

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 29, 2015
CENTRAL OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
77 MAIN STREET
TERRYVILLE, CT 06786
6 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Engle, Chair, Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Orsini and Mrs. Kulesa.

Absent: Mr. Goodwin and Mrs. Johnson

1. Call to Order

Mr. Engle called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Motion: To adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Mr. Melchionna, seconded Mr. Gentile, motion passes.

3. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes - Note: Board does not comment on Public Comment)

Chris Simo-Kinzer, 52 Old Farm Road (Summary)

- Make no decisions now
- Not in favor of non-renewing Mr. Hedrick
- Explore the possibility of a K-8 school

Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction (Summary)

- Unsure as to the purpose of the meeting
- Does not see the need to cut any teacher or administrator
- Addressed: \$100,000 in medical; a new special education secretary for \$20,000; magnet school transportation; diesel costs; travel typo; and not hiring a new math teacher
- Spoke on how she was a little dismayed and about the lack of transparency: (a) informed of the meeting at 8 a.m. this morning; and (b) administrator received letter at 5 p.m. last night and was told the matter was on the agenda for the meeting today.

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Barbara R. Fookwell
TOWN CLERK

- Addressed the fact that the cut of an administrator did not come up at any meetings and feels there needs to be honesty; this was a bit hidden and came out late.
- She feels we are all professionals, we deserve the courtesy of knowing, of having someone sit down with us and not sending e-mails to inform administrators and teachers of non-renewals.

4. Non-Renewal of Contracts of Employment Due to Budget

Original Motion

MOTION: To approve notification to the following employees of the possibility of the potential of the non-renewal of their contracts of employment for the following year upon their expiration at the end of the 2014 – 2015 school year due to budgetary constraints: Timothy Hoffman, History Teacher, Terryville High School; Anita Bergoderi, Science Teacher, Terryville High School, Mark Hedrick, Assistant Principal, Eli Terry Jr. Middle School, Brian Rosano, Social Studies Teacher, Eli Terry Jr. Middle School; and Victoria Rees, Special Education Teacher, Harry S. Fisher Elementary School. The Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to advise such persons in writing of this action. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, seconded Mrs. McCann.

Discussion: To amend the motion to include the following language: The notification to said employees of the potential renewal of their contract due to budgetary constraints. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, seconded Mrs. McCann. Roll Vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. Kulesa, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile and the Board Chair all vote “yes” in favor to amend the motion. Mr. Orsini voted “no”. Motion passes.

Amended Motion: To approve notification of possible non-renewal of contracts of employment for the following year upon the expiration of the year 2014 – 2015 school year due to budgetary constraints for the following individuals: Timothy Hoffman, History Teacher; Terryville High School, Anita Bergoderi, Science Teacher, Terryville High School, Mark Hedrick, Assistant Principal, Eli Terry Jr. Middle School, Brian Rosano, Social Studies Teacher Eli Terry Jr. Middle School; and Victoria Rees, Special Education Teacher, Harry S. Fisher Elementary School. The Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to advise such persons in writing of this action. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, seconded Mrs. McCann.

Roll Vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. Kulesa, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile and the Board Chair all voted “yes” to the amended motion. Mr. Orsini voted “no” . Motion passes.

5. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes Note: The Board does not comment)

Amy Radke, Assistant Principal Terryville High School

- Commended the Board for being thoughtful
- 1 Administrative position was lost last year
- No full time Superintendent or Special Education Director for the entire year
- 7 individuals picked up the slack and not sure if there was a thank you.

Mr. Engle, Board Chair indicated he has thanked everyone publically in the Plymouth Connection.

Amy Radke

- 3 Administrators were qualified to be the Director of Special Education
- Elimination of the assistant principal at the middle school was not discussed with the principal of the middle school.
- Problems with the process, transparency, lack of discussion, the constant turmoil, unhappy at the way things occurred.

Shannon Surreira, Math Coach, Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

- The process, in which the individuals were notified, in her opinion, by phone calls and e-mails, was not fair.

Brian Dunn, 15 Carriage Drive

- Problem with the leadership and the manner in which things were handled tonight.

Mr. Engle – out of order, personal attack against the leadership

6. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn at 6:40p.m. Motion Mr. Orsini, seconded Mrs. McCann, motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Engle
Chair
Plymouth Board of Education