities report for the month of April, 2014. There will be some transfers presented to the Board at the June meeting with respect to the current budget.

With respect to buildings & grounds all items appear to be running smoothly.

**Ms. Cruz**, Superintendent of Schools reported on the following:

- Annual Grade 5 Spelling Bee took place on Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. This year's winners: Gena Buckley – 1<sup>st</sup> place – Plymouth Center School; Audrey Pelletier – 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Harry S. Fisher Elementary School; and Samantha Gilbert – 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Plymouth Center School. Congratulations to all of our students who participated in this event.
- May 5<sup>th</sup> – Teacher Appreciation Week/Nurses Appreciation
- May 9<sup>th</sup> Harry S. Fisher Wine Tasting
- May 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Night @ Terryville High School
- May 31<sup>st</sup> Senior Prom
- June 12<sup>th</sup> Senior Night

The last day of school is on Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. Promotion exercises at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School will be held at 10 a.m. on June 18<sup>th</sup> while the graduation ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. at Terryville High School. As a reminder to parents, the last 4 days of school are shortened days and no lunches will be served on June 13, 16, 17 and 18.

11. Reports of Board Liaisons to Schools

Harry S. Fisher Elementary School – **Mr. Perugino**

No Report – excused absence

Plymouth Center School – **Mr. Melchionna**

- May 16 Prismatic Magic Anti-Bullying Show
- May 20 Grade 3 Nutmeg Symphony  
Spring Concert – 7 p.m.
- May 21 Recorder Concert -7 p.m.
- Eli Whitney Program
- May 22 Kindergarten Trash Museum/Grade 1  
Wizard of Oz (Warner)
- May 23 Beardsley Zoo (grade 3)
- May 25 Grade 5 recitation of the Gettysburg  
Address @ 10 a.m. – Plymouth Green
- June 2 & 3 Art Show
- June 4 Enrichment Program (sky dome)
- June 12 Drama Club
- June 16 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards
- June 13, 16, 17 & 18 Early Dismissal

Eli Terry Jr. Middle School – **Dr. Wheeler**

No Report – Excused Absence

Terryville High School – **Mr. Goodwin**

- May 18 PTSA Aftergrad – Car Show (rain  
date June 1)

Special Education PTA – **Mrs. Johnson**

- Elections were held for the coming year and the slate of officers remain the same except for Kim Cook, newly elected secretary.
- SEPTA is having their annual picnic at Cedar Lake in Bristol some in the month of July and hosted by Louise and Tony Scatti.
- The group is also trying to obtain a table at the June Resource Fair at Harry S. Fisher from 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- Once again, SEPTA will have a bowling league this summer at Thomaston Bowling Alley from July 2 – August 6.
- Two more open gymnastic times are June 26 and October 13

PTA Council – **Ms. Cruz, Superintendent**

Next meeting is May15, 2014

CABE – Mr. Gentile

No Report – excused absence

12. Final Board Comments

Mrs. Johnson – Thanked this year’s student representatives, wonderful presentation on Japan and a very moving documentary on Sergeant Major Phillip Albert.

Mr. Goodwin – commented on what a special night this was and the accomplishments of the students.

Mr. Orsini – Congratulations to Pasquale Martino on his documentary on Sergeant Major Phillip Albert. Congratulations to those students who went to Japan. Just a reminder, please attend the Town Council Meeting on Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. and support the funding for the skate park project.

Mr. Engle – Earlier at the beginning of the meeting Mr. Engle thanked this year’s student representatives for all of their hard work and commitment. Mr. Engle called for a moment of silence in honor of Sergeant Major Phillip Albert.

13. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 7 p.m. at Terryville High School.

14. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:13 p.m. motion Mr. Orsini, seconded Mrs. Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mr. Engle, Chair Plymouth Board of Education on behalf of  
Dr. Wheeler  
Secretary  
Plymouth Board of Education