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Business Manager

Richard P. Trudeau
Director of Technology

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

*Plymouth Board of Education
is 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, FEBRUARY 19, 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 Mrs. Kulesa

Absent: Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Engle

1. Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag

Mrs. Kulesa, Vice-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 amend the Agenda by moving items 8C (Finance Subcommittee Report) and 7H (Board of Education Budget before Item 7A. Motion Mr. Perugino, seconded Mr. Gentile, motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as amended. Motion Mr. Goodwin, second Mr. Gentile, motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the following Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the following meetings:
Regular Board Meeting, January 8, 2014
Special Board Meeting, January 23, 2014
Special Board Meeting, January 28, 2014

Motion Mr. Gentile, seconded, Mr. Orsini, motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comments

None

5. Communications

None

14 FEB 25 AM 8:38
PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
Dorinda N. Potkamp
TOWN CLERK

6. Unfinished Business

None

8. C. **Finance – (Mr. Melchionna, Chair)** –The Finance Subcommittee met on Monday, January 6, 2014 and held its first budget workshop. The superintendent presented a budget proposal for 2014-2015. The Finance Subcommittee met on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 at 6 p.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education Offices and the superintendent presented a revised budget proposal. It was agreed to move the second budget proposal to the full Board for discussion and/or approval. At the February 18th meeting, the group reviewed the accounts by facilities report and will forward the same to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.

7. New Business

H. Board of Education Budget

Ms. Cruz, Superintendent, and Mr. Santogatta presented a brief PowerPoint presentation of the 2014-2015 Budget. A preliminary presentation was given to the Finance Subcommittee. But due to some events that occurred since that presentation, Ms. Cruz presented an adjusted budget. The first budget came in at 1.7% which did not include the early retirement incentive. The adjusted budget being brought forward at tonight's meeting to the Board is 1.37%.

MOTION: To approve the 2014-2015 Budget at 1.37% as presented. Motion Mr. Perugino seconded Mr. Gentile. At this time the vice-chair called for a roll vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Perugino, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Orsini, Mr. Goodwin, and the vice-chair all voted "yes" in favor of the budget. Motion passed unanimously. The 2014-2015 will be forwarded to the Plymouth Board of Finance.

At 7:47 p.m. Mr. Perugino requested he be excused for the remainder of the meeting. Request was granted by vice-chair.

A. Appointments

MOTION : To approve the following appointments effective February 19, 2014: **Amy Rivard**, part-time SWAT Tutor for the Alternative Education Program at Terryville High School; **Christiane Arden**, Plymouth Local Prevention Council Clerical Assistant; and **Vicki Rees**, elementary APPLE teacher at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mr. Gentile, motion passed unanimously.

B. Resignations

Ms. Cruz accepted the following resignations for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2013-2014 school year:

Judith Cumiskey, grade 5 teacher at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School; **Pamela Wessman**, kindergarten teacher at Plymouth Center School and **Barbara Camp**, Mathematics teacher at Terryville High School.

C. Out-of State Field Trips

MOTION: To approve an out-of-state field trip to Boston, Massachusetts to the Boston Aquarium, IMAX and Quincy Market for grade 8 Social Studies students at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School on April 11, 2014. Motion Mr. Orsini, seconded Mrs. Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: To approve an out-of-state field trip to Boston, Massachusetts for the Terryville High School Band and Chorus from April 26 through April 28, 2014. Motion Mr. Gentile, seconded Mrs. Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

D. Breakfast Plan Offering

Mr. Marc Fugaro, Director of Dining Services, gave a brief presentation on the breakfast plan offering.

MOTION: To approve the establishment of a breakfast plan offering for Harry S. Fisher Elementary School, Plymouth Center School and Terryville High School. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Melchionna, motion passed unanimously.

E. First Reading of Policy Series 9000 – Board of Education By-Laws

Board Members were presented a copy of the revisions of Policies Series 9000, first reading for their review. We are looking for approval at the March 12, 2014 Board Meeting.

F. Revisions of the 2014-2015 School Calendar

The Board Members were presented a draft copy of the 2014-2015 school calendar with recommended adjustments in their packet. These adjustments will be necessary to coordinate calendars with Thomaston, Wolcott and our district. The changes are as follows:

August 22, 25, 26
August 27

Professional Development Days
School Begins

December 23	½ day
February 11	Full Day
February 12	½ day students – Professional Development (full day teachers)
February 13	No School
April 2	½ day students – Professional Development (full day teachers)
April 6 – 10	Spring Break

We are looking to approve the revisions at the March 12, 2014 Board Meeting.

G. Draft Copy of the Solar Agreement

The Board Members were provided with a draft copy of the Solar Agreement for their review. There will be a joint meeting with the Plymouth Town Council and the Plymouth Board of Education on Thursday, February 27, 2014 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. We are looking for both sides to approve the agreement.

8. Board Member / Committee Reports

A. **Curriculum – (Mrs. Kulesa, Chair)** – The Curriculum Subcommittee met on Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 5:15 p.m.. The following items were discussed: draft proposal for adding-modifying-deleting courses; proposed math plan; and update on curriculum vetting and writing committee.

B. **Facilities – (Mr. Goodwin, Chair)** - The Facilities Subcommittee met on Thursday, January 30, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m. The group elected Mr. Goodwin as Chair and Mr. Orsini as vice-chair. The following items were discussed: solar project update; board offices update; Harry S. Fisher Elementary School entrance renovation and continued discussion the development of the Capital Improvement Plan.

D. **Negotiations – (Mr. Gentile, Chair)** - Mediation was held January 7, 2014 at 6 p.m. with Local UAW 376, Secretaries and Paraprofessionals. Since the parties could not reach an agreement, the matter will be referred to arbitration.

E. **Personnel – (Mr. Goodwin, Chair)** – The Personnel Subcommittee met prior to the Board Meeting. All items were addressed under New Business.

F. **Policy - (Mrs. Johnson, Chair)** The Policy Subcommittee met on Monday, January 13, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m. The group took home the Series 9000 – By-Laws to review. They next met on Monday, January 27, 2014 and made recommendations to the Series 9000. Each Board Member was provided with the first reading in their packet. The next meeting of the Policy Subcommittee is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 6 p.m. in the conference room at the board office to review any feedback from the Board and to begin reviewing the Series 1000 – Community Relations.

G **Safety/Transportation – (Mr. Orsini, Chair)** The Safety/Transportation Subcommittee met on Wednesday, January 15, 2014 @ 6 p.m. at the Board of Education Offices. Mr. Orsini was elected chair and Mr. Goodwin was elected vice-chair. The following items were discussed: board offices update; Harry S. Fisher Elementary School Lobby Reconfiguration and sidewalk clearing and road at the high school and the bus traffic at the high school.

H. **Education Connection – (Mrs. Kulesa)**

No Report

I. **Student Representatives**

Alexandra Bellanger - absent

Sazan Dauti - absent

Jonathan Zalaski - absent

9. **Administrative Reports / Requests / Information**

Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Tenney reported on the following: The second NWEA Math Assessment Workshop on February 24th at 6 p.m. in the library at Terryville High School; Students in grades 3 – 8 and grade 11 will be taking the Smarter Balance Field Test (elementary testing to begin on March 16th and the middle and high school testing on April 4th); Students will continue to take the CMT & CAPT in science only; Thanked Mr. Trudeau and his technology staff; Teacher Evaluation and Development Committee will be meeting ; and the State is launching state workshops on the Common Core.

Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology

Mr. Trudeau discussed: Thanked the crew for tonight's broadcast; addressed the Common Core Grant which was received for the Chrome Books; Progress on the Phone System; On-Line Registration System to be activated within the next week, and preparations for on-line testing.

Mr. Parenti, Director of Pupil Personnel

Mr. Parenti discussed: Budget conversations; special education student accommodations with Dr. Tenney for testing; and thanked both Mrs. Basoli and Mr. Hedrick for their support.

Mr. Santogatta, Business Manager

Mr. Santogatta discussed: The operating budget; over time in custodial and maintenance area; issues at Terryville High School regarding the circulator pump; and looking forward to Mr. Clark's presentation (proposed modification request for the entrance way for Harry S. Fisher Elementary School)

Ms. Cruz, Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Cruz discussed: 7 days of school missed due to storm, the last day of school thus far is Wednesday, June 18^t, 2014.

10. Reports of Board Liaisons to Schools

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

Excused

Plymouth Center School – **Mr. Melchionna**

PTA set up a sign up sheet and asked that parents pledge 2 hours for events such as fundraisers, outdoor projects, talent shows, book fairs, clothes drives, etc. Julie Oakes obtained an \$1,800 grant from Thomaston Savings Bank to purchase approximately 9 smart pens; prices for bulb fundraiser in April was discussed; proposal for improving sound system (cost: \$1,172 transfer from enrichment account if necessary to cover cost); Mrs. Collins initiated a PCS coffee hour, 1st January 29th @ 10 a.m. topic school security and the 2nd coffee hour will be held sometime in March and the topic Common Core.

February 8	Bowling Fundraiser (80 in attendance - \$376 profit)
March 18 – 21	Book Fair (volunteers needed to help set up on March 14th)

Eli Terry Jr. Middle School – Dr. Wheeler

Excused

Terryville High School – Mr. Goodwin

PTSA is working on fundraising for the after grad; trying to set a date for the after grad to coincide with graduation.

Special Education PTA – Mrs. Johnson

February 6 Meeting Library ETJMS

FOCUS Unplugged will take place this year in the high school auditorium; Bowling Day was snowed out.

March 13 @ 6:30 p.m.

PTA Council – Ms. Cruz, Superintendent

Meeting is scheduled for February 20th, 2014.

CABE – Mr. Gentile

Legislative Breakfast - Mr. Orsini, Mr. Perugino and Ms. Cruz met with legislatures and discussed teacher challenge, Common Core, teacher evaluation system, special education, burden of proof to high-light some of the challenges district face.

March 5th Day on the Hill

Mr. Gentile is on the Board of Directors of CABE

11. Presentation

Mr. Todd Clark, of Blue Moon Design Architects reviewed the design for Harry S. Fisher Elementary School Entrance Renovation.

12. To discuss and take possible action on the Harry S. Fisher School (the deployment of security personnel, or devices affecting public security may occur in executive session)

MOTION: To adjourn into executive session at 8:23 p.m. Motion Mr. Orsini, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passed unanimously. Along with the Board Members, the following individuals were invited into executive session: Ms. Cruz, Superintendent; Mr. Santogatta, Business Manager and Mr. Clark from Blue Moon Design Architects.

MOTION: To resume regular session at 9:05 p.m. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Gentile, motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: To approve Todd Clark of Blue Moon Design Architects to go forward with the design for Harry S. Fisher Elementary School Renovation. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mr. Orsini, motion passed unanimously.

13. Final Board Comments (If necessary)

Mrs. Johnson thanked her committee for all of their work.

Mr. Gentile thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and to be careful on the way home and thank you to our temporary chair for a good job.

Mr. Orsini indicated a very productive meeting.

Mr. Goodwin thanked Mrs. Cohen and her class for the excellent cookies

14. The next regular meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education will be held on March 12, 2014

15. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 9:18 p.m. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Kulesa, Vice- Chair Plymouth Board of Education
For Dr. Wheeler
Secretary
Plymouth Board of Education