

April 9, 2014

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on April 9, 2014 at 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:

Thomas Allen  
David Branan  
Sandra Dodd  
John Fellin, Jr.

Thomas Kasper  
Kathleen Mullen  
Linda Bond-Nelson

A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Superintendent of Schools; Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; and Dr. Robert Rich, Assistant Superintendent, as well as, Amaree Gardner, Student Representative and approximately 3 members of the staff and public.

### **Introduction of New Staff**

#### **Minutes Approval**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the public session minutes of March 18, 2014

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of March 18, 2014

#### **Financial Report**

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Mr. Branan and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated dated March 31, 2014 in the amount of \$ 5,664,465.18.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Mr. Banon 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 Treasurer of School Funds, for the month of March 2014 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.

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

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

#### **Comments from the Public**

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public,

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### **Student Representative Report**

The student report was presented by Amaree Gardner as follows:

May 2<sup>nd</sup> Interact will hold a blood drive. Anyone that is willing to donate to help save lives can report to the HS Gym from 7:30am – 12:30pm. On Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Junior Prom is on Saturday, April 26.

Senior Prom is on Friday, May 16.

NJASK Grades 7 & 8 testing is April 28-May 1

Accuplacer testing for all juniors will take place on Saturday, April 12, for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students whose last name begins with the letter A-L and on Saturday, April 26 for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students whose last name begins with the letter M-Z from 10am – 1pm in the HS cafeteria.

### **Child Development Highlights**

- **Mr. Greg Kilmer** brought his students to preschool lab to do a puppet show for preschoolers.
- **Ms. Marcella Eldekki** brought her students for 2 periods during preschool lab to motivate her students to write poetry on kids.
- The collaboration worked very well.
- Preschool lab celebrates "Week of The Young Child" with preschoolers
- Preschool Graduation is on April 25th, NPHS auditorium

Mateo Gilsilvetti was accepted into the Governor's School at Princeton Univ. for the summer.

NPHS Sophomore, Shawn Wallace, will represent NPHS Saturday, April 26th at the Patriot's Ballpark in Bridgewater, competing with ten other Somerset County high school singing Idols prior to the ball game at 7:00pm. I hope to have a sizeable group from North Plainfield to cheer Shawn and also enjoy a good ballgame at half price tickets (\$5.00) Please RSVP Tom Mazur if you think you might be interested.

### **Presentation**

Mr. Jamil Maroun provided the Board with an overview of the Social Studies and Science Curriculum throughout the district he also provided the Board with current initiatives and plans.

### **Superintendent's Report**

## RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

### Students

**Melody Njoku**, grade 11, has been accepted into the **Governor's School of Engineering & Technology** at the **Rutgers University School of Engineering**.

Congratulations to **Dr. Sarah O'Donnell** and her **Research and Design** students for competing at the North Jersey Regional Science Fair held at Rutgers University on March 14 and 15. The students competed against 175 other scientific projects submitted by students throughout the state. Our students were honored with awards in the following:

- **Anne Tang and Mateo Gilsilvetti** project titled **"The Effect of Invasive Japanese Knotweed on an Urban Stream"** won the special award in **Field Research**.
- **Johanna Canales and Moala Bannavit** project titled **"Body Image and Self-Esteem in Older Adults"** received **Honorable Mention** in their category of **Behavioral Science**
- **Carmen Pravia and Nancy Bahnasy** project titled the **"Effects of UV Radiation on Benthic Communities of an Urban Stream"** won the special award in **Meteorology**



**NPHS "Top Ten" for Class of 2014:** Listed below are the top ten (actually eleven) students along with the names of the teachers that most influenced their lives. Students and staff were recognized at a special dinner on April 8, 2014 at **Giovanna's Restaurant**:

**Students**

Alyssa Chandler  
 Hasani Eason  
 Jonathan Eugenio  
 Kyle Grant  
 Nicholas Mercuri  
 Kevin Monrroy  
 Amy Palacios  
 Cinly Tang  
 Stephanie Veintimilla  
 Shelby Watters  
 Anna Zhu

**Teachers**

Debra Soriano  
 Robert Lake  
 John Patrick  
 Christopher Eshleman  
 Jennifer Riolo  
 Jennifer Sloan  
 Ramon Rasaq  
 Luis Rincon  
 Nancy Reyes  
 Charles Rowan  
 Alexandra Pereira

*The students listed below have been selected for and will participate in the **Central Jersey Elementary Honors Band** program and concert at Rahway Middle School this Saturday, April 12, 2014, 2p.m. - 3p.m.:*

<i>Elizabeth Dustin</i>	<i>West End - Clarinet - Red Band</i>
<i>Sebastian Mendez</i>	<i>Somerset - French Horn - Red Band</i>
<i>Talitha Hubbard</i>	<i>Somerset - Tuba - Red Band</i>
<i>Shahinda Bahnasy</i>	<i>Somerset - Baritone Sax - White Band</i>
<i>James McGovern</i>	<i>Somerset - Baritone B.C. - White Band</i>
<i>Katiana Carter</i>	<i>Somerset - Bass Clarinet - White Band</i>
<i>Grace McGrath</i>	<i>Somerset - Clarinet - White Band, Third Year</i>
<i>Jaheim Roberts</i>	<i>Somerset - Tenor Saxophone - White Band, Second Year</i>
<i>Henry Fuentes</i>	<i>Somerset - Trombone - White Band</i>

*This is the fourth year that North Plainfield has been involved in this event. Each year 16 North Plainfield students in grades 4-6 are nominated and a committee from the Central Jersey Music Educators selects 275 students from 35 different elementary schools to participate. This year there were over 400 student applications for this event. The organization forms three bands according to ability with the 275 students, in grades 4 to 6, and has a rehearsal, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., followed by their performing in concert at 2 p.m. "This is a wonderful event and honor for our North Plainfield band members. Congrats to these fine students for their hours of practice and dedication to the arts," exclaimed **Dorian Parreott, instrumental music teacher at Somerset and West End Schools.***

The following **NPHS varsity basketball players** were recognized on March 25, 2014 by Jerry Carino of the *Courier News*: **Shot of the Year: North Plainfield senior guard Erick Dodd**, who has Down syndrome, banked in a contested 17-footer from the left wing in the final minute of the Canucks' Somerset County Tournament first-round win over Franklin. It was an awesome moment, the kind that reminds you what sports are supposed to be about. **All-Freshman Team: Khalil Dock (North Plainfield); Ka-Ron Dock (North Plainfield).**

**Character Education** advisors **David Hooker** and **Danielle Fauci** proudly announced last month's middle school recipients of the "Students of the Month" and "Awesome Acts" at the March Character Education assembly. The following students were recognized for their outstanding academic performance and their determination of March's trait of *fairness*:

**Students of the Month**  
 Team 7-1: Maeve Walsh

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Awesome Acts**  
 Audrey Uramaza

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Team 7-2:	Christopher Monrroy Demetrius Acevedo Stacy Jeffries	Russel Malik Alex Dayton Sarah Ibrahim
Team 7-3:	Andy Osegueda Noah Gist	Stacey Granizo Kenneth Romero
Team 8-1:	Akirah Jackson Darian Belle	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awesome Acts</b> Xiomora Cornejo
Team 8-2:	Lance Evans Menatallah Bahnasy	Jefferson Matos Anthony Ulpo
Team 8-3:	Ashley Atubi Kiora Aurelien	Jimmy Urquizo

Plainfield-North Plainfield Rotary Club members presented **Student of the Month Certificates of Achievement** to NPHS students **Melody Njoku, grade 11 – January; Kevin Morales, grade 11- February; and Janice Delgadillo, grade 12- March** at a luncheon in their honor on March 12, 2014 at Giovanna’s Restaurant in Plainfield. Students were selected by their **Interact Club advisor, Alexandra Pereira**, in recognition of their years of service to Interact and their academic achievements and extracurricular activities. Each of the recipients has worked diligently with Interact on the club's many activities, including food drives, blood drives, and community events for children. They also spend many hours helping the Rotary Club with its scholarship fundraisers, by working at the concession stands for basketball games at Rutgers University. The recipients spoke extemporaneously at the meeting, giving an overview of their academic achievements, their involvement in the Interact Club, and the ways that they have benefited from their education at NPHS.

### Staff

The following six outstanding educators have been selected from the North Plainfield School District as the **2014 “Teacher of the Year” Award Recipients**. North Plainfield administrators will be inviting each recipient with a guest to a special luncheon at Giovanna’s Restaurant on June 13, 2014. In addition, these educators will be honored at North Plainfield’s Teacher Recognition Ceremony on Tuesday, June 3, 2014:

<b>NPHS:</b>	<b>Anthony Della Rosa, Technology Teacher</b>
<b>NPMS:</b>	<b>Shona Write, Reading Teacher</b>
<b>Somerset:</b>	<b>Colleen Strickland, Science Teacher</b>
<b>East End:</b>	<b>Sharon Egan, Special Education Teacher</b>
<b>Stony Brook:</b>	<b>Sonya Laredo, Art Teacher</b>
<b>West End:</b>	<b>Nancy Lubreski, Kindergarten Teacher</b>

### District

*The Rutgers University Graduate School of Education (GSE) Center for Literacy Development awarded both the North Plainfield School District and Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Superintendent, “Certificates of Appreciation in Recognition of the Superintendent’s and District’s Partnerships with Rutgers to Create Excellence in Literacy Instruction.” The awards were presented before 1100 registrants at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Rutgers Reading and Writing Conference held March 28, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New Brunswick, New Jersey. This prestigious conference was organized by*

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**Dr. Lesley Morrow, Distinguished Professor of Literacy at Rutgers University and Director, Center for Literacy Development.**

*As part of the presentation of the awards, Dr. Morrow noted Dr. Birnbaum's many years of service in North Plainfield, her education at Rutgers and commitment to the GSE as an adjunct professor, and her ability to establish a partnership with Rutgers University. Accepting the award on behalf of the district was **Cathy Kobylarz, principal of Stony Brook School**. Dr. Morrow discussed one of the successful programs formed from the district's literacy partnership entitled, "**R.U. Reading**." In this tutoring program, ten Stony Brook students received one-on-one tutoring twice a week for twelve weeks. The students saw results in two ways. The first was improved reading ability and the second was a paradigm shift about the importance of reading and becoming a successful student. Principal Kobylarz later presented the highlights of "R.U. Reading" to conference participants during the "**Lunch and Learn**" session of the conference.*

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual District Arts Festival held at North Plainfield High School on Friday, April 4, 2014 was a testament to creativity and innovation. Consider the elementary **Stony Brook Chorus**, directed by **Lucas Miller**, who sang in three-part harmony, and the students of the Stony Brook School's Teacher of the Year, **Sonya Larado**, who made a large "Chihuly-like" sculpture from plastic bottles. The entire amazing list of true artistic expression was proudly on display and truly too long to mention everything here. The musical portion of the event began in the auditorium with a couple of songs by **NPHS alumnus, Barbara Habeeb**, who also performed in the café. Ms. Habeeb is a music teacher in South Plainfield, as well as an award-winning professional song writer and singer. The high school **Jazz Band**, under the direction of **Heather Fencik**, was notable in its dynamic arrangements of "Take the A Train" and "Sir Duke." **Leeanne Chiaramonte's** drama students presented their intriguing "**Living Theater**" where large representations of famous paintings, created by NPHS art teacher, **Kim Nydick**, were reproduced leaving out the people in the painting. Students posed in front of the reproductions as the people in the original, then "came to life" and related the story behind the painting. The **culinary arts room** was very popular, where students made several different samplings of dips and paper thin, made to order, Italian cookies (pizzelles) under the tutelage of **Clare McEnroe**. Students of **Tom Kavanagh** in the computer aided design class demonstrated how they operated **AutoCAD** and dancers demonstrated their routines in the **Dance Studio** with instructor **Dawn Schultz**, and much, much more. "By all accounts, the reaction to the originality and inventiveness of our students by the parents and community members who attended the event was exhilarating. The arts are the cornerstone of civilization," remarked supervisor of the arts for the district, **Tom Mazur**. Mr. Mazur also expressed pleasure in knowing that the basic and inherent measure of excellence regarding the caliber of mental acuity of the students of North Plainfield, guided by extraordinary teachers, was evident and on display for all to see.

## **Schools**

### **NPHS**

***NPHS Drama Club's Anything Goes a Grand Slam:** Before the final performance of Cole Porter's Anything Goes on Saturday night, March 29, 2014 in the high school auditorium, **Supervisor of the Arts, Tom Mazur** addressed the cast and crew. He told them they were on the verge of creating pure theater magic, and Mr. Mazur was proven right. Everything worked in perfect synchronization: the functional and attractive set, the stunning and*

*colorful costumes, the crisp choreography, the fluid stage blocking and smooth scene changes, a snappy student-member orchestra, then topped off with phenomenal performances by the entire cast, and the result was a theatrical experience not seen in anyone's memory and set a standard by which all future productions will be measured.*

*Freshman **Emily McGrath** strolled the stage with the appropriate ownership as **Reno Sweeny**. Sophomore **Shawn Wallace** portrayed just the right amount of swagger as **Billy Crocker**, senior **Mikaelah Villacruz** charmed the audience with her portrayal of ditzy **Bonnie**, and sophomore **David Figueroa** supplied most of the laughs as **Sir Evelyn Oakleigh** and senior **Brigitte Garcia** played the beautiful **Hope Harcourt** with graceful elegance. Every one of them sang the intricate Porter score with the ease of a professional. Sophomore **George Garcia** as **Moon Face Martin**, played the tough guy role with such believability, senior **Chelsea Blue** carried herself just as **Mrs. Harcourt** would, and then there were the Angel's...those tap dancing right into your heart angels, **Nicole Peregrina**, **Claudia Orozco**, **Gabriela Spenser**, **Desiree Velez-Rivera**, **Michelle Agudelo** and dance soloist **Megan Rebimbas**. It's a miracle the roof of the auditorium didn't fly off after the rousing rendition of "Blow Gabriel, Blow." The entire 35 member cast, 21 member crew and 10 teachers, parents and NPHS graduates behind the scenes, all contributed to an ultimate aesthetic experience.*

**Inaugural NPHS Guard and Percussion Show a Success: The North Plainfield Music Parents Association** sponsored the first annual Winter Guard and Percussion competition at NPHS, with twenty high schools participating on Saturday, April 5, 2014, under the auspices of the Tournament Indoor Association (TIA). After hours and hours of preparation, the competition began at 3:55 p.m. with the lovely singing of the National Anthem by senior **Jordan Rowan**. Each school was announced to take the floor by NPHS music teacher, **Heather Fencik**; the sound system playing of the music for each performance was run by junior **Thomas Demeola**. Kudos go to the many parents and volunteer students who worked tirelessly behind the scenes. The NPHS JV and Varsity Guards performed as well. Commendations must also go to **Shannon Shotwell**, advisor and assistants **Hana Zucker** and **Daniel Matos**. **Tom Mazur**, supervisor of the arts, was approached by the TIA head judge who said it did not go unnoticed how well everything was run at the event. "I was most impressed by the obvious giving of heart and soul by every student who performed their routines in this competition. Anyone who might be of the mind the world is going to hell in a hand basket is cordially invited to the next Indoor Show for a good dose of teenagers at their best, both on stage and back stage," remarked Mr. Mazur. The event ended with the awarding of trophies at 9:00 p.m. "Kudos to the **custodial staff** who were extremely helpful and who stayed well afterwards getting the building ready for school on Monday morning," continued Mr. Mazur.

### NPMS

**Showing Our Middle School Spirit:** The week of March 16 was set aside as "Spirit Week" in North Plainfield Middle School, as students had a chance to express their devotion to their school and have a lot of fun. Daily events, such as, "PJ Day," "Twin Day," "Hat Day," "Wacky Dress Day," and "Maroon Day" proved to be a big hit with the students and staff alike. Once the scores were tallied, **Maryann Reilly's** grade 8 homeroom won the coveted title of "Most School Spirit" and will enjoy an upcoming pizza party on behalf of the Student Council. The culminating event of Spirit Week is the pep rally, in which students heard from their fall, winter, and spring coaches introduce players and recap their wonderful seasons. The middle school jazz band, conducted by **Kyle Shrivanek** was on hand to set the excitement with their rousing performance. Participating students included

**Kierra Adams, David Barriga, Matthew Carranza, Jane Crowther, Andre Eason, Tori Fellin, Estefany Giron, Jada Lawson, Jennifer Mendoza, Joseph Merida, Abