



PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CENTRAL OFFICE
27 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06786

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.

REGULAR MEETING
PLYMOUTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
33 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CT 06786

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

In Person: Mr. Seaman, Mrs. Kulesa, Mr. Showers, Ms. Tilton, Mr. Foote,
Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Mr. Perugino and Mr. Zbuska

Attendance by Means of Electronic Equipment: Mrs. Lucian

In Person: Mr. Falcone, Superintendent, Mrs. Melillo, Assistant Superintendent,
Mrs. Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Mr. Tencza, Business Manager

1. **Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag**

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

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Mr. Showers,
second Mr. Foote, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

Mr. Falcone, Superintendent read the following prior to opening up nominations for Temporary Chairperson.

Based on the July 1, 2021 Executive Orders that addressed virtual meetings during the pandemic.

Section 1-225a of the Connecticut General Statutes Letter D States:

Any vote taken at a meeting during which any member participates by means of electronic equipment shall be taken by roll call, unless the vote is unanimous.

The minutes of the meeting shall record a list of members that attended in person and a list of members that attended by means of electronic equipment.

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
2023 DEC 21 AM 9:36
RECEIVED

All of the votes this evening for elected positions, even if they are unopposed, will be completed in roll call fashion.

At this time, he asked the Board Members if there were any question with regard to the voting process. There being no questions, he proceeded with nominations for a Temporary Chairperson.

3. **Nominations and Appointment for Temporary Chairperson**

Mr. Falcone opened up nominations for an Appointment of a Temporary Chairperson.

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani was nominated by Mr. Showers, seconded by Mr. Foote.
There being no further nominations:

MOTION: To enter a motion to close nominations for appointment of **Temporary Chairperson**.
Motion Mr. Perugino, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions.
Motion passes unanimously.

At this time, Mr. Falcone called for a:

ROLL VOTE:

Mr. Showers cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Ms. Tilton cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Mr. Foote cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Mr. Seaman cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Mrs. Kulesa cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Mrs. Lucian cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Mrs. Candrea –Florenciani cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Mr. Perugino cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani
Mr. Zbuska cast a vote for: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani

9 votes were cast for Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani was appointed as Temporary Chairperson

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani ,Temporary Chairperson facilitated the meeting.

4. **Caucus for the Purpose of Election of Officers for the Plymouth Board of Education**

Temporary Chairperson, Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani stated the Caucus as follows:

Republicans will caucus in the high school principal's conference room.

Democrats will caucus in the room adjacent to the cafeteria.

Temporary Chairperson called for the following motion:

MOTION: To entertain a motion to **convene** for the purpose of caucus at 7:04 p.m.
Motion Mrs. Kulesa, second Mr. Perugino, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions.
Motion passes unanimously.

After the caucus, the Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Temporary Chairperson called for the following motion.

MOTION: To entertain a motion to **reconvene** after caucus at 7:21 p.m. Motion Mr. Seaman, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions. Motion passes unanimously.

5. **Election of Officers for the Plymouth Board of Education**

The Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Temporary Chairperson, opened up nominations for Permanent Chair for the Plymouth Board of Education

(a) **Nominations and Election of Permanent Chair**

Mr. Seaman was nominated by Mr. Showers
Mr. Seaman, declined the nomination.

Mrs. Kulesa was nominated by Mr. Perugino, seconded by Ms. Tilton

There being no further nominations, the following motion was made by Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Temporary Chairperson:

MOTION: To entertain a motion to Close Nominations for Permanent Chair of the Plymouth Board of Education. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Perugino, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions. Motion passes unanimously.

At this time, the Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Temporary Chair called for a:

ROLL VOTE:

Mr. Showers cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa
Ms. Tilton cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa
Mr. Foote cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa
Mr. Seaman cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa
Mrs. Kulesa cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa
Mrs. Lucian cast a vote for Mrs. Kulesa
Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa
Mr. Perugino cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa
Mr. Zbuska cast a vote for: Mrs. Kulesa

9 votes were cast for Mrs. Kulesa

Mrs. Kulesa was elected Permanent Chair of the Plymouth Board of Education.

Mrs. Kulesa, Permanent Board of Education Chair facilitated the meeting.

Mrs. Kulesa, Board of Education Chair opened up nominations for Vice-Chair

(b) **Nominations and Election of Vice-Chair**

Mr. Seaman was nominated by Mr. Showers, seconded by Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani

Ms. Tilton was nominated by Mr. Perugino, seconded by Mr. Zbuska

There being no further nominations the following motion was made:

MOTION: To entertain a motion to Close Nominations for Vice-Chair of the Plymouth Board of Education. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Seaman, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions. Motion passes unanimously.

At this time, Mrs. Kulesa the Board of Education Chair called for a:

ROLL VOTE:

Mr. Showers cast a vote for: Mr. Seaman
Ms. Tilton cast a No vote for Mr. Seaman
Mr. Foote cast a vote for: Mr. Seaman
Mr. Seaman cast a vote for: Mr. Seaman
Mrs. Kulesa cast a vote for: Mr. Seaman
Mrs. Lucian cast a vote for: Mr. Seaman
Mrs. Candrea-Floresciani cast a vote for: Mr. Seaman
Mr. Perugino cast a No vote for: Mr. Seaman
Mr. Zbuska cast a No vote for: Mr. Seaman

6 votes were cast for Mr. Seaman

Mr. Seaman was elected Vice-Chair of the Plymouth Board of Education

Mrs. Kulesa, Board of Education Chair opened up nominations for Secretary

(c) Nominations and Election of Secretary

Mrs. Lucian was nominated by Mr. Showers, seconded by Mr. Seaman

There being no further nominations the following motion was made:

MOTION: To entertain a motion to Close Nominations for Secretary of the Plymouth Board of Education. Motion Mr. Perugino second, Mr. Foote any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions. Motion passes unanimously

At this time Mrs. Kulesa, Board of Education Chair called for a:

ROLL VOTE:

Mr. Showers cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Ms. Tilton cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Mr. Foote cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Mr. Seaman cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Mrs. Kulesa cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Mrs. Lucian cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Mrs. Candrea-Floresciani cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Mr. Perugino cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian
Mr. Zbuska cast a vote for Mrs. Lucian

9 votes were cast for Mrs. Lucian

Mrs. Lucian was elected Secretary of the Plymouth Board of Education

6. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve the minutes of November 8, 2023. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Foote, any discussion,

Mr. Perugino made a correction to the November 8, 2023 minutes with respect to the following:
Item #10 – Public Comment – Roxanne Perugino – “If a new playground is needed the cost can be up to \$25,000”. The amount should have read “\$250,000”.

all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions. Mrs. Kulesa abstains. Motion carries.

7. **Presentation**

(a) Energy Update

Mr. Sandshaw presented a power point presentation on the Energy Conservation Program 2023. He reviewed the Mission “Change Culture From Unintentional Waste to Intentional Conservation. Goal/Reduce Use by 25 % to 30% from base year 2008”; Energy Plan; Building Blocks; Monthly Summary 2022; Energy Summary 2022; Monthly Summary 2023; Energy Summary 2023; Achilles Heel 2023; Opportunities and Ideal Temperature to Set Your Thermostat.

8. **Student Representatives**

Jacob Darrell 12/11 – Winter Concert for the high school band
12/21 – Mini In-School Concert
12/09 – Academic Bowl
12/08 – Freshman Class held a Movie Night, Free Admission, “Home Alone”
CPR Training Program has been approved by Mr. Hults. Certification Session
Will be available after school in the spring.

Kristain Kwoczala - Absent

Mark Lussier – 12/10 - Girls’ Basketball Team won their first game. Score 45 – 25. Avery Owens was the leading scorer with 21 points and 18 rebounds.
12/15 – Boys’ Basketball begins their season.
12/15 – Unified Buddies will host a Holiday Event. There are approximately ten to fifteen students total from Thomaston and Terryville High Schools.
12/01 – Seniors hosted a Game Night featuring board games, athletic games and video games.
The district encouraged students to wear PJ’s to support the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center. The high school National Honor Society raised over \$130.00.

9. **Public Comment** (limited to 3-minutes per speaker)

Matthew Kozikowski – 45 Fountain Head Road – Commented on: Expansion and Contraction, Increasing and decreasing amounts of temperature swings on buildings which puts more stress on amounts of materials. Biggest demon is condensation.

10. **Superintendent’s Update**

- (a) Utilization of the Raptor Security Screening System in each of the district schools. The System scans the driver’s license of visitors and informs if they are a registered sex offender. If a license is scanned and there is a concern, the administrative team has created clear and consistent protocols in each of the schools to ensure that they would personally be the individuals who will address the situation with that individual. The system is not completing a thorough background check on visitors. It focuses on informing the district if that individual is a registered sex offender.
- (b) Concerns during the PreK drop off and pick up times at Plymouth Center School which is not a new issue to the district or the school. The district has tried to address the concern by:
 - * Moving the pickup and drop off to Altair (this idea did not work well with the snow and ice. The pickup and drop offs became dangerous.)
 - * Moving the pickup and drop off back on campus to the parking lot.
 - * Staggering arrival and dismissal times for Prek and K-2

Issue: The little ones need to be placed in a five-point harness seat. For parents to do this, they need to park their cars. The district is working on ways to create a more organized pickup and drop off procedure, i.e.

- * By adding more parking spots.
- * Assigning teacher's spaces to accommodate parents.
- * Working with the Plymouth Police Department to add temporary "no parking" signs in the front of Plymouth Center School.
- * Possibly adding temporary speed bumps to assist in slowing individuals down in the parking lot this Spring.

Hopefully, these measures will resolve the arrival and dismissal concerns moving forward.

- (c) Board of Education Retreat is scheduled for January 10, 2024 at which time Attorney Richard Mills from Shipman and Goodwin will be providing training on items related to the roles and responsibilities of Board Members.

The Retreat is open to the public, however, there will not be an opportunity for community questions or comments.

- (d) January 10, 2024 Board of Education. Presentation of the proposed 2024 – 2025 budget to the Board. Budgets workshops will be held throughout January and February to answer questions and make appropriate adjustments. Per Town Charter, the Board is required to adopt and submit a budget to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance prior to February 28, 2024.
- (e) Relating to the Budget – In the Board's last public communication regarding the possibility of closing Harry S. Fisher Elementary School, it was stated they would relook at the situation after the holidays. However, Mr. Falcone made a recommendation to the Board that they hold off on all discussions about the closure of a school until after its budget has been presented and adopted by the town. The budget and the closing of a school are very time consuming and they both deserve 100% of focus and attention from the Board. So, if agreed upon, and with the Board's permission, he would like to formally communicate this out to the public right after the New Year.
- (f) Congratulations to Matthew Tencza, Business Manager. He is now one of sixteen business managers in Connecticut who has met the requirements to be a Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations.
- (g) Welcome to Remie Ferreira, Town Council Member and Liaison to the Plymouth Board of Education.
- (h) Reminder: Friday, December 22, 2023 is an early dismissal day. The school district will be closed for Winter Break beginning on Monday, December 25, 2023 through Monday, January 1, 2024. The district will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. On behalf of the entire Plymouth Public School Community, Mr. Falcone wished everyone Happy Holidays.

11. New Business

- (a) Plymouth Board of Education Policies – Mr. Falcone

Items in blue, major focus.

FIRST READ

Modified Policies

- * Series 1000 – Community/Board Operations
 - * P-1004 – Non-Discrimination

- * Series 4000 – Personnel
 - * P-4005 – Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children or Reports of Sexual Assault of Students By Employees
 - * P-4014 – Non-Discrimination
 - * P-4015 – Increasing Educator Diversity Plan
(Formerly Titled – Plan for Minority Educator Recruitment)
- * Series 5000 – Students
 - * P-5001 – Administration of Student Medications in the Schools
 - * P-5002 – Student Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism
 - * P-5011 - High School Graduation Requirements (added ½ year Personal Finance Requirement)
 - * P-5015 – Non-Discrimination
 - * P-5016 – Recess and Play-Based Learning
(Formerly Titled – Physical Activity, Under Directed Play and Student Discipline)
 - * P-5018 - Policy to Improve Completion Rates of the FAFSA
(Class of 2025: Free Application for Federal Student Aid Form- to be completed by March 15, 2024 or complete a waiver)
 - * P-5027 - Suicide Prevention and Intervention
- * Series 6000 – Instruction
 - * P6004 - Homework (added to fifteen minutes of homework in each area; Read and Study)
 - * P-6008 – Parental Access to Instructional Materials
- * Series 9000 – Bylaws of the Board
 - * P-9007 – Construction and Posting of Agenda

FIRST READ

New Policy

- * Series 5000 – Students
 - * P-5034 – Admission to the Public Schools at or Before Age Five (Effective July 1, 2024 – Approve kindergarten admission date; moved from January 1st to September 1st. Impact of this legislative decision will be discussed at a later date.

12. Board Member/Committee Reports

A. Finance/Operations – Mr. Tencza, Business Manager

- Included in the packet are the following; Accounts by Facilities Report for November 2023 and 6 different submissions;
 - (1) Business Office Activity Report; November, 2023
 - (2) Board of Education Budget Summary Report through November 2023;
 - (3) Cumulative Board of Education Budget % by Month;
 - (4) Food Service Report November 2023;
 - (5) Monthly Budget Report for November 2023 and
 - (6) Capital Improvement Plan 2023-2033

Mr. Tencza – Business Manager

Some of the items discussed:

- (a) Budget 2023 – 2024 – Spending continues to progress. November spending was at a somewhat low rate. Some concerns but nothing serious.
- (b) Security Grant – The District has been awarded a \$250,350.00 security grant by the State of Connecticut and Department of Homeland Security which would update and upgrade the district's security cameras at all of the schools. As a reimbursement grant, the district must pay out the expenses, and then it will be reimbursed by the grant at a rate of 71.34%. Mr. Tencza indicated he would like to move forward with the grant. His recommendation is to request funds from the Sinking Fund, pay for the work as we go along and then redeposit the reimbursement back into the Sinking Fund.
- (c) Technology Grant – The district has been awarded an ECF grant in the amount of \$79,002.00 which will go towards the purchase of chrome books and will help to offset some of the deficit accounts that have shown up in the 2023 – 2024 budget. This is a one-time grant.
- (d) Board Members were presented with a draft of the RFP (Request for Proposal) for the irrigation of our field. This was presented to the Board Members for their review. Board Members were asked to contact Mr. Tencza for any questions. Mr. Seaman along with a committee, the Plymouth Board of Finance and the Town Council worked on this item.
- (e) Food Service Program – The CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) is a non-pricing meal service option for schools and school districts in low-income areas. The access to the CEP has been expanded by lowering the minimum identified student percentage participation threshold from 40 percent to 25 percent. This gives more high-need schools the option to elect CEP and offer all students healthy school meals at no cost when it is financially viable for them to do so. More research is need. Hopefully, he will report back to the Board in January or February with a possible recommendation.
- (f) Budget 2024 – 2025 – The budget process has already begun. Building Administrators and District Department Heads budget requests were due on December 8, 2023. Mr. Tencza will begin collating the data over the weekend and he and Mr. Falcone will begin individual budget meetings in December. The goal is to have the Superintendent's recommended budget completed by the holiday break in order to present it to the Board at the January meeting.

At this time, Mr. Tencza entertained questions from the Board.

Mr. Seaman – Related to the RFP, asked if Mr. Tencza spoke with the DEP about the permanent pump from reservoir.

Mr. Tencza – We did speak with the DEP. We can, according to their standards, pump water from the reservoir on to the field because the gallons that would be required do not exceed the limit. So, at this point, we do have confirmation that that will be okay.

Mr. Perugino – Indicated Mr. Tencza has answered his questions during his report along with Outplacements Public and Non-Public.

- Special Meeting of the Finance Committee – Ms. Candrea-Florenciani, Chair

A Special Meeting of the Finance Committee took place prior to the Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the library at Terryville High School. The following item was discussed.

- (a) Budget Update and Security Grant which Mr. Tencza touched upon during his report.

B. Special Meeting of the Curriculum Committee – Ms. Tilton, Chair

A Special Meeting of the Curriculum Committee took place prior to the Board Meeting at 6 p.m. in the library at Terryville High School. The following items were discussed:

- (a) Reading Program – Commended Mrs. Mozak-Pezza and her team for all the work they put into this program especially with legislation coming from the State with regard to changes to the curriculum which has been tedious and ever changing. She is looking forward to the decision that will be made which will move our children forward in the right direction.

(b) Kindergarten Start Date – Expressed the importance of putting out registration information to the public.

Summary: To start kindergarten in the 2024 – 2025 school year, a child must turn 5 on or before September 1, 2024. If a child does not meet the new entry cutoff date, and parents want their child to attend kindergarten early, the parent may seek exemptions, which local principals can grant on a case-by-case basis. The parent or guardian would need to provide a written request and an assessment would need to be completed by the school to determine if admitting the child to kindergarten would be developmentally appropriate. The state has provided no universal waiver assessment.

C. Personnel Report

A Personnel Report was included in each Board Member's Packet for review.

