

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, August 12, 2015
Terryville High School Cafeteria

MINUTES

Present: Board: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Wetzel, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Orsini, Mr. Goodwin, Mrs. Johnson, and Mr. Engle

Absent: Mrs. Kulesa

Administrators: Dr. Semmel, Superintendent, Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Mrs. Trinks, Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Education, Mr. Penn, Business Manager and Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Engle called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The group joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Mr. Orsini seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passes.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 10, 2015. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passes.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chris Simo-Kinzer – 52 Old Farm Road – Question: Will parents be receiving the revised bus routes; Answer: Already posted on-line.

Donna Hartohorn – 756 Main Street – Requesting to change the bus routes in order for the magnet school children to get on and off the bus at her daycare as has been done in the past.

Scott Laferrier – 40 Heather Lane – Child attends Oliver Wolcott Technical School. Bus stop has been moved a mile away. He is questioning how this can occur as the bus passes right by his street.

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD

15 AUG 25 AM 8:56


TOWN CLERK

Linda Hotchkiss, 15 Curtiss Road Terryville – Posed the question if there were a better solution than has been put in place regarding the bus routes. If more stops were added than originally scheduled, curious as to where the funding came from for the additional stops and could more funds be obtained? For children attending out of district schools, could the stops be placed at the school they would attend should they attend Plymouth Schools?

Kimberly Sidoti, 154 North Harwinton Avenue – Indicated that Dr. Semmel clarified a fee of reimbursement by the state for interdistrict busing for the magnet schools. Therefore, none of her \$9,000 in taxes from the Town of Plymouth goes towards the transportation costs for her child to be educated.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. This year's CABE/CAPSS Convention will take place on November 20 and 21, 2015 at the Mystic Marriott in Groton. Any Board Member wishing to attend, please contact Mrs. Piskorski, as soon as possible.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Chrome Book Policy

MOTION: To approve the Chrome Book Policy as presented. Motion Mr. Gentile, seconded Mrs. McCann. Roll Vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Wetzel, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Orsini, Mr. Goodwin and Mrs. Johnson all voted in favor of the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Relocation of Antennas for Radio System

MOTION: To table this item until the September or October Board of Education Meeting. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mr. Melchionna, motion passes.

B. Resignations

Dr. Semmel informed the Personnel Subcommittee of resignations that took place during the months of July and August.

C. New Hires

MOTION: Motion to approve the following new hires:

Harry S. Fisher Elementary School

Jessica St. Pierre	School Psychologist
Emily Salvatore	Kindergarten

Plymouth Center School

Shana Hagan	School Psychologist
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Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

Stephanie Colella	Literacy Teacher
Katherine Turner	Mathematics

Terryville High School

Alicia Robinson	English
Katherine Avcollie	English
Jeffrey Gerent	English
Kevin Schumann	Social Studies
Bruce Mitchell	French
Lydia Johnson	Spanish
Shannon Erickson	Spanish
James DiStasio	Business

Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passes.

D. Summer Appointments

MOTION: To approve the following summer appointments:

Planning & Placement Team Facilitators

Alysa Oling	Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Sarah Billingsley	Plymouth Center School
Hailey Barnard	Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

Head Teachers

Jerry Curtiss	Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Diane Boylan	Plymouth Center School

Grade Level Coordinators

Kathy Clark	Kindergarten
Suzette Andrade	Grade 1
Melissa Morelli	Grade 2
Paula Allaben	Grade 3
Candice Clukey	Grade 4
Joy Kyle	Grade 5

Department Coordinators

Middle School

Denise Przystawski	Grades 6 – 8 Social Studies
Shannon Surreira	Grades 6 – 8 Mathematics
Nicole Walsh	Grades 6 – 8 Language Arts
Heidi O'Donnell	Grades 6 – 8 Science

High School

Michelle Zanuaskas	Grades 9 – 12 Language Arts
Joseph Faitak	Grades 9 – 12 Mathematics
Laura Gagnon	Grades 9 – 12 Science
Robert Nave	Grades 9 – 12 Social Studies

Athletic Director

Linda Farrington	District
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Assistant Athletic Director

Mark Fowler	District
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Nurse Coordinator

Carolyn Giannini	District
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ELEMENTARY-ADVISORS

ART

Shari Kohl	Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Diane Boylan	Plymouth Center School

INTRAMURALS

Jill Levandoski	Harry S. Fisher Elementary School – Grades 4 & 5
James Eschert	Plymouth Center School – Grades 4 & 5

MUSIC

Robert Carter	Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Stephanie Fauss	Plymouth Center School

MIDDLE SCHOOL- ADVISORS

Carol Sieracki	Drama
Jason Hart	Music
Dawn Alarcon	Student Council

HIGH SCHOOL ADVISORS

Senior Class (maximum 6)

Jessica Hurd	Christopher Perkins	Lisa Aiudi	Patricia Borda
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Junior Class (maximum 4)

Kristina Padelli

Sophomore Class (maximum 4)

Gail Duffy

Freshman Class (maximum 4)

Sue Glenn Jeffrey Foulds Michelle Luba Lori Lusitani

Art	Gina Ritchie
Music Club	Tim Keane
National Honor Society	Michelle Zanauskas
Co-Producers	Chris Perkins & Tracy Malootian
Director	Chris Perkins
Academic Bowl	Michelle Zanauskas
Student Against Destructive Destructive Decisions (SADD)	Sue Glenn & Andrew Audibert
Student Council	Robert Nave
Flag Team	Tim Keane

MOTION: Mr. Orsini, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passes.

