

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on February 15, 2017 at 7:00 PM, Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Ms. Bond-Nelson called the meeting to order and made the following announcement: In accordance with NJSA 10:4-10, required advance notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk; submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, AND Comcast; posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall and the North Plainfield Public Library and the school district website. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. James V. McLaughlin, Superintendent of Schools; Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; and Michelle Vella, Assistant Superintendent, Student Representative Yanqing Liang and Radha Patel approximately 4 members of the staff and public.

Introduction of New Staff

There was none.

Minutes Approval

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; to accept the public session minutes of February 1, 2017.

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; to accept the executive session minutes February 1, 2017.

Financial Report

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Butler and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education approves the list of bills and payrolls dated January 31, 2017 in the amount of \$6,347,659.38.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Butler and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education accepts the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Funds, for the month of December 2016, and further recommends in compliance with NJAC 6:23-2.11(B), that the Board of Education certify that to the best of their knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of this fiscal year.

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Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Comments from the Public

Mr. Bastista read statement regarding opening of football coach position and requested public involvement in the selection process.

Student Representative Report

Student Representative: Yanqing Liang reported that members of the student council and Interact club came to school early yesterday and distributed presold valentines to homerooms, ensuring that students had a sweet day filled with chocolate and cupcakes.

The Science League held there second meeting on Monday, in which students compared scores from the first meeting, to help motivate them. The technology awareness program, with participants of mainly sophomore students, had their meeting today to continue working on prototypes for their business project presentations, which will be held in May.

In honor of Black History month, singers from the gospel choir will be performing “Lord, You are Good” this Sunday at the Vermeule Center. Ten selected students from Mr. Robert Lake’s sociology class attended a presentation today with a speaker. The speakers Mother was involved in the Civil Rights movement. The speaker had grown up knowing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. mainly because of her mother’s connection. The presentation was insightful for the middle schoolers as well as the 10 high school students that attended. The book club meetings have started with five representatives from grades 7-12. They will be reading a book based on their grade and meeting to share feelings, reactions and opinions about the book. Their goal is to essentially determine whether these books should be incorporated into their grade curriculum or not.

The senior class of 2017 have been notified on scholarships that are offered by local organizations and are working on applications for the Clearinghouse scholarships.

Student Representative: Radha Patel reported that the girls’ basketball senior night was held last week. The team won and honored their only senior basketball player, Nikita Forrester. Many players and students referred to the night as “Nikita Night”. The boys played Watchung Hills in the second round of Somerset county tournament. It was an intense and close game, but our boys defeated the Warriors with a score of 72-66. The wrestling team also had their senior night last Tuesday. It was the largest turnout of spectators all season, and it was well worth it because the Canucks took home the win.

Last Tuesday Rho Kappa, the national social studies honor society hosted a kahoot game. It was a trivia game based on historical facts, and the turnout was amazing. As a new honor society, it is vital that we keep working even after the temporary switch in advisors. With all the hard work of the officers and dedicated students, it's becoming a very strong honors society.

For the past two weeks there have been presentations throughout the lunch periods outside the cafeteria for electives. Students were given pamphlets and received a glimpse into all electives and new classes that will be offered in the upcoming school year. This is in the

hopes that the scheduling process will become smoother next year and students will be satisfied with the classes they choose.

Presentation

There was none.

Superintendent's Report

Since 1976, every U.S. president the month of February has officially been observed nationwide as Black History Month. An article by Anna Almore points to the high value of this annual observance in our schools when she says that as a nation it allows us to, "commit to the study and celebration of a history of change. A history of freedom, equality, and justice denied. A history of oppression and opportunity. A history of contradictions and compromise. A history of the pursuit of the American dream. A history of this American dream deferred". As an example of how our students will participate in this month's observance, East End School is celebrating Black History Month each day in February. During the next few days, all classroom teachers, along with their students, will be decorating their classroom doors for a school-wide door decorating contest. Teachers will be selecting an influential African-American from our country's history to represent the different classes. Students will be conducting research to learn background knowledge of influential figures to help them make a selection. Music teacher, Kaitlin Valentine, introduced the students to traditional African music and dance. In addition, a show-case created by Student Liaison Lynnelle Thomas greets visitors as they enter the community room. On the evening of February 28th, the school will be holding a special event to celebrate Black History Month, which will include student performances of song, dances, and, poetry. Additionally, this afternoon, North Plainfield Middle School presented "A Conversation with Theodora Lacey; Educator and Civil Rights Activist." Theodora Lacey is a retired educator and civil rights pioneer. In the early 1960's Ms. Lacey was instrumental in spearheading the integration of Teaneck Public Schools. Ms. Lacey's father worked actively with Dr. Martin Luther King and her mother was a childhood friend of Rosa Parks. Ms. Lacey shared her story and journey with students from North Plainfield Middle School and High School.

On Monday of last week I had the opportunity to join with over a dozen districts in a meeting with State Board President Mark Biedron to address concerns relative to the funding and state organization of charter schools. As stated by a number of individuals at the meeting, the concerns were not based on the merits of charter schools but rather on how those schools receive state approval at both the inception and expansion stages. The present system of funding charter schools draws resources from the local school district and negatively impacts the equity of public education in our state. Mr. Biedron was attentive to our concerns and all were appreciative of his time and willingness to hear the opinions of those present.

In keeping with the district's goal to promote communication, particularly with our students' families, there are two important happenings I would like to mention. The first occurred earlier this month at West End School where the administration and staff hosted a FAST night centered around literacy. Mr. Luis shared essential elements of our reading workshop program with parents while Ms. Quinones conducted a mini lesson in the gym with students. Students returned to parents with books in hand to share elements of their story by applying their just taught strategy. The NPEA supplied a full dinner and teachers were on hand to serve food on the buffet line. The cafeteria was absolutely filled and a great deal of energy filled the room. Additionally, in keeping with the work of our Biliteracy

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Action Committee, two parent forums have been conducted, one at East End and one at West End School. The forums are designed to hear from parents who have children or who have had children in our ELL programs. The forums will help us to better understand how to meet the needs of our ELL learners and work most effectively with their families. Members of our BAC committee have conducted the forums and we look forward to the information they have gleaned from these valuable discussions.

Finally, in keeping with our theme of communication, this time in regard to the wider community, I was privileged to be in attendance at the North Plainfield Rotary meeting where Ms. Kathleen Landadio and Ms. Catherine Kobylarz shared the achievements of Stony Brook School's Early Act program. This program compliments both Rotary and the High School Interact Club and is truly a community partnership geared in a perfect way with the elements of our district's Character Education program.

A special congratulation is offered to our Varsity Boys Basketball team which captured the Skyland Conference, Mountain Division Championship going undefeated in divisional play. This marks the fourth consecutive divisional title for Coach Sainte-Rose and the boys basketball program.

Tonight, we would like to celebrate Ms. Teresa Thompson who has been so influential to both students and staff in our district.

Teresa Thompson started her career teaching middle school mathematics in Bedminster and East Brunswick. After four years, she joined the mathematics team at North Plainfield Middle School. In 2009, Terry moved to the High School as a mathematics teacher where she has been ever since. During her career, she has taught 6th through 12th grade math.

Terry has been the High School Math Facilitator for the past 4 years, and she was involved with the creation of the Math Lab where she has been tutoring for the past 4 years, as well. In 2015, the district bestowed its highest honor upon Ms. Thompson – Teacher of the Year for North Plainfield High School. Also in 2015, she was honored to be invited to the Top 10 dinner. Additionally, Terry was integral in creating the We Are All Maroon campaign which generated, in Terry's words, "a wonderful sense of school spirit." Of her myriad memories from our district, Terry's most fond ones emanate from creating and working with students, staff and the community at the school store.

Thank you for your ten years of dedication and high standards. The students, staff, and community will truly miss you.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools
Personnel

It is understood that the employment of all new personnel is pending completion of the employment process.

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that WHEREAS Dan Morgan, maintenance employee in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that he wishes to retire effective October 23, 2017, and

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WHEREAS he has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately forty-two years with dedication to the highest standards, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extends to Mr. Morgan its thanks for the service he has given and best wishes for his future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on February 15, 2017, and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, signed by the President of the Board of Education and Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, be sent to Mr. Morgan.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that WHEREAS Teresa Thompson, mathematics teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire effective July 1, 2017, and