No questions.

13. Public Comment (limited to 3-minutes per speaker)

Roxanne Perugino, 82 Allen Street

Comment and Summary: Congratulations to Karen Kulesa.

(a) With respect to the closing of a school: Mrs. Perugino thanked Mr. Falcone for calling her, after the last Board Meeting, to discuss the question she had regarding the school. (b) She is still waiting for a response from the Board with respect to her questions. (c) Although the topic of closing a school is currently off the table. Some Board Member still acknowledged that they would stand by their vote. Therefore, the question still remains, what would the result be if the amount exceeded what was needed with respect to the sinking fund. (d) What committees will be set up to review the possibility of closing Harry S. Fisher School and when the surveys be forthcoming as promised? (e) Comment on a statement she believes was made by Candace Telke at the last meeting wherein Ms. Telke stated she was an expert in her field and how she believed the administration and Board should be experts concerning school business. Mrs. Perugino was uncertain if Ms. Telke understood, the only ones who are experts concerning school business are the Superintendent and the administration and not the Board of Education. (f) Training for Board of Education Members: Mrs. Perugino feels it to be a plus for those Board Members who have not received any training to receive training. (g) Question since the true expert in the district is the Superintendent why did the Board take his recommendation in consideration? and (h) To conclude: Mrs. Perugino asks all Board Members to take their job seriously. The whole closing of Harry S. Fisher School was a complete disaster. The Board really did not take their job seriously when they made their decision because parents and staff were not included.

Becca Allen; 17 Meghan Boulevard, Plymouth

Comments and Summary: (a) Thanked Mr. Falcone for the phone call after last month's meeting. (b) Regarding Committees and Meeting to take place around the Fisher closing: Would welcome to be included in conversations and committees. If there is an opportunity for this, please contact her. and (c) Retreat: Understands the Retreat is open to the public. Would appreciate information as to the time, date and location.

Response from Mr. Falcone: The Retreat will be held in the high school library. The agenda will be posted. He will also send out the Agenda just as he does monthly for Board Meeting.

Cathy Paskus; 4 Arrow Drive

Comments and Summary: (a) Thanked the Board and Superintendent for work they put in last year. (b) Feels what the Board has done for the school the last couple of years is outstanding. People are focusing on one thing, the closing of a school rather than on other accomplishments, for example: (i) The Board has worked with the Mayor, town employees to get sidewalks replaced, (ii) Presented to the ARPA Committee and the Board of Finance and secured \$250,000 for irrigation of the athletic

fields. (iii) Obtained vaccinations through Waterbury Hospital and worked with school staff and organized COVID clinics. (iv) Felt when the Board looked at the closing of a school took into consideration the number of people in town who do not have money for food or fuel to heat their homes. (c) Felt when the Board looked at the closing of a school, they were looking at the whole town. If only 50% of a school is occupied, the taxpayers than cannot ever afford food or fuel are paying for the extra. She feels the Board was trying to look at the whole picture. We all want our students to have the best education possible.

Angela Pianka; 91 Griffin Road

Comments and Summary: (a) Disagrees that the closing of a school was looked at as benefiting the town. She does not think this was at all looked at with respect to the decision to close a school. Ms. Pianka indicated she was open to discussion about this but feels all of the discussion that took place about how this was to benefit the town is not correct. In a discussion with the Mayor after the vote, she was told that the Board really needs to focus on the Board of Education not on the Town really. The decision should be separate. But if one is looking at saving money, clearly it was made very evident that closing a school and leaving a vacant building was not. One could not know what the building would be used for in town. It was felt that not a lot of thought process was put into it and it was made very clear.

Candace Telke; 82 Ridge Road

Summary, Comments and Suggestions: Thank you for posting and sending the agendas. To past Board Members, thank you for all that you have done and for re-elected Board Members congratulations and also thank you for all of the work that you will do.

Hoping the Board will take the experience of her feedback and work together to really do some great work. (a) Research what surrounding town Board of Education Members agendas look like, i.e. Newtown, Cheshire. (c) Provide copies of previous minutes along with the current agenda; (d) Asks the Board remain reflective. (e) Energy presentation – Fisher school in the past has been closed several times due to heating issues. Keeping the children in school no matter what the temperature.

Erica Lavoie; 2 Magnolia Lane

Summary: Clarification on Raptor Security Screening System in schools; (b) Bio's on each of the Board Members with their accomplishments. (c) Surveys mentioned at the Information Session. She expresses her willingness to help and be a part of any committee.

Mr. Falcone indicated surveys and committees will not be addressed until after the budget which would be sometime in March or April.

14. **Board Liaisons**

Mr. Perugino

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Harry S. Fisher Elementary School

Student Council raised approximately \$350 for the Rotary Club Food Bank
Grade 4 attended the Air Museum Field Trip at Bradley Field.
Students made cards for Veterans to present on Veteran's Day at Post 20
Next Meeting is on the 19th at 7 p.m.

Mr. Zbuska

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Plymouth Center School

Winter Spirit Week -- Began on December 18th. Some events that took place: Sweater Day, Snowman Day and Polar Express Day.
December 14, pick up for fundraiser from 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.
The school store is in need of volunteers on January 5th, please contact the PTA if interested.
Snowflake Gift Shop Sales for students. Cost of items range from \$1 - \$5.

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani

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Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
and
Booster Club

December 19th – Winter Concert
Winter Sports have begun.
December 13th – Holiday Store
Bull Dog Cup is new for this year.

Mrs. Kulesa

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Terryville High School

Reminder – Please support the fundraising activities so that seniors will have a safe and enjoyable after grad party.

Mrs. Kulesa

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EdAdvance

Annual Report is available for anyone who is interest in reviewing it.

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair - Prior to the January 10th, 2024 Board of Education Meeting, Mrs. Kulesa asked Board Members to contact her with their choice as to being a Board Liaison for a particular school or if they would like to remain at your current assigned school. Her Board of Liaison Seats for Terryville High School and EdAdvance are open. Please see her if you are interested in serving on any one of these.

15. **Board Comments**

Mr. Showers, Ms. Tilton, Mr. Foote, Mr. Zbuska, Mr. Perugino, Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Mrs. Kulesa

Summary of Board Comments

(a) Happy Holidays; (b) Thank to you all of those individuals who are working hard looking over the curriculum; CABA Convention was very informative; (c) commended the principals for the month School Connection; (d) Thank you to Marty for the Energy Presentation; (e) Nice to see Kelly and Kathleen at the CABA Convention. CABA workshops are offered throughout the year. We come as friends, we leave as friends. What happens in between is strictly business. (f) Happy Holidays and also enjoy the School Connections; (g) Thank you to everyone for all of their hard work and to the public for speaking no matter if a comment was positive or constructive. The Board is interested.

Mr. Falcone – Some accomplishments by Mr. Seaman as Board of Education Chair

(a) STEM Program at Harry S. Fisher Elementary and Plymouth Center Schools; (b) Technology Education Program at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School; (c) Family & Consumer Science at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School; (d) Library Media Specialist at Plymouth Center School; (e) New Career Center at Terryville High School; (f) Score Boards for the high school Baseball and Softball Fields; (g) Update all Board Policies and shifted to Shipman & Goodwin policies; (h) Upgrades and updates to our school i.e. painting in the common areas at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School and Harry S. Fisher Elementary School; (i) Securing approximately \$250,000 for irrigation in our fields which was desperately needed; (j) Navigated the Board through a very difficult situation; (k) Transferring of administrators to different buildings; (l) Working relationship with the Town Council, Board of Finance and Mayor was remarkable; and (m) Thank you to Walt for volunteering his time and the many hours he put in as Board of Education Chair and in all that he has accomplished and has helped the Board to accomplish.

Mrs. Kulesa, Board Chair – Expressed she has enjoyed working with Mr. Seaman and is looking forward to working with him more. They have always worked well together and does not foresee this changing at all.

16. **Next Board Meeting** –The next regular meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education will be on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.

17. **Executive Session** – Personnel Matter (This item will be discussed in executive session)

MOTION: To entertain a motion to enter into executive session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss a Memorandum of Understanding between the Plymouth Board of Education and the Plymouth Education Association inviting Mr. Falcone, Superintendent and Ms. Melillo, Assistant Superintendent into executive session. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

18. **Resume Regular Session**

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair resumed regular session at 8:50 p.m.

19. **Possible Action From Executive Session**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Plymouth Board of Education and the Plymouth Education Association as presented in executive session. Motion Mr. Seaman, second Mr. Perugino, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

20. **Adjournment**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Foote. all in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted



Patricia Piskorski

Recording Secretary

Plymouth Board of Education