

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, MARCH 11, 2015
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Board: Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Goodwin, Mrs. Kulesa, Mr. Gentile and Mr. Engle

Absent: Mr. Perugino, Mr. Orsini and Mrs. Johnson

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
15 MAR 23 AM 7:35
Barbara A. Goodwin
TOWN CLERK

1. Call to Order and Pledge to Flag

Mr. Engle 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 Mr. Gentile, seconded Mr. Melchionna, motion passes.

3. Approval of Minutes-Regular Meeting of February 11, 2015

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 11, 2015. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, seconded Mr. Goodwin, motion passes.

4. Student Representatives – George Andrews; Halley King and Allison Smith

George Andrews - Sports

- Winter Sports are coming to a close
- Wrestling Team – Berkshire Valley League Champions (the team came in 3rd in the Class S (7 placers qualified for the state open and Elliott Willion & George Andrews won making the Terryville High School wrestling team All-State.
- Basketball – Shea Tracy scored his 1000 career point and was named Berkshire Leagues most outstanding player; the team made it to the finals of the Berkshire League Tournament and won the 1st round of states and have a game on Thursday, March 12th.

- Girls' Basketball Season came to a close
- The Booster Club is negotiating to fix the baseball field turf.
- Spring Sports begin in the middle of March

Halley King – School Activities

- School Council Blood Drive on Friday and 36 pints of blood were donated.
- Meet & Greet with the new Superintendent will take place on March 16 at Terryville High School from 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
- March 22 – Leo's to sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m.
- Spring Play – “Princess Whatshername” will take place from March 26-28. There will be a 7 p.m. show on March 26 – 28 and a matinee on March 28 at 1 p.m.
- March 28 – Leo Pasta Supper from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
- March 28 – Craft Fair from 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. (2nd floor)
- March 17, 19 & 24 – Science Portion of CAPT

Allison Smith – Senior Activities

- March 21 – PTSA Bottle & Can Drive at the Terryville Congregational Church from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- April 19 – PTSA Pasta Dinner from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- March 25 – Academic Bowl at Lewis Mills from 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

5. Public Comment

Julie Kozikowski – 4 Park Street, Plymouth – representing the Friends of Music at Terryville High School and also as a concerned parent regarding reinstating the music position that was cut last year.

Chris Simo-Kinzer – 52 Old Farm Road – Spoke on the upcoming budget and the new Superintendent's contract and also thanked Mr. Winzler for his services.

Brian Dunn – 19 Carriage Drive – some of the items discussed: Welcoming of the new Superintendent; the former superintendent's contract; the amount paid to Mr. Winzler; the hiring of the new Superintendent; the 4.4% budget increase request and the 26% raise to the teachers.

Melanie Church – 328 Main Street – Publically thanked Pat Perugino, Sr. for all that he has done for the Board and for all of his years of service.

6. Communications

Resignation letter from Mr. Perugino; information regarding scholarship opportunity from Education Connection to be forwarded to Terryville High School; employment law letter to be copied for all Board members and placed on the district website; and letter from the State of Connecticut acknowledging Dr. Semmel.

7. **Unfinished Business**

None

8. **New Business**

A. Appointments

MOTION: To approve the following individuals for the 2015 Spring Coaching positions at:

Terryville High School

Peter Veleas	Varsity Baseball
Brian Rosano	Jr. Varsity Baseball
Jeff Foulds	Boys' Track
Stephanie Konopaske	Varsity Softball
Patrick Norton	Jr. Varsity Softball
Christopher Perkins	Girls' Track
Mark Fowler/Dean Martin	Golf

Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

Matthew Brintle	Boys' Baseball
Mark Sconziano	Girls' Softball
Paul Schwanka	Boys' Track

Motion Mrs. Kulesa, seconded Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile abstains, Board votes yes, motion passes.

B. Resignations

The Personnel Subcommittee was informed of the following resignations: Stephanie Hudak, English Teacher at Terryville High School effective March 31, 2015 and Laurie Eagan, Elementary School Psychologist at Harry S. Fisher and Plymouth Center Schools.

C. Grade K – 5 Mathematics Curriculum

MOTION: To approve the Grades K – 5 Mathematics Curriculum as presented. Motion Mr. Melchionna, seconded Mrs. McCann. Roll Vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. McCann, Mr. Gentile, Mr. Goodwin, and Mrs. Kulesa all voted in favor of the motion, motion passes.

D. Out-of-State Field Trips

MOTION: To approve the following out-of-state field trips:

- (a) Out-of-State field trip to the Museum of Science, Boston, MA for grade 9 – 12 science students at Terryville High School on April 30, 2015.
- (b) Out-of-State field trip to Sturbridge Village, MA for grade 5 students at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School on May 21, 2015.
- (c) Out-of-State field trip to Westfield State University and Six Flags New England for 7th and 8th grade band and chorus students adjudication (Great East Festival) at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School on May 29, 2015.

Motion: Mr. Goodwin, seconded Mrs. McCann, motion passes.

9. Board Member / Committee Reports

- A. Curriculum – Mrs. Kulesa, Chair – The following items were discussed at the Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2015: Curriculum Approval; Review data from Parent survey on CCSS Implementation; and Elementary Math Materials.
- B. Facilities – Mr. Goodwin, Chair – There will be a meeting of the Facilities Subcommittee Meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education Office.
- C. Finance – Mr. Melchionna, Chair – The Finance Subcommittee reviewed the accounts by facilities report for the month of January and will forward the same to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.
- D. Negotiations – Mr. Gentile, Chair – No Report
- E. Personnel – Mr. Goodwin, Chair – All items were discussed under new business.
- F. Policy – Mrs. Johnson, Chair – Absent (However, Mr. Winzler informed the Board of a meeting with Mr. Mustaro from CAFE, Mrs. Johnson and Dr. Semmel on Tuesday, March 24th.)
- G. Safety/Transportation – Mr. Orsini, Chair – Absent
- H. Education Connection – Mrs. Kulesa – No Report

10. Administrative Reports / Requests / Information

Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction – Series of parent workshops; thanked the parents for completing the survey and spoke on the elementary math materials.

Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology – Thanked Mr. Perkins and his crew along with our technology group; update on chromebooks; submission on grant – district updates regarding technology.

Mr. Santogatta, Business Manager – update from the Finance Subcommittee which took place prior to the Board Meeting; budget has been transmitted to the Town Board of Finance; interior work at Fisher Elementary has been completed; heating controls at Plymouth Center; sidewalks at Terryville High School; and a ‘thank you’ to Mr. Winzler and how much it has been a pleasure working with him over the last couple of months.

Mr. Winzler, Interim Superintendent of Schools

The 20th Annual Academic Bowl will be held on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at 12 p.m. at Lewis Mills High School. Events include: Art, Poetry, Public Speaking, Music and General Knowledge Quiz Bowl. Those schools participating are: Bristol Central High School; Bristol Eastern High School; Lewis S. Mills High School; St. Paul Catholic High School and Terryville High School. There will be an Art Exhibit as well as a complimentary reception beginning at noon. Best wishes to our Academic Bowl Team.

On March 19, 2015 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at Town Hall, the Board of Education will be presenting its 2015 – 2016 Budget to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance. The Board of Education approved a budget of \$24,285,306 or a 4.4% increase. He encouraged our teachers, parents, and community members to attend this meeting.

The month of March is Connecticut Board of Education Member Appreciation Month. Mr. Winzler took this opportunity to say “thank you” on behalf of the students and community of Plymouth to all of the Board Members for all of their hard work and dedication.

Closing Comments: Mr. Winzler has been transitioning with Dr. Semmel, he has e-mailed the Board members that once he leaves his ties are severed; postings are done for the Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Education and Business Manager; and with respect to a comment regarding his wages and the amount of time he worked, he informed everyone that he did not just work a 3 day week. Lastly, Mr. Winzler thanked the Board, Administrative Team and Central Office Staff for all of their support during his assignment in Terryville.

11. Public Comment - None

12. Board Liaisons to Schools

Vacant -- Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Mr. Gentile agreed to be the liaison for Harry S. Fisher Elementary School

Mr. Melchionna -- Plymouth Center School

Mr. Melchionna reported on the following:

The PTA is looking into changing to PTO; there will be a bottle and can drive and a crime scene presentation in April; and the pasta fundraiser netted \$1,000.

March 16 – 20 Book Fair

March 25 – 26 Kindergarten Registration

Mrs. McCann -- Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

Mrs. McCann reported on the following: Team Building Promotions (Ropes Course); college readiness at the middle school level; March 17 – workshop on assessments 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. in the ETJMS library; May 15 Career Day at Terryville High School; CCSU for college Career Readiness Program; and Chromebook situation

Mr. Goodwin -- Terryville High School

April 9 Pasta Supper – Lucky Cup from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.

May 2 Car show from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. with a rain date of May 9

To purchase bracelets, magnets and/or ornaments, please contact Mrs. McCann.

Mrs. Johnson -- SEPTA (absent) However, Mrs. Kulesa reported on the following: Officer Walsh and another police officer spoke at the meeting about their work with Special Olympics and how we can partner with them. SEPTA is still working on a Best Buddies Program and will begin with the high school. The group is also preparing for a workshop for their April meeting...it will be a Student/Sibling Panel and will talk about special needs and how it affects their lives.

Mr. Gentile -- CABE - No Meeting

However, Mr. Gentile urged everyone to keep in touch with what is happening at the state capital.

13. Final Board Comments

Mr. Gentile – Thanked Mr. Winzler for getting everyone back together. Thanked Mrs. Piskorski for all of her work. Everyone needs to voice their opinion – “A Day on the Hill”, Wednesday, March 25, 2015.

Mr. Goodwin – Echoed what Mr. Gentile said about Mr. Winzler. As one chapter ends another one begins. Remember, to attend the Board of Finance Meetings and voice your opinion,

Mr. Melchionna – Thanked Mr. Winzler for a great job and to Mr. Perugino, you will be greatly missed.

Mrs. McCann – Will miss Mr. Winzler's 5:45 a.m. phone calls informing of no school and delayed openings and indicated what a pleasure it was to work with him and thanked him for paving a pass.

Mrs. Kulesa – Thank you to Mr. Perugino and Mr. Winzler. You both are very much appreciated for everything you have done for the district. Just as you, the public approach the Board to voice your opinion as taxpayers, please remember that we as Board Members are also taxpayers.

Mr. Engle – To Pat Perugino, a very good friend, your wisdom, thoughts and professionalism will be missed. To Mark, thank you for your direction and assistance and we wish you the best. To all the administrators, staff and central office, we appreciate all everyone has done for the district.

14. Next Regular Board Meeting – April 8, 2015

15. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn at 8 p.m. Motion Mr. Goodwin, second Mr. Gentile, motion passes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Engle
Chair
Plymouth Board of Education