WHEREAS she has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately ten years with dedication to the highest standards, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extends to Ms. Thompson its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on February 15, 2017, and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, signed by the President of the Board of Education and Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, be sent to Ms. Thompson.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education grants Maddie Gill, school counselor at NPHS, a leave of absence effective April 24, 2017 or sooner, if necessary, using accrued sick days until released by her physician and thereafter an unpaid leave of absence under the Family Leave Act through June 30, 2017.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Renee Heller to supervise the Saturday detention program at NPMS at the rate of \$28.35 per hour.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education adjusts the assignment of Harry Hooker, instructional paraprofessional, from East End School to West End School, effective January 30, 2017.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education grants Lindsey Mulry, school counselor at NPMS, a leave of absence effective May 15, 2017 or sooner, if necessary, using accrued sick days until released by her physician and thereafter an unpaid leave of absence under the Family Leave Act through June 30, 2017.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education grants Vicky Morilla, paraprofessional at NPHS, a leave of absence effective February 16, 2017 or sooner, if necessary, using accrued sick and personal days until released by her physician and thereafter an unpaid leave of absence under the Family Leave Act through October 2, 2017.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education approves the appointment of the individuals indicated as instructors for East End School's Extended Day Bilingual Program, at the rate of \$28.35 per hour, not to exceed thirty hours each.

Maria Lopez

Jamie Petraglia

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education rescinds the recommendation to appoint Mark Ciccotelli as spring weight training advisor at NPHS.

Further, that the Board of Education appoints James DiPaolo as spring weight training advisor at NPHS at the stipend of \$2,342. (Mr. DiPaolo will replace Mark Ciccotelli.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Danielle LaFredo as a temporary elementary teacher at East End School for the 2016-2017 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective February 16, 2017 through June 30, 2017, Danielle LaFredo shall be placed on BA/Step 1-2 (1) and will be paid the prorated annual salary of \$58,540. (Mr. LaFredo will temporarily replace Ridhima Bajaj.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Brandon Cosby as a non-instructional paraprofessional at Somerset School for the 2016-2017 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective February 16, 2017, Brandon Cosby shall be placed on Non-Instructional Degree/Step 2 and will be paid the rate of \$15.71 per hour, for 3.75 hours per day. (Mr. Cosby will replace Hakeem Williams.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Evan Dickerson to serve as a volunteer assistant baseball coach at NPHS.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education approves the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the attached list.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education approves Brandon Adler, student at Montclair State University, to observe James DiPaolo, special education teacher at NPHS, for one full school day during the spring of 2017.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the Board of Education adjusts the termination date for employee #6266, teacher, from March 17, 2017 to March 20, 2017.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education approves the individuals indicated for clinical experience in the district.

Student Name	College	School/Class	Dates	Coop. Teacher
Melissa Paczos	Drexel University	HS/MS ELA/ESL/ SE ICR/OCR	Spring 2017	Sara Spaner William Saccardi Susan Pellegrino
Mario RestrepoTaborda	Kean University	HS/PE	Spring 2017	Christopher Tyler

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Evan Dickerson as a program assistant at the NPHS Bridge

Program for the 2016-2017 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective February 16, 2017, Evan Dickerson shall be placed on paraprofessional Instructional Degree/Step 1 and will be paid the rate of \$17.19 per hour, for 6.00 hours per day. (Mr. Dickerson is replacing Mark Ciccotelli.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education grants Isabel Roca-Lizarazu, Spanish teacher at NPHS, an unpaid leave of absence effective February 24, 2017 through March 17, 2017 for personal reasons.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Kimberley Leary as a temporary academic support teacher at West End School for the 2016-2017 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective February 16, 2017 through April 3, 2017, Kimberley Leary shall be placed on BA/Step 1-2 (1) and will be paid the prorated annual salary of \$58,540. (Ms. Leary will temporarily replace Keren Fonseca.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Jessica Hirschey as a library media specialist at Somerset School for the 2016-2017 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective February 16, 2017 or upon earliest release, Jessica Hirschey shall be placed on MA+30/Step 11 and will be paid the prorated annual salary of \$67,350. (Ms. Hirschey will replace Nancy Rodino.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
David Branan – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND PUPIL SERVICES

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB incidents #

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and the investigations which were conducted following these complaints; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education was advised of any consequences and/or remedial measures related to these matters as well as the Superintendent’s recommendations regarding the results of the investigations; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education votes to affirm the Superintendent’s recommendations on HIB cases #

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Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education rescinds the out-of-district placement of the classified student as indicated, effective February 8, 2017.

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
GGGGG-16-17	10/29/99	OHI	East Mountain School	\$75,415.43/yr. prorated

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2016-2017 school year, the Board of Education approves the use of Silvergate Prep (Bridgewater) to provide bedside instruction as needed, at the rate of \$52.24 per hour.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Finance, Purchasing & Agreements

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approves line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated December 31, 2016.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approves payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated February 15, 2017.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education authorizes Karen Lewis to apply for a grant through DonorsChoose.Org for the purpose of purchasing board games to reinforce mathematic skills in her classroom at East End School at a total value of \$318.54.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approves the following field trips:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
02/23/17	Heroes & Cool Kids	HS to SSS	120.00	District Bus
02/27/17	Growing Tree Preschool	High School	60.00	District Bus
03/07/17	Monmouth Museum	High School	300.00	District Bus
03/07/17	Johnson & Johnson	High School	273.00	Contracted Bus
03/10-03/11/17	Rutgers	High School	90.00	District Bus
03/14/17	Liberty Science Center	High School	150.00	District Bus
03/20/17	RVCC Theater	East End	225.00	District Bus
04/04/17	Liberty Science Center	High School	150.00	District Bus
04/07/17	Museum of Mathematics	High School	895.00	Contracted Bus

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 David Branan – Aye
 Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Correspondence

There was none.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – Next meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2017 at 4:30 pm.

Communications – Next meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2017 at 5:30 pm.

Curriculum – Next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2017 at 5:15 pm.

Finance & Facilities – Next meeting is scheduled for February 22, 2017 at 6:30 pm and March 2, 2017 at 5:15 pm.

Policy Meeting – Next meeting scheduled for February 16, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

Negotiations – Ms. Bond-Nelson mentioned that the sidebar agreement was approved.

NJSBA – Mr. Fellin provided an overview of recent legislation. He also reviewed recent leadership conference which he attended. NJSBA Workshop is scheduled for October 23 & 26, 2017.

SCSBA – Next meeting scheduled for April 27, 2017.

SCESC – No meeting scheduled at this time.

Old Business

Mr. Sternberg stated nothing new to report regarding lead water testing program in the district.

New Business

There was none.

Current Events in Education

Ms. Vella reported that Google Coaches are meeting at the end of February to plan a Saturday workshop and a two-day Summer Institute. On Saturday, May 20, 2017 the Google Coaches will conduct professional development seminars for district staff. The Google institute will focus on the entire Google Suite including Docs/Sheets/Forms, Hangouts, Flipped classrooms, Google Apps and Add-ons (all separate courses). There will also be an opportunity for staff members to engage in a reflective round table discussion on the SAMR model. The discussion will focus on how we engage students academically through technology. The goal is to recognize and promote where we are with technology, and how to move towards modification and redefinition. These opportunities are undoubtedly what makes North Plainfield a district highlighted for shared leadership. In addition, we are hosting a Google Level 1 training for staff members on March 11th.

We have submitted proposals to present at NJASA May Conference and Garden State Coalition for the work with Google Coaches as a district. Realizing the importance of teacher leadership and staff willingness to continue to push their learning. The ECPA Grant (Preschool grant) has changed from a one-year plan to a three-year plan in order for vision work to be more deeply embedded. The district is currently finalizing the details and anticipates placing the grant on the March 1st agenda for approval.

The appeals process is finalized and well underway. We will submit 42 appeals on behalf of the Class of 2017. Teachers are in the process of administering the tasks in the classes, and portfolios will be graded, reviewed, and submitted to the NJDOE on March 21, 2017, which is one month earlier than last year's submission.

The high school has kicked off the newly installed Electives Week for 8th to 11th grade students. This is intended to highlight the array of current and new electives available to

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students in the different departments. Supervisors, teachers and students organized the information tables and were available to speak to students about program opportunities.

Supervisors are currently reviewing the data. Course recommendations will be entered into Genesis and will be made available to parents at the close of the month. It has been recommended that communication be sent to parents and students regarding how to access recommendations, once available. Mr. Kushner, Ms. Schutz and Ms. Vella are investigating methods to make coding a part of the elementary experience for students. It is critical to note the earlier we introduce our students to coding, the more comfortable they will be when presented with more in-depth learning opportunities in middle and high school. It also helps students better understand that computers are valuable tools and not just for fun. Lasting skillsets from coding experiences include: logical thinking; problem solving; persistence; collaboration and communication.

Several meetings are being held, current and promising practices are being reviewed deeply. It is our hope to have a recommendation for the Curriculum Committee later this month. This was a topic we have been reviewing throughout the year and TechSpo was a tremendous resource for our work.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Bastista commented on Watchung parking lot lighting.

Future Agenda Items

Per the presentation calendar (www.nplainfield.org)

Character Education – April 5

Maker Space – March 1

Adjournment

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. at Watchung School for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law. It is anticipated that Executive Session will last approximately one and a half an hour.

Resolved that the Board of Education will adjourn to Executive Session for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law.

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:30 P.M. executive session for approximately 60 minutes.

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg