

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on September 16, 2015 at 7:30 PM, Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Mrs. 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, Mrs. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Thomas Kasper – Absent, notified
Sandra Dodd -Aye	Kathleen Mullen -Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye	

A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. James V. McLaughlin, Superintendent of Schools; Michelle Vella, Assistant Superintendent; and Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator as well as, Brenda Okereke and Yanqing Liang, Student Representatives and 6 members of the staff and public.

### **Introduction of New Staff**

There was none.

### **Minutes Approval**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved; to accept the public session minutes of September 2, 2015.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved; to accept the executive session minutes of September 2, 2015.

### **Financial Reports**

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated August 31, 2015, in the amount of \$2,342,509.71.

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen –Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson –Aye

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasure od School Funds, for the month of July 2015, 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 funds are available to meet the district’s financial obligation for the remainder of this fiscal year.

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen –Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson –Aye

### **Comments from the Public**

Sergio Oliva commented on his interest in working for the District as a School Psychologist.

### **Student Representative Report**

The school year at NP and he has started off with the bank. Students are getting settled, teachers are starting lessons, and clubs are becoming active.

The NPHS Mentors are working diligently to be visible and helpful commodities for the new Canucks this year while incorporating the CARD values. NPHS Mentors also have Freshman Field Day coming up which is sure to be a great event.

Interact community service club has had its first meeting the National Honor Society and its inductions are soon to be underway. Yearbook has chosen a theme, the student activities counsel has had its first meeting, and seniors are preparing for the college applications season. The school year has just started so there are many things to come from NP's students and I hope you are as excited as I am to see what spectacular things emerge from NP for the 2015-2016 school year.

### **Presentation**

Ms. Harrington provided an overview of the District HIB Prevention Program including processes, procedures, professional development and technology.

### **Superintendent Report**

I am happy to report a very positive opening of school for our students on Wednesday, September 9th. Our buildings were wonderfully prepared by our custodial and maintenance staff; registration and scheduling had minimal issues and our students were immediately engaged in meaningful learning activities by our teachers. I express my thanks to all who contributed to a great beginning of our 2015-2016 school year and I am very confident that the excitement and positive energy in our schools will remain a constant through the entire year.

Our sports teams are fully underway with soccer, tennis cross country, field hockey and football already engaged in matches and competitions. North Plainfield hosted its first home football game of the season on Friday, September 11th and it was gratifying to see the large support of our school community on hand for the game. Prior to the start of the game a message of reflection and remembrance occurred in honor of the September 11th anniversary.

Earlier in the school day Friday, North Plainfield HS conducted the first of its Avenue of Flags Ceremonies for the 2015-2016 school year, calling to our students attention the anniversary of September 11th. During the ceremony the high school was also proud to dedicate its national promising practice banner for the Avenue of Flags project. This promising practice is very much in keeping with our renewed character education efforts and our commitment to our identified core values of Caring, Appreciation, Respect and Determination.

In keeping with the district's goal for communication, a digital district calendar has been added to the district website and the same has been done for each school website. This calendar can be constantly updated and it is our understanding that parents may be able to sync their own Google Calendar with the district's. We will provide directions in regard to the latter aspect, once they are finalized. I wish to thank Mr. Maroun and Mr. Tarnofsky for this achievement and all their other efforts in regard to the development of our district calendar

In last week's NJDOE announcements the commissioner shared that, to ensure adequate time for transition to the new assessments, the NJDOE is extending the transition period for the graduation requirements that were identified in the September 30, 2014, memorandum to now include students in the class of 2019. The NJDOE also anticipates that it will announce final 'cut scores' for the PARCC assessments in October.

**Recommendations from the Superintendent of Schools:**

**Personnel**

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Brian Shanely as supervisor of buildings and grounds for the 2015-2016 school year at the annual salary rate of \$75,000, effective September 17, 2015. (Mr. Shanely will replace Stephen Schlosser).

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as district substitute paraprofessionals at the rate of \$90.00 per day.

Kristen Broderick	Jerry R. Ngon
Jennifer Roberts	Rolando Santana-Ortiz

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the following non-instructional paraprofessional staff transfer:

Elsy Castillo		
From:	NPHS Alternative Program	4.5 hours per day
To:	Harrison School	4.5 hours per day

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for undergraduate and graduate courses taken between March and August 2015.

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education adjust the unpaid leave of absence granted to Sara Gagliano, academic support teacher at West End School, from effective September 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016 to effective September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, for child care purposes.

David Branen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education adjust the employment of Valentina Aiello as a temporary academic support teacher at West End School, from September 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016 to September 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015. Effective September 1, 2015, Valentina Aiello shall be placed on BA/Step 1-2(1) and will be paid \$56,530 from September 1, 2015-September 15, 2015; and effective September 16, 2015, Valentina Aiello shall be placed on BA/Step 1 and will be paid \$57,460 from September 16, 2015-June 30, 2016. (Ms. Aiello will temporarily replace Sara Gagliano).

David Branen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson –Aye

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the revised list of salaries of the previously approved teachers indicated on the attached list to teach a sixth period.

David Branen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson –Aye

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education rescind the previously approved unpaid leave of absence for Gina Stripto, elementary teacher at East End School, effective September 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015.

David Branen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Irvin Solis as a permanent custodian at East End School for the 2015-16 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Irvin Solis shall be placed on Step 1 and will be paid the annual salary rate of \$39,520, plus \$2,371 for the third shift differential, for a total of \$41,891, effective September 29, 2015.

David Branen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye



David Branan -Aye  
Bianka Butler -Aye  
Kathleen Mullen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye  
Sandra Dodd -Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following individuals as tutors for the before and/or after-school P.A.S.S./Extended Day Program, for up to 1.5 hours per day and for up to 3 hours per Saturday morning, at the rate of \$35 per hour.

Michelle Cruz  
Andrea Schmidt  
Maria Annette Bicksler

Debbie Ledger  
Teresa Thompson

Aimee Michalski  
Stacey Louis

David Branan -Aye  
Bianka Butler -Aye  
Kathleen Mullen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye  
Sandra Dodd -Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individual as K-12 district substitute teacher:

Kelly Schmitz

David Branan -Aye  
Bianka Butler -Aye  
Kathleen Mullen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye  
Sandra Dodd -Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education rescind the recommendation to appoint Robert Meringolo as advisor of the student council and safety patrol for grades K-4 at Stony Brook School.

Further, that the Board of Education appoint Kathleen Landadio as advisor of the student council and safety patrol for grades K-4 at Stony Brook School for the 2015-2016 school year at the stipend of \$1,482. (Ms. Landadio will replace Robert Meringolo).

David Branan -Aye  
Bianka Butler -Aye  
Kathleen Mullen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye  
Sandra Dodd -Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the attached list.

David Branan -Aye  
Bianka Butler -Aye  
Kathleen Mullen -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye  
Sandra Dodd -Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the teachers, as per the

attached list, to present teacher training workshops for in-district teachers at the hourly rate of \$30.00 (total hours include preparation and teaching).

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education amend the leave of absence previously granted to Lisa Marie Gabriel Napolitano for child care purposes the effective of September 13, 2015 through December 6, 2015 to

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Type of Leave of Absence</u>
10/9/15 – 1/1/16	Federal Family Leave Act
1/2/16 – 1/31/16	Unpaid Leave of Absence

(Ms. Napolitano will begin her disability period using accrued sick days effective September 1, 2015 through October 8, 2015).

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

**Curriculum, Instruction & Pupil Services**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of the following classified students as indicated at the rates noted, effective September 17, 2015. Transportation will be required.

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
SSSSSS-15-16	11/23/97	ED	Green Brook Academy	\$65,522.00
TTTTTT-15-16	4/6/08	AUT	Celebrate The Children	\$69,431.00 +\$27,000.00 (para)

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve a change in the out-of-district placement of the following classified student from Somerset Academy to Green Brook Academy, effective September 17, 2015. Transportation will be required.

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
BBBB-15-16	1/31/99	OHI	\$65,522.00

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote,

that for the 2015-2016 school year, the Board of Education approve the following curricula:

Personal Financial Literacy

K-5 Spanish

David Branan -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

**Finance, Purchasing & Agreements**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the Board of Education approve line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated July 31, 2015.

David Branan -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the Board of Education approve payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated September 16, 2015

David Branan -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the Board of Education is awarding the following bid for the purpose of refurbishing a classroom in the NP High School / Middle School:

**WHEREAS**, on September 10, 2015, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) conducted a public bid opening for the award of the refurbishment of a classroom at the North Plainfield High School/Middle School; and

**WHEREAS**, Fourteen vendors submitted a bid for consideration at the bid opening; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board and the Board’s Architect, Parette Somjen Architects, has evaluated the bids received and the Board has determined to award the contract for the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., the Board has determined that **Precision Building and Construction, LLC.**, having offices at **941 East Main Street, Bridgewater, NJ 08807**, is the lowest responsible and responsive Bidder for the Project, with a Lump Sum Base Bid of \$55,000.00 (Fifty Five Thousand Dollars), including an allowance of \$5,500.00 (Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars);

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board make the following award of contract:

**Precision Building and Construction, LLC.**, is hereby awarded the contract for the Project, for the total base bid sum of **\$55,000.00 (Fifty Five Thousand Dollars)** and including allowance of **\$5,500.00 (Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars)**.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this award is subject to Precision Building and Construction, LLC. executing the Owner/Contractor Agreement for the Project, and providing Performance/Payment Bonds and an Insurance Certificate(s) evidencing coverages in accordance with the Project Specifications (“Contract Documents”); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board’s Counsel is authorized to prepare and transmit for signature the Owner/Contractor Agreement applicable to this award, as well as to secure from Precision Building and Construction, LLC. such other documentation as required by the Project Specifications and this Resolution.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

David Branan -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Kathleen Mullen –Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education is awarding the following bid for the purpose of repairing masonry located on the roofs at both East End School and West End School:

**WHEREAS**, on September 10, 2015, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) conducted a public bid opening for the award of the repair of masonry East End and West End Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Five vendors submitted a bid for consideration at the bid opening; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board and the Board’s Architect, Parette Somjen Architects, has evaluated the bids received and the Board has determined to award the contract for the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., the Board has determined that **HEAR Construction Inc., having offices at 118-07 103<sup>RD</sup> Avenue, South, Richmond Hill NY 11419**, is the lowest responsible and responsive Bidder for the Project, with a Lump Sum Base Bid of **\$84,950.00 (Eighty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars), including one allowance of \$8,400 (Eighty Thousand Four Hundred Dollars)**;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board make the following award of contract:

**HEAR Construction Inc.**, is hereby awarded the contract for the Project, for the total base bid sum of **\$84,950.00 (Eighty Four thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars)** and including an allowance of **\$8,400.00 (Eight Thousand Four Hundred Dollars)**.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this award is subject to HEAR Construction Inc. executing the Owner/Contractor Agreement for the Project, and providing Performance/Payment Bonds and an Insurance Certificate(s) evidencing coverages in accordance with the Project Specifications (“Contract Documents”); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board’s Counsel is authorized to prepare and transmit for signature the Owner/Contractor Agreement applicable to this award, as well as

to secure from HEAR Construction Inc., such other documentation as required by the Project Specifications and this Resolution.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the Board of Education approve change order number SBWIN-001, for the Window Replacement Project – Stony Brook School, in the amount of \$28,000.00 (Twenty Eight Thousand Dollars) for a total project cost as follows:

Original Installation cost	\$ 351,600.00
Change Order Allowance	- \$ 28,000.00
Total Project Cost	-\$ 323,600.00

David Branan -Aye	John Fellin, Jr. -Aye
Bianka Butler -Aye	Sandra Dodd -Aye
Kathleen Mullen -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

**Correspondence**

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

**Committee and Delegate Report**

Board Staff – Ms. Dodd mentioned a meeting will be held on October 8, 2015.

Communications – Mr. Fellin mentioned a meeting will be held on October 5, 2015 at 5:30 pm.

Curriculum – Ms. Vella will schedule a meeting.

Finance & Facilities – No meeting scheduled at this time.

Policy Meeting – Mr. Branan mentioned a meeting will be held on October 5, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

Negotiations – No meeting scheduled at this time.

NJSBA – No meeting scheduled at this time.

SCSBA – A meeting will be held on October 14, 2015.

SCESC – No meeting scheduled at this time.

**Old Business**

There was none.

**New Business**

Ms. Bond Nelson mentioned the NJSBA Workshop and the joint meeting with the Borough Council tentatively proposed for October 13, 2015.

Dr. McLaughlin mentioned his desire to upgrade the technology in the Board Room, for the purpose of creating a more functional meeting area.

**Current Events in Education**

September 16, 2015

Ms. Vella mentioned to the Board that J. Serravallo, and B. Golub, district K-5 Literacy consultants, will share annual results at a presentation scheduled for at the June 22, 2016, board meeting. At that meeting the consultants will present their current school year work in our district and discuss the 2016-2017 school year plan.

Ms. Vella mentioned that during the CTE committee meeting they discussed CISCO and ROTC programs were discussed. She also mentioned Mr. Gary Diggs, from NJDOE will be consulting with the committee on October 13, 2015 and Project Lead the Way, and the CTE program application.

Ms. Bari Anhalt Erlichson the Chief Performance Officer/Assistant Commissioner of Data, Research, Evaluation, and Reporting attended the administrative team meeting, and discussed school performance, how to pull data from NJSMART, and upcoming PARCC Performance reports.

**Comments from the Public**

There was none.

**Future Agenda Items**

Per presentation calendar.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that be it resolved that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at approximately 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.

David Branan -Aye

John Fellin, Jr. -Aye

Bianka Butler -Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye

Kathleen Mullen -Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson -Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg