

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, OCTOBER 12, 2016
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. Kremmel, Mrs. Lucian, Ms. McCann, Mrs. Kulesa and Mrs. Johnson

Absent: Mr. Orsini, Mr. Bourbonniere and Mr. Goodwin

1. Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag

Mrs. Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The group joined in the Pledge to the Flag

2. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Ms. McCann, seconded Mr. Melchionna, motion passes.

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2016. Motion Ms. McCann, seconded Mrs. Kulesa, motion passes.

4. Superintendent's Update

- Dr. Semmel met with Mr. Penn, Mr. Dennis, Mr. Wiegert and Mr. Schultz regarding the winter season and snow removal. Due to the reduction in the Town's budget, the town maintenance department was reduced by one position. At this point in time, it has not been determined if this will impact the calls Dr. Semmel needs to make regarding delays or school closures. However, he will be in constant contact with Mr. Wiegert and Mr. Schultz during weather events and will make his decision based on the best interest of students, staff and families.

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD

10 OCT 19 AM 8:46

Linda A. Polakoff
TOWN CLERK

- During last month's Board Meeting, both Ms. McCann and Mrs. Kremmel were recognized for their work with a parent leadership group. Dr. Semmel publically congratulated Mrs. Johnson, Board of Education Chair for being awarded the Leadership Award from the Connecticut Family Support Network on Friday, October 7th.

5. Student Representatives

- Nora Samih
 Berkshire League Music Festival – October 14th at Lewis Mills at 7:30 p.m.
 UMass Band Day – October 15th
 Financial Aid Night – October 13th
 Fundraisers are available to browse on-line (parent tab on district website)
 PSAT's for 9, 10 & 11 grades – October 19th
- Ryleigh Dring
 Save a Life Tour – October 4th
 National Honor Society is selling breast cancer awareness bracelets for \$2 each and all proceeds benefit breast cancer research
 Halloween Haunted House Party at the fairgrounds is quickly approaching
 Actual Halloween Party – October 22nd from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
- Amy Ieronimo
 Red Ribbon Week: October 24th – October 28th
 Drug Awareness Presentations during the week
 Pep Club was created by students to increase school spirit
 Homecoming – October 28th for Magnum, theme "Hollywood"
 Free Sports Physicals – November 8th
Girls' Soccer Game – Terryville 5/Thomaston 0
 Goals were scored by Jenna Covello;
 Amy Ieronimo and Bri Hanlon
 The Girls Soccer Team has qualified for the State Tournament
Boys' Soccer Game – Terryville 1/Thomaston 0
 Goal was scored by Kyle Hotchkiss

6. Presentations

- a. Mrs. Parsons presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Board on Smarter Balanced Assessments.

b. Out of State Field Trips

- (1) MOTION: To approve an out-of-state field trip for approximately 70 students in grades 9 – 12 in the Music Department/Drama Club at Terryville High School to Niagara Falls and Toronto, Canada offered through “Destinations Unlimited” from April 6 – 9, 2017. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, seconded Ms. McCann, motion passes.

7. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

None

8. Unfinished Business

- 2nd Read of Policy Series 2000 – Administration
- 2nd Read of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities)
- 2nd Read of Policy 3541 – Non-Instructional Operations - Transportation

MOTION: To accept the Policy Series 2000 – Administration; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities) and Policy 3541 Non-Instructional Operations – Transportation. Motion Ms. McCann, motion passes.

9. Consent Agenda

A. Appointments

- Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Ryan McAdoo – 29.5 hour per week paraprofessional
Erica Heuschkel – Tutor
Mary Erin Clem – Tutor
- Harry S. Fisher & Plymouth Center Schools
Janice Deane - .60 Speech & Language Pathologist
- Plymouth Center School
Heather Dorosh – 29.5 hours per week paraprofessional
- Terryville High School
Robert Ballek – Long Term Science Substitute
- Sports
Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Maria Michelis – Varsity Girls’ Volleyball

B. Resignations

- David Gewanter – Short Term Science Substitute @ Terryville High School, effective September 27, 2016
- Jennifer Beach – Recess Monitor at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School, effective September 16, 2016
- Nicole Putnam – Tutor at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School, effective September 30, 2016
- Linda Konopaske – Guidance Secretary at Terryville High School effective October 14, 2016

C. Resignations (See Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof as if fully stated herein.)

MOTION: Mrs. McCann, I move to approve the consent agenda, second Mrs. Kulesa

Mrs. Johnson, Chair: There is a motion and a second to approve the consent agenda. All in favor signify by saying "Aye." Motion passes.

10. New Business

A. Smart Start Grant - Dr. Semmel gave a brief description of the Smart Start Grant process to the Board Members. The Smart Start Grant is offered by the State Department of Education which provides districts with funding to improve 2 areas around Pre-K. The first part of the grant provides districts with up to \$75,000 to improve facilities around offering a full school day pre-K class. The second part of the grant offers \$75,000 per year for each classroom for operational expenditures. The grant is due by the end of this month and if awarded, the district would still have the opportunity to discuss the costs and benefits to the district during the budget workshops in January and then make a final decision.

B. Presentation of the 2016 – 2017 Superintendent Goals

The Board was presented with a copy of the 2016 – 2017 Superintendent Goals. Dr. Semmel explained that these goals represent a slice of all of the work that the Board of Education accomplishes in a given year. They really represent the work of the whole staff.

11. Board Member/Committee Reports

A. Curriculum

Mrs. Lucian, Chair

The Curriculum Subcommittee met on September 20, 2016 and discussed the following: (a) Current Curriculum Process and (2) Review of the Current Curriculum under New Business. The next meeting of the Curriculum Subcommittee is September 20, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Board of Education Offices.

B. Facilities

Mr. Orsini, Chair

No Meeting

C. Finance

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair

The meeting of the Finance Subcommittee was cancelled on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 due to a lack of a quorum. However, Mr. Penn, Business Manager, reviewed the accounts-by-facilities for the month of September with the Board and will forward it to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.

D. Negotiations

Ms. McCann, Chair

No Meeting

E. Personnel

Mr. Goodwin, Chair

Dr. Semmel indicated that all matters were addressed under the Consent Agenda.

F. Policy

Ms. McCann, Chair

The Policy Subcommittee met on September 23, 2016 and began reviewing Policy Series 3000 – Business/Non Instructional Operations.

G. Safety/Transportation

Mr. Orsini, Chair

Ms. McCann, Vice Chair of the Safety/Transportation Subcommittee indicated the subcommittee met on October 11, 2016 and discussed the following: Parking Lot Safety at Terryville High School as it pertains to excessive speed, speed limit signs and installing speed bumps.

12. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

None

13. Board Liaisons to Schools

Mrs. Johnson

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Harry S. Fisher Elementary School

No Report

Mr. Melchionna

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Plymouth Center School

October 11

PTO Meeting

October 11

Presentation by Gourmet Creations
(possible spring fundraiser)

Fall Fundraiser - \$5,200

October 17 – 21

Book Fair (Theme – Pirates)

October 19 – 21

Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 28

Halloween Trunk or Treat
6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

November 2 – 13

Spirit Wear Fundraiser
(Hoodies - \$30; T-Shirts - \$16 all items will have
the Plymouth Center School Logo)

Mrs. McCann -- Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Schedule change at the middle school for those students who require extra help in ELA or Math. An after school program will be implemented for Math for those students who are falling behind. The group discussed more fundraisers and as always parent volunteers are need for the PTA.

Mrs. Kulesa -- Terryville High School
No Report

Mrs. Kremmel -- SEPTA
October 20 7 p.m. Eli Terry Jr. Middle School Library
Presentation by Jennifer Kozak who will be speaking on Non-Medication Strategies for a Happy, Healthy Body and Focused Brain

Holiday Greenery Fundraiser has begun.

Mrs. Lucian -- EdAdvance
The group reviewed their budget and they partook in a dinner celebration.

Mr. Goodwin -- WAMOGO
Absent – No Report

Mr. Bourbonniere -- CABA
Absent – No Report

14. Board Comments

Ms. McCann – Reminder – This is Fire Safety Month. Please check the batteries in your smoke detectors. Also, the Fire Company will be visiting the elementary schools this week.

Mrs. Johnson – Request to place Edith on the website. With respect to Smarter Balance – excited to be moving in a positive direction. Excited about the preschool opportunity that the district may or may not have.

15. Next Board Meeting – The next Regular Board of Education Meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.

16. Enter Into Executive Session

MOTION: To enter into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m. to discuss the proposed employment contract for the Director of Technology inviting Dr. Semmel, Superintendent into Executive Session. Motion Ms. McCann, seconded Mr. Melchionna, motion passes.

MOTION: To resume regular session at 7:59 p.m. Motion Mr. Melchionna, seconded Mrs. Kremmel, motion passes.

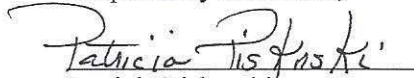
17. Possible Action From Executive Session, if any

MOTION: To approve the contract of employment for the Director of Technology from July 1, 2016 – June 20, 2020. Motion Ms. McCann, seconded Mrs. Kremmel. Roll Vote: Mr. Melchionna, Mrs. Kremmel, Mrs. Lucian, Ms. McCann, Mrs. Kulesa and the Chair all vote in favor of the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

18. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8 p.m. Motion Ms. McCann, seconded Mrs. Kremmel, motion passes.

Respectfully submitted,


Patricia Piskorski
Recording Secretary