FALL COACHING RECOMMENDATIONS

Terryville High School

MOTION: To appoint George Smith, Boys' Varsity Soccer Coach at Terryville High School for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mrs. Johnson, motion passes.

MOTION: Corrected motion: To appoint Stephanie Konopaske, Boys' Cross Country Coach and Dean Martin, Girls' Cross Country Coach at Terryville High School for the 2015 fall season. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mr. Orsini, opposed Mr. Wetzel, motion passes.

E. Childrearing Leave

MOTION: To approve a request for childrearing for Cayla O'Connell, Grade 2 Teacher at Plymouth Center School from August 31, 2015 to on or about Friday, October 30, 2015. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mrs. McCann, motion passes.

F. ED-099 (Authorized Signatures Change Form)

MOTION: To authorize Mrs. Johnson, Board of Education Secretary, to execute the Authorized Signatures Change Form with revisions pertaining to the ED-099 Agreement of the Child Nutrition Program. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mr. Orsini, motion passes.

G. Agreement By and Between the Plymouth Board of Education and Judith Cumiskey

MOTION: To approve the Agreement By and Between the Plymouth Board of Education and Judith Cumiskey with respect to re-employment for the 2015 – 2016 school year. Motion Mr. Wetzel, seconded Mr. Melchionna, motion passes.

H. Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plan

MOTION: To approve the State-Approved Plymouth Public Schools Teacher and Administrator Evaluation Plan as presented by Dr. Tenney. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mrs. McCann. Roll Vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Wetzel, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Orsini, Mr. Goodwin, and Mrs. Johnson, opposed Mr. Gentile, motion passes.

I. Out-of State Field Trip

MOTION: To approve an out-of-state field trip for Youth members of Terryville High School's SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) (8 – 10 students in grades 9 – 12) to National Harbor Maryland/Washington, D.C. beginning Monday, February 2, 2016 – Friday, February 6, 2016. Motion Mr. Melchionna, seconded Mr. Orsini, motion passes.

J. Board of Education Goals

MOTION: To approve the Board of Education Goals for 2015 – 2016 which are a continuation of the Goals of the previous year.

Goals:

- Students will demonstrate a mastery of core subject matter and supply their essential learning and critical thinking skills to achieve academic excellence.
- Students will demonstrate mastery of all essential skills, needed to participate successfully in the 21st global economy.
- Students will exhibit healthy life choices (wellness).
- Students will use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate and communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, for a variety of purposes.
- Students will demonstrate social responsibility by providing for the needs of the greater community and by developing civic literacy.
- Students will be able to understand negotiate and balance diverse views and beliefs in order to reach workable solutions.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to manage goals and time, work independently, and be self-directed learners.

Motion Mrs. McCann, seconded Mr. Gentile, motion passes.

K. Charles Street

MOTION: To approve to endorse the Charles Street Extension Project. Motion Mrs. McCann, seconded Mr. Orsini, motion passes.

8. BOARD MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Curriculum – Mrs. Kulesa, Chair

Absent

B. Facilities – Mr. Goodwin, Chair

The Facilities Subcommittee met on Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at 7p.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education and discussed the following items: (a) set the meeting dates for the 2015 – 2016 school year; (b) Charles Street Extension Project/Eli Terry Jr. Parking Lot; (c) entryway at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School; (d) sidewalk at Terryville High School; and (e) grounds keeping at Terryville High School (new well cap).

C. Finance – Mr. Melchionna, Chair

The Finance Subcommittee met on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 prior to the Board Meeting (a) Final Accounts by Facilities Report for 2014 – 2015 and (b) the July Accounts by Facilities Report. Both will be forwarded to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.

D. Negotiations – Mr. Gentile, Chair

No Report

E. Personnel – Mr. Goodwin, Chair

The Personnel Subcommittee met prior to the Board Meeting and all items were addressed under new business.

F. Policy – Mrs. Johnson, Chair

A Policy Subcommittee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education Offices.

G. Safety & Transportation – Mr. Orsini, Chair

The Safety/Transportation Subcommittee has tentatively scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, August 18, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education Offices.

H. Education Connection - Mrs. Kulesa

No Report

9. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/REQUESTS/INFORMATION

Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum

Dr. Tenney touched upon the following:

- Welcome Back
- Professional Development
- New Teacher Orientation
- Balance Results
- United Way of Bristol in need of donations i.e. backpacks for students.

Mr. Trudeau – Director of Technology

Mr. Trudeau touched upon the following:

- Chrome Books and updating forms
- Thanked Mr. Perkins and his students and his technology staff
- PowerSchool and Info snap
- Busy summer for the technology department

Mrs. Trinks – Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Education

Mrs. Trinks touched upon the following:

- Special Education Summer Program
- Upcoming school year
- IEP
- New Hires
- Thanked her administrative assistant, Mrs. Basoli, for all she has done.

Mr. Penn, Business Manager

Mr. Penn touch upon the following:

- Walk through 3 of the 4 schools
- Complimented Joe Dennis and his team
- District is in a good place as far as salaries are concerned

Dr. Semmel, Superintendent

- Joe Dennis and his team did a wonderful job in preparing the schools for students and staff
- Convocation is Friday, August 21st from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- August 24th & 25th are professional development days
- August 26th, 27th & 27th, kindergarten will be on an abbreviated schedule with classes from 8:40 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Full day kindergarten will begin on August 31st.

- Articles will be appearing in the Plymouth Connecticut on a monthly basis and will supply information as to what is occurring in the Plymouth School District.
- August 13th is the launching of the districtwide Facebook and Twitter Page.
- Our goal is better communication by utilizing different platforms.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT (limited to 3 minutes)

Melanie Church, 328 Main Street – Commented on the Charles Street project.

Chris Simo-Kinzer, 52 Old Farm Road - Commented on the Charles Street project.

Linda Hotchkiss, 15 Curtiss Road – Commented on the Charles Street project; mentioned how a list of resignations was not read off by the Superintendent; and questioned forms that are on line.

Shela Mike, 471 South Eagle Street – Magnet School busing (thanked the Board of their efforts in creating more drop off locations) and inquiring regarding some verification on the drop off at the corner of Townline Road and Dorothy Lane.

11. BOARD LIAISONS TO SCHOOLS

Mr. Wetzel – Harry S. Fisher Elementary School – no report

Mr. Melchionna – Plymouth Center School – no report

Mrs. Johnson – SEPTA

- July 26th Family Picnic at Cedar Lake in Bristol
- Free Summer Bowling League offered for children of Members of Septa
- Meetings will alternate from month to month, i.e. in the a.m. one month and p.m. the following month. First meeting – September 9 @ 9a.m. Lucky Cup

Mr. Goodwin – Terryville High School – no report

Mrs. McCann – Eli Terry Jr. Middle School – no report

Mr. Gentile – CABA – no report

12. Discussion of Superintendent's Evaluation, Format and Process

(Note: This discussion will take place in executive session)

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:12 p.m. into executive session for the purpose of discussing the Evaluation, Format and Process as it relates to the Superintendent. All Board Members and the Superintendent are invited into executive session. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded, Ms. Johnson.

MOTION: To reconvene at 9:07 p.m. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Wetzel, motion passes.

13. Possible Result from Executive Session

Six Primary District Goals

- Implement and evaluate the K5 literacy and math programs to ensure they are in alignment with the Common Core State Standards and provide a guaranteed curriculum to all students.
- Complete a review of the special education program and provide a report by the January 2016 Board of Education Meeting.
- Create a district data team to evaluate progress on district level goals and outcomes and support school data teams.
- Review and revise, as necessary, all Board of Education policies over a 2 – 3 year period.
- Ensure all students make appropriate progress on identified goals through the continued development and refinement of our SRBI plan.
- To review and revise the budget development process to be used when developing the 2016-2017 budget.

This format will take place: The timeline will take place in executive session and will be moved forward to the full Board for evaluation coming out of executive session.

MOTION: To approve moving forward with the process of an Evaluation Format based on 6 district goals as it relates to the Superintendent. Motion Mrs. Johnson, seconded Mr. Goodwin. Roll Vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mr. Wetzel, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Orsini, Mr. Goodwin, and Mrs. Johnson all voted in favor of the motion. Motion passes.

14. Final Board Comments

Mr. Gentile – commented on the cleanliness of the schools and commented on the resolution of the busing issues since few individuals came forward at tonight's meeting.

Mr. Orsini – Wishes for a safe and productive school year and best wishes to Dr. Semmel.

Mr. Goodwin – Commented on the busing issue and individuals voicing their opinion during the budget process.

Mr. Melchionna – Optimistic about the new year, hopefully the solar project will move along as scheduled, welcome Mr. Penn and revisit the busing routes for the last few individuals, if possible.

Mr. Wetzel – suggests not making any more changes to the bus stops.

Mrs. McCann – reminded everyone the open houses will be in early September and the PTA's and PTO's will have tables set up for any parent who would like to join.

Mrs. Johnson – Thanked all the parents that came out and commented and positive feedback was wonderful to hear, urges parents to get involved in their child's PTA or PTO.

Mr. Engle – Welcomed everyone back to another school year and to those individuals who came out and voiced their opinion on the bus issues. Facebook and Twitter will keep the public informed.

15. NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Mr. Engle stated the next Regular Board of Education Meeting will be held on the September 9, 2015 at 7 p.m., Terryville High School cafeteria.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:19 p.m. Motion Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mr. Gentile motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Johnson
Secretary