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Plymouth Public Schools will
promote a positive educational
experience that will challenge all
students to be life-long learners.

Plymouth Board of Education
An Equal Opportunity
Employer and Provider.

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
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2014
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
CAFETERIA
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

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

Absent: Mrs. Kulesa and Dr. Wheeler

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 with the following changes: To move
Item #8. New Business before #7, Unfinished Business and to remove
the three (3) minute time limit under Final Board Comments. Motion Mr.
Gentile, seconded Mr. Perugino, motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Education
Meeting of March 12, 2014 and the Special Board of Education Meeting
of March 24, 2014. Motion Mr. Perugino, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion
passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment

None

TURN OVER

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5. Communications

None

6. Presentations

A. Alternative High School – Mr. Parenti, Director of Pupil Personnel

No presentation

B. Japan Trip – Mr. Falcone, Principal Terryville High School

No presentation

8. New Business

A. Policies

Informational item: All Board Members received the following policies for a First Read:

- Policy Series 1000 – Community Relations (Mr. Goodwin to supply recommendations with respect to Pesticides section of this policy)
- Policy Series 2000 - Administration

B. Resignations

Ms. Cruz informed Board Members that she has accepted the following resignations: **Hilda Llanos**, part-time paraprofessional at Terryville High School Effective March 28, 2014; and **Stephanie Michaud**, Pre-K Teacher at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School at the end of the 2013 – 2014 school year.

She also accepted the following resignations for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2013 – 2014 school year:

- **Ms. Kathy Kobryn**, Grade 8 Mathematics Teacher at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
- **Mr. Guy Tarantallo**, Science Teacher at Terryville High School
- **Dr. Elizabeth Platt-Suski**, Psychologist

C. New Hire

MOTION: To appoint **Robert Tomlinson** to the position of In-School-Suspension Monitor at Terryville High School effective April 24, 2014 for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school year. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Gentile, motion passed unanimously.

D. Out-of-State Field Trip

MOTION: To approve the out-of-state field trip to Faneuil Hall, Boston, MA and 5 Wits Productions at Patriots Place in Foxboro, MA for grade 6 Band Students at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School School. Motion Mr. Orsini, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passed unanimously.

E. Childbearing Leave

MOTION: To approve a request for childbearing leave for **Jennifer Chasse**, Grade 1 teacher at Plymouth Center School effective May 6, 2014. Motion Mr. Melchionna, seconded Mr. Perugino, Mr. Engle abstained, motion passed.

F. Non-Renewal of Contracts of Employment due to Budget

MOTION: To approve the non-renewal of contracts of employment for the following individuals due to budgetary constraints for the following year upon its expiration and hereby direct the Superintendent of Schools to advise such persons in writing of this action.

- **Jeremiah Regimbald**, Band Teacher at Harry S. Fisher Elementary
- **Carolyn Celentano**, Grade 5 Teacher at Plymouth Center School
- **Sandra Dunn**, Language Arts Teacher at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Goodwin. The chair took a roll vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Perugino and Mr. Orsini voted “no”; Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Gentile and Mr. Goodwin voted “yes”. Tie vote, therefore, the chair voted “yes”. Motion passed 4 “yes” and 3 “no”.

G. Nurse’s Contract

MOTION: To approve the negotiated contract for the Nurse’s Association as follows: The contract is for 3 years: 2014 – 2015; 2015 – 2016 and 2016 – 2017 with a 2.5% increase for the 2014 – 2015 year; a 2.5% increase for the 2015 – 2016 year; and a 2% increase for the 2016-2017 year. Motion Mr. Perugino, seconded Mr. Melchionna. The chair called for a roll vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Perugino, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Orsini and Mr. Goodwin all voted in favor of the motion, motion passed.

H. Non-Certified Staff Early Retirement Incentive

MOTION: To table the Memorandum of Agreement regarding a voluntary retirement incentive for non-certified staff. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Perugino, motion passed unanimously.

I. Teacher Flexibility Revisions to the Teacher Evaluation Plan

MOTION: To approve the Teacher Flexibility Revisions to the Teacher Evaluation Plan as submitted. Motion Mr. Melchionna, seconded Mr. Orsini. The chair called for a roll vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Perugino, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Orsini and Mr. Goodwin all voted in favor of the motion, motion passed.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Policy Series 9000 – By-Laws

MOTION: To approve Policy Series 9000 – By-Laws as amended. Motion Mr. Gentile, seconded Mrs. Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

9. Board Member/Committee Reports

A. Curriculum – Mrs. Kulesa, Chair – In lieu of Mrs. Kulesa’s absence Dr. Tenney presented an overview of the meeting on April 2, 2014 which addressed the following: Instructional Rounds; Strategic School Profiles; Gifted and Talented; Middle and High School Course Offerings and Textbooks.

B. Facilities – Mr. Goodwin, Chair – No Report. However, there will be a meeting on Tuesday, May 13th.

C. Finance – Mr. Melchionna, Chair – The Finance Subcommittee met on Tuesday, April 22, 2014 at 6 p.m. at the Board of Education Offices. The group reviewed the accounts-by-facilities report for March of 2014 and will forward the same to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.

D. Negotiations – Mr. Gentile, Chair – Collective bargaining took place on Monday, April 21, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall in the Senior Lounge. As a result, the Board approved the Nurse’s Contract for the next 3 years.

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

F. Policy – Mrs. Johnson, Chair – All items were addressed under Unfinished and New Business.

G. Safety/Transportation – Mr. Orsini, Chair – No Report However, due to the installation of the cameras on the school buses, 18 citations have been issued thus far.

H. Education Connection – Mrs. Kulesa - absent

I. Student Representatives

Alexandra Bellanger – Briefly discussed the Disney Trip attended by the Drama Club which focused on improvisation and team work.

- March 27-29 Drama Musical
- April 26 – 28 Band & Chorus Trip
- May 3 Walk for Magnum @ 10 a.m. on Terryville High School Track
- Vender Fair – sophomore class

- May 4 Rotary 5K Walk/Run
- May 16 Scholar Banquet – Aqua Turf
May Extravaganza

All spring sports have begun.

Sazan Dauti – Shared with the Board his recent trip to Japan. Students went to Tokyo where they lived with host families, attended school the first half of the day to learn more about Japanese culture and language and activities were planned for the afternoons. A full presentation will be made to the Board at their May meeting.

- May 23 PTA Reflections
- April 24 Senior Class Supper @ 5p.m. Lucky Cup
- May 5 – 14 AP Testing
- May 14 Tea at the Lyceum
- April 30 Financial Literacy
- May 16 Spring Extravaganza @ 7 p.m.
- May 18 PTSA Aftergrad Car Show - 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Terryville High School is competing in USA Today's contest on the school mascot.

Jonathan Zalaski - absent

10. Administrative Reports / Requests / Information

Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

No report

Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology

Thank the camera crew and the technology team. New phone system is up and operating throughout the system. The next step is to work on the phone system on the town side.

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. It's been a busy winter and spring. Hopefully, we will be implementing a full co-teaching model from pre-k – 12 and the development of an alternative high school at Thomaston High School so focus can be made on the outplacements. More information to follow in the upcoming months.

Mr. Santogatta, Business Manager

As reported the Finance Subcommittee met on Tuesday, April 22 and reviewed the accounts-by-facilities report for the month of March, 2014. There are some concerns about special education outplacement tuition and special education professional technical services. This will be addressed with transfers at the June Board Meeting.

With respect to buildings & grounds due to the weather being cold, we continue to run the utilities, minor problems, i.e. the parking lot lights at the middle school due to rodents eating the wiring. Spending time preparing the softball and baseball fields.

Ms. Cruz, Superintendent of Schools

- Attended the Drama Club Production;
- Boy's Baseball Team won this afternoon.
- She indicated how proud she was of the students who went on the Japan Trip. How mature these students were and how they handled a very challenging experience. She thanked Mr. Falcone and Mr. Mabasa. She would like to engage the younger students.
- April 21 – Public Hearing on the budget followed by a joint meeting of the Town Council, Board of Finance and Board of Education. The referendum is set for April 29th.
- Currently, the last day of school is Wednesday, June 18th.

11. Reports of Board Liaisons to Schools

Harry S. Fisher Elementary School – Mr. Perugino

- Elections of Office to take place
- Upcoming budget was discussed

Plymouth Center School – Mr. Melchionna

- April 8 PTA Meeting
- Every Kid Healthy Week – students went for daily walks with teachers
- April 30 Eli Terry Jr. Middle School Visit regarding life in the middle school
- May 6 5 graders to visit middle school
- May 1 Coffee hour with the principal
- May 7 & 8 Kindergarten screening
- May 8 5th grade spelling bee at the high school

- May 9 9 am PTA Enrichment Committee – Mobile Education Program – Kids Science Safari – Volunteers Needed
- May 26 5th grade participation in the Memorial Service on the Town Green

Eli Terry Jr. Middle School – Dr. Wheeler

Absent

Terryville High School – Mr. Goodwin

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

Special Education PTA – Mrs. Johnson

No quorum – However, during spring break SEPTA members and children attended a gymnastic open house at Dynamite Academy of Gymnastics in Waterbury. Currently, going through their election process and looking for new members.

PTA Council – Ms. Cruz, Superintendent

Next meeting is May15, 2014

CABE – Mr. Gentile

April 24 Meeting

Public Information Session in the legislative office; Individuals concerned regarding common core, mandates are coming, urged people to ask questions, do your homework, contact your representatives and go to the CABE website.

12. Final Board Comments Limited to 3 minutes

Mr. Melchionna – Thanked the Policy Subcommittee for all of the work that they've done.

Mr. Perugino – Congratulations to Coach Fowler and the basketball team. He does not apologize for his outburst on the non-renewals.

Mrs. Johnson – Apologized for her absence and tardiness. Her middle son received a National PTA Honorable Mention for his Reflections for last year. Sent her regrets to staff members that were affected by the budget. Thank you to the Policy Committee for all their hard work. It is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Goodwin – Went to the last Policy Subcommittee, they work exceptionally hard and thanked them for the work that they do. Thanked Mrs. Cohen and her class for the cookies and lemon bars.

Mr. Orsini – Apologized for coming in late to the meeting. Was attending a skate park committee meeting at Town Hall. Spoke to some students and adults who attended the Japan Trip.

Mr. Gentile – Thank you to the students and Ms. Cohen; deep regret for staff cuts and thanked the Board as we face tough times.

Mr. Engle – Thanked all administrators, teachers, and business manager who helped to put the budget together and he wished the best to those individuals who will not be returning to the district next year.

13. The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 7 p.m. at Terryville High School.

14. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:06 pm motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Perugino, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Wheeler
Secretary
Plymouth Board of Education