

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on January 7, 2015 at 7:00 PM, Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Mr. Sternberg 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, the oath of office was administered to Thomas J. Allen, and David W. Branan. At the call of the roll the following members were present:

Thomas Allen	Thomas Kasper
David Branan	Kathleen Mullen
Sandra Dodd	Linda Bond-Nelson
John Fellin, Jr.	

A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. James V. McLaughlin, Superintendent of Schools, Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; as well as, Amaree Gardner, Student Representative and approximately 10 members of the staff and public.

The Secretary called for nominations for the office of President for the ensuing year. Mr. Kasper nominated, seconded by Mr. Branan, Linda Bond-Nelson for President. A call for a vote for President had Mrs. Bond-Nelson elected by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was turned over to the President, Mrs. Bond-Nelson, by the Secretary.

The President called for nominations for the office of Vice President for the ensuing year. Ms. Bond-Nelson nominated, seconded by Mr. Kasper, David Branan for Vice President. A call for a vote for Vice President had Mr. Branan elected by a unanimous vote.

Organization Meeting Recommendations:

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the following individuals be authorized on behalf of the Board of Education to sign checks issued on the General, Payroll Agency, Unemployment Trust, and Food Service accounts:

President – Linda L. Bond-Nelson
Secretary – Donald Sternberg
Treasurer of School Funds – Annette Wells

Thomas Allen-Aye	Thomas Kasper-Aye
David Branan-Aye	Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye	

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Regular Meetings of the Board of Education be scheduled on the first and third Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July 2015, and January 2016. Schedule of meetings will be confirmed by June 30, 2015 and held at Watchung School, beginning at 7:30 PM.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the COURIER NEWS and STAR LEDGER be named the official newspaper for the publication of legal notices and classified ads.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that meeting notices shall be submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, Comcast, and posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall, North Plainfield Public Library, and on the district website www.nplainfield.org.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the following banks be named approved depositories for Board of Education Investment Funds:

TD Bank
NJ/ARM

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that TD Bank be named the depository for the following funds:

Payroll
Food Service
Payroll Agency
Flexible Sending

General Account
High School Student Account
Unemployment Insurance
Summer Pay

David Branan – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye

Thomas Kasper – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to invest funds not immediately required for the payment of bills and payrolls on behalf of the school district.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education in accordance with NJSA 18A:19-4.1 authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to make payment of bills and payrolls upon review of the Superintendent of Schools prior to presentation to the Board for approval.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that in accordance with the adopted schedule of Meetings Calendar for the 2015-2016 school year, when regular meetings of the Board of Education will not be scheduled, the Board authorize the Superintendent of Schools to offer employment to potential candidates during this period.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools and the School Business Administrator to develop and implement the 2015-2016 school district budget pursuant with local and State policies and regulations.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education name the Bank of New York as the paying agent for bonding.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the chart of accounts.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the awarding of contracts up to the bid threshold of \$36,000 and set the quote threshold of \$5,400.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the following bank to act as depository for the student activity accounts for all schools funds. Elementary school accounts will be a subset of the main student account, managed within the high school account:

TD Bank

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following tax shelter annuity companies/brokers to administer 403B and 457 plans as follows:

AIG, Valic
AXA, Equitable
Lincoln Financial Group
MetLife
LSW

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics, NJSA Title 18A:12-24.1, as attached.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to procure goods and services utilizing state agencies (state contracts).

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education reaffirm the Job Descriptions.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Education reaffirm policy #6164.1 Intervention and Referral Services for General Education Pupils.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branán-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Introduction of New Staff

There was none.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved, with Mr. Branán and Mr. Allen abstaining, to accept the public session minutes of December 17, 2014.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved, with Mr. Branán and Mr. Allen abstaining, to accept the executive session minutes of December 17, 2014.

Comments from the Public

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public, there were none.

Student Representative Report

The student report was presented by Amaree Gardener follows:

The Mr. Canuck Pageant will be held on Friday, January 9 at 7pm in the auditorium. The pageant will consist of four events – evening wear, street wear, beach wear, and a talent. Five judges will score the contestants throughout the night and the top five (5) contestants will have a brief question to answer. After the scores are tallied, a senior guy will be announced “Mr. Canuck 2015”.

The high school Dance Recital will take place on January 22 at 7pm in the auditorium.

Over the winter break the lockers on the first floor of the high school from the high school gym to room 127 were painted maroon. What a pleasant and uplifting surprise when the students and staff returned from their winter recess. It's amazing what a little paint can do to brighten the hallways. Thanks Mr. Ostroff!

Presentation

There was none.

Superintendent's Report

In this our first meeting of the calendar year, I extend New Year's greetings on behalf of the district to all in our school community. I also congratulate our newly installed board members Mr. Allen and Mr. Branan as they begin their new terms.

I am happy to share that a schedule was posted relative to the administration of PARCC so that parents, students and teachers have a clear picture of when testing will occur by school, grade level and subject. It is important to note that this schedule is for the PBA (Performance Based Assessment) portion of the PARCC and the EOY (End of Year) schedule will be posted at a time that is proximate to that administration.

Another important scheduling matter involves new student registration. New student registration focusing on preschool, kindergarten and 1st grade will take place between March 9th and March 13th. These dates will be posted on our website and advertised through local media.

Work is scheduled to begin on the district's 2015-2016 calendar. It is my intention to convene a committee that can develop a calendar for the board's consideration no later than March. If sufficient information, such as state testing dates, is available I will explore the idea of a two-year calendar to better assist the district, its staff and parents as they plan activities.

Our social media initiatives are off to a good start with a number of followers on both the district Facebook and Twitter sites. If you have not visited those sites I encourage you to do so. This initiative combined with increased outreach to local media is aimed to better inform our school community of events, accomplishments and initiatives relative to our schools and students.

Looking ahead to our meeting on January 21st, there will be two important presentations. One is the first of the mandated twice per year report on Violence, Vandalism and HIB. The second will be the presentations to three of our district teachers by the North Plainfield Education Foundation, awarding mini grants. I congratulate all of our teachers who applied for grants – a real sign of commitment and going the extra mile to provide innovative programming for our students, and I thank the North Plainfield Education Foundation for their hard work and partnership in education. I recently met with the foundation and look forward to our continued collaboration on initiatives that will build upon the good work of our educators.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools Personnel

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education accept with regret the resignation of Diana Van Hise, teacher of music at East End and Stony Brook Schools, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2015.

Thomas Allen-Aye
 David Branan-Aye
 Sandra Dodd -Aye
 John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
 Kathleen Mullen-Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education adjust the unpaid leave of absence granted to Martha Tejada-Schultz, ESL teacher at Somerset School, **from** October 16, 2014 through January 8, 2015, **to** October 16, 2014 through June 30, 2015.

Thomas Allen-Aye
 David Branan-Aye
 Sandra Dodd -Aye
 John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
 Kathleen Mullen-Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education adjust the position of Diane Fiore, temporary teacher of ESL at Somerset School, **from** November 10, 2014 through January 9, 2015, **to** November 10, 2014 through June 30, 2015. (Ms. Fiore is temporarily replacing Martha Tejada-Schultz.)

Thomas Allen-Aye
 David Branan-Aye
 Sandra Dodd -Aye
 John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
 Kathleen Mullen-Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the following non-certificated staff member be reimbursed for courses taken between September and December, 2014:

Name	Course	College	Crd.	\$Paid	\$Reimb.
Angelina Lowder	Business Statistics	Penn Foster College		\$291.67	\$145.84
Confidential Secretary	Advanced PC Applic.	Penn Foster College		\$291.67	\$145.83

Thomas Allen-Aye
 David Branan-Aye
 Sandra Dodd -Aye
 John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
 Kathleen Mullen-Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Gwenda Baab as a paraprofessional in the preschool disabled class at East End School for 2.50 hours per day, at the rate of \$21.14 per hour, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective January 8, 2015.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Piedad Escamilla as a student paraprofessional at Stony Brook School for 3.50 hours per day, at the rate of \$21.14 per hour, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective January 8, 2015. (Ms. Escamilla will replace Queenie Newson.)

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Valentina Aiello as a temporary academic support teacher at West End School at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective February 23, 2015 through April 14, 2015. (Ms. Aiello will temporarily replace Sara Gagliano.)

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Anthony Nieves as assistant director for the NPHS spring musical production of *Guys and Dolls*, at the stipend of \$2116.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Erica Fuchs, temporary school counselor at Somerset School, effective January 20, 2015.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Maura Harrington, teacher of Spanish at Somerset School, as co-coordinator of the HIB program in conjunction with Linda Remolino.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branam-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as district K-12 substitute teachers:

Tina Gurrere-Shallo
Cherelle McGlone

Arielle Reale

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branam-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education adjust the Guide of James McCloskey, elementary teacher at Somerset School, from the MA Guide to MA+30/Step 12 at the annual salary rate of \$68,160, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective January 1, 2015.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branam-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Mary Ann Glennon, Ph.D., as a teacher of physics at NPHS, at the DR/Step 4-5 (5) annual salary rate of \$64,890, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective March 1, 2015. (Dr. Glennon will replace R. Craig Kammerer.)

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branam-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Monika Kupczak as a temporary special education teacher at Stony Brook School at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective January 12, 2015 through June 30, 2015. (Ms. Kupczak will temporarily replace Regina Silverii.)

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branam-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the attached list.

Thomas Allen-Aye
 David Branan-Aye
 Sandra Dodd -Aye
 John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
 Kathleen Mullen-Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Curriculum, Instruction and Pupil Services

There were none.

Finance, Purchasing & Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education authorize the cancellation of checks that were not submitted for payment and are now out of date as follows:

11/30/2009	29637	WALGREENS	636.04
12/31/2009	29792	NAASP/NJHS	81.00
3/31/2010	30392	WALGREENS	1,303.27
7/31/2010	31032	RONALD FISHER	130.08
8/31/2010	31112	COMCAST GOVERNMENT SERVICES	988.82
11/30/2010	31848	MAIN STAGE PRODUCTIONS	200.00
11/30/2010	31933	UNITED SUPPLY COMPANY	13.36
3/21/2011	32142	TREASURER STATE OF NJ	44.00
3/31/2011	32469	BRIAN MOODY	46.50
3/31/2011	32560	PEGASUS PRESS	68.85
6/30/2011	32961	ANTHONY DELLA ROSA	1,167.75
9/30/2011	33579	HANDI LIFT SRVC CO INC	295.00
3/31/2012	34737	COURIER NEWS COMPANY	679.98
5/31/2012	35123	NEWARK RENAISSANCE HOUSE	900.00
6/30/2012	35311	QUEEN CITY ACADEMY	13,085.00
10/31/2012	36100	SUNY MARITIME COLLEGE/ROTC UNIT	175.00
6/30/2013	37636	TRACY BUARON	1,177.88
8/31/2013	37944	MEDEMERGE, P.A.	95.00
12/31/2013	38860	PAPER CLIPS INC	<u>143.64</u>
			21,231.17

Thomas Allen-Aye
 David Branan-Aye
 Sandra Dodd -Aye
 John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
 Kathleen Mullen-Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education authorize the sale/disposal of one 1998 Dodge Ram Dump Truck, VIN# 3B6MF 3664W M2881 44. This vehicle is obsolete, irreparable and is no longer in service. Public bidding services will be provided by the County of Somerset On Line Public Auction System.

Thomas Allen-Aye
 David Branan-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
 Kathleen Mullen-Aye

Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that:

Resolution for the North Plainfield Board of Education Gymnasium Air Conditioning Somerset School Project Section 15 Grant Acceptance

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) has obtained approval of the preliminary eligible costs for certain financing from the New Jersey Department of Education, Department for School Facilities Projects, pursuant to the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, (the “Act”), N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-1, et seq. and the regulations promulgated there under N.J.A.C. 6:23-1.1, et seq. (now codified at N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1.1, et seq.), (the “Regulations”); and

WHEREAS, upon the Board’s submission, the NJ DOE has granted the Board’s application pursuant to the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act Section 15 Grant Agreement (“Grant Agreement”) for the School Facilities Project at the Somerset School Gymnasium Air Conditioning Project (the “School Project”), Department of Education Project No. 3670-080-14-1015, and School Development Authority Project No. 3670-080-14-G2PE; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Agreement provides for an anticipated grant amount of \$225,385.00, and an initial local share of \$124,340.00 for an anticipated total project amount of \$349,725.00; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the funds issued pursuant to the Grant Agreement, the Board approved its Annual Budget on March 18, 2014, which budget authorized the use of public funds in the amount of \$685,518.00 in Capital Outlay for School Projects; and

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator has ensured the local share funds are available for the School Project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that the Board is hereby authorizing execution and delivery of the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act Section 15 Grant Agreement with the New Jersey School Development Authority; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board is providing the Delegation of Authority to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary for supervision of the School Facilities Project, and is hereby authorizing the Business Administrator to make the necessary application required by the New Jersey School Development Authority to execute and deliver the Grant Agreement on behalf of the Board, in substantially the form submitted at this meeting; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall have the authority to supervise the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Parette Somjen Architects are authorized to prepare all plans, specifications, drawings, and necessary bid-related documents for the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and such other appropriate representatives of the Board as may be requested by the aforesaid officer, is hereby authorized to take all actions necessary for implementation of the Grant Agreement and the School Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve and accept the donation of 150 science-related books for the middle school and elementary school respective libraries as provided by the Enslow Company, due to office relocation. Mr. Jamil Maroun to accept and distribute on behalf of the Board of Education.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND NEGOTIATIONS

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that: BE IT RESOLVED, all members of the North Plainfield Board of Education are subject to the Code of Ethics for School Board members as codified at N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24(c); and

WHEREAS, the Code of Ethics requires Board members to alert the Board in the event they feel they have a conflict that would prohibit them from voting and/or participating in discussions regarding a certain matter, and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity may be invoked by a Board of Education under certain circumstances which, when properly invoked, permits conflicted Board members to vote on specific items, and

WHEREAS, the Board is about to engage in collective bargaining and negotiations with the North Plainfield Education Association (“Association”) and once a Memorandum of Agreement is arrived at by the non-conflicted Board committee and the Association, the Board will need to vote on its content, and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity will need to be invoked for purposes of voting on a Memorandum of Agreement with the Association as recommended by the non-conflicted members of the Board, and

WHEREAS, Sandra Dodd is a Board Member who is an employee at another school district, and

WHEREAS, the Board sought, and received an Advisory Opinion, (Advisory Opinion A16-00) which indicates that Board Member Dodd cannot participate in collective bargaining and negotiations; and

WHEREAS, Board Member John Fellin’s wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Fellin, is employed by the District at East End School and is a member of the Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A16-00, Board Member Fellin cannot participate in collective bargaining and negotiations; and

WHEREAS, Board Member David Branan's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Branan, is employed by the District at West End School and is a member of the Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A16-00, Board Member Branan cannot participate in collective bargaining and negotiations; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Allen's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Allen, is employed by the District and she receives an hourly rate of pay that mirrors the rates that are set forth in the CBA between the Board and the Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A16-00 and upon the advice of counsel, Board Member Allen cannot participate in collective bargaining and negotiations; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Kasper currently resides in North Plainfield with his father-in-law; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Kasper's father-in-law is employed by the District and is a member of the North Plainfield Education Association; and

WHEREAS, the Board sought and received an advisory opinion as to whether there exists a conflict of interest for Board Member Kasper to vote on collective bargaining, and

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Commission issued Advisory Opinion A22-13 which precludes Board Member Kasper from participating in collective bargaining and negotiations, and

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield Board of Education is a seven (7) member Board that requires a majority vote with respect to the approval of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Association, and

WHEREAS, due to the conflicts identified herein, the Board cannot vote to pass a resolution approving a Memorandum of Agreement with the Association, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby invokes the Doctrine of Necessity for the purpose of approving a Memorandum of Agreement once recommended by the negotiations committee of non-conflicted Board members, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board shall post the above resolution on the District website and in common areas of the District for a period of thirty (30) days, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the within resolution be filed with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with law.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that:

BE IT RESOLVED, all members of the North Plainfield Board of Education are subject to the Code of Ethics for School Board members as codified at N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24(c); and

WHEREAS, the Code of Ethics requires Board members to alert the Board in the event they feel they have a conflict that would prohibit them from voting and/or participating in discussions regarding a certain matter, and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity may be invoked by a Board of Education under certain circumstances which, when properly invoked, permits conflicted Board members to vote on specific items, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with law and the employment contract of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board needs to provide the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James V. McLaughlin, with his annual evaluation, and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity will need to be invoked for purposes of providing the Superintendent with his annual evaluation, and

WHEREAS, Board Member John Fellin's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Fellin, is employed by the District at East End School and is a member of the North Plainfield Education Association ("Association"), and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-05, Board Member Fellin cannot participate in the Superintendent evaluation process, and

WHEREAS, Board Member David Branan's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Branan, is employed by the District at West End School and is a member of the Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-05, Board Member Branan cannot participate in the Superintendent evaluation process

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Allen's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Allen, is employed by the District and she receives an hourly rate of pay that mirrors the rates that are set forth in the CBA between the Board and Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an advisory opinion issued by the School Ethics Commission (A16-07) and upon the advice of counsel, Board Member Allen cannot participate in the Superintendent evaluation process; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Kasper currently resides in North Plainfield with his father-in-law; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Kasper's father-in-law is employed by the District and is a member of the North Plainfield Education Association; and

WHEREAS, the Board sought and received an advisory opinion as to whether there exists a conflict of interest for Board Member Kasper to participate in the Superintendent evaluation process, and

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Commission issued Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06 which precludes Board Member Kasper from participating in the Superintendent evaluation process, and

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield Board of Education is a seven (7) member Board that requires a majority vote with respect to the Superintendent with his annual evaluation, and

WHEREAS, due to the conflicts identified herein, the Board cannot vote to pass a resolution approving the annual evaluation of the Superintendent

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby invokes the Doctrine of Necessity for the purpose of completing the Superintendent evaluation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board shall post the above resolution on the District website and in common areas of the District for a period of thirty (30) days, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the within resolution be filed with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with law.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT EMPLOYMENT & PERSONNEL ACTIONS, INCLUDING EVALUATION, PERSONNEL MATTERS AND COMPENSATION MATTERS

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that:

BE IT RESOLVED, all members of the North Plainfield Board of Education are subject to the Code of Ethics for School Board members as codified at N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24(c); and

WHEREAS, the Code of Ethics requires Board members to alert the Board in the event they feel they have a conflict that would prohibit them from voting and/or participating in discussions regarding a certain matter, and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity may be invoked by a Board of Education under certain circumstances which, when properly invoked, permits conflicted Board members to vote on specific items, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education needs to appoint and approve an employment contract for the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity will need to be invoked for purposes of voting on the appointment and employment contract of the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, Board Member John Fellin's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Fellin, is employed by the District at East End School and is a member of the North Plainfield Education Association ("Association"), and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Fellin is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, Board Member David Branan's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Branan, is employed by the District at West End School and is a member of the Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Branan is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Allen's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Allen, is employed by the District and she receives an hourly rate of pay that mirrors the rates that are set forth in the CBA between the Board and Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Allen is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Kasper currently resides in North Plainfield with his father-in-law; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Kasper's father-in-law is employed by the District and is a member of the North Plainfield Education Association; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Kasper is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield Board of Education is a seven (7) member Board that requires a majority vote with respect to the appointment and employment contract of the Assistant Superintendent of Schools; and

WHEREAS, due to the conflicts identified herein, the Board cannot vote to pass a resolution approving the appointment and employment contract for the Assistant Superintendent, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby invokes the Doctrine of Necessity for the purpose of voting on the appointment and employment contract of the Assistant Superintendent, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board shall post the above resolution on the District website and in common areas of the District for a period of thirty (30) days, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the within resolution be filed with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with law.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S EMPLOYMENT & PERSONNEL ACTIONS, INCLUDING EVALUATION, PERSONNEL MATTERS AND COMPENSATION MATTERS

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that:

BE IT RESOLVED, all members of the North Plainfield Board of Education are subject to the Code of Ethics for School Board members as codified at N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24(c); and

WHEREAS, the Code of Ethics requires Board members to alert the Board in the event they feel they have a conflict that would prohibit them from voting and/or participating in discussions regarding a certain matter, and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity may be invoked by a Board of Education under certain circumstances which, when properly invoked, permits conflicted Board members to vote on specific items, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education needs to appoint and approve an employment contract for the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, the Doctrine of Necessity will need to be invoked for purposes of voting on the appointment and employment contract of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, Board Member John Fellin's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Fellin, is employed by the District at East End School and is a member of the North Plainfield Education Association ("Association"), and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Fellin is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, Board Member David Branan's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Brannan, is employed by the District at West End School and is a member of the Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Branan is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Allen's wife, who resides in the same household as Board Member Allen, is employed by the District and she receives an hourly rate of pay that mirrors the rates that are set forth in the CBA between the Board and Association, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Allen is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Thomas Kasper currently resides in North Plainfield with his father-in-law; and

WHEREAS, Board Member Kasper's father-in-law is employed by the District and is a member of the North Plainfield Education Association; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Advisory Opinion A30-5 and A7-06, Board Member Kasper is precluded from participating in employment matters concerning the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield Board of Education is a seven (7) member Board that requires a majority vote with respect to the appointment and employment contract of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

WHEREAS, due to the conflicts identified herein, the Board cannot vote to pass a resolution approving the appointment and employment contract of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby invokes the Doctrine of Necessity for the purpose of voting on the appointment and employment contract of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board shall post the above resolution on the District website and in common areas of the District for a period of thirty (30) days, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the within resolution be filed with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with law.

Thomas Allen-Aye
David Branan-Aye
Sandra Dodd -Aye
John Fellin, Jr.-Aye

Thomas Kasper-Aye
Kathleen Mullen-Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson-Aye

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – No meeting schedule at this time.
Communications – No meeting schedule at this time.
Curriculum – No meeting schedule at this time.
Finance & Facilities – No meeting schedule at this time.
Policy Meeting – No meeting schedule at this time.
Negotiations – No meeting schedule at this time.
NJSBA – No meeting schedule at this time.
SCSBA – No meeting schedule at this time.
SCESC – No meeting schedule at this time.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

New items requested to be placed on the Agenda-there were none.

Mr. Sternberg discussed current professional service providers and mentioned new contracts will be solicited and reviewed at a meeting in the spring.

Code of Ethics- Ms. Bond-Nelson discussed and reviewed with the Board the Code of Ethics for School Board members.

Current Events in Education

There were none.

Comments from the Public

Everett Merrill announced he is the replacement for Mary Forbes, former Borough Council liaison. Mr. Merrill is excited to work with the board.

Future Agenda Items

As per calendar

Adjournment

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session on Wednesday, January 21, 2014 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.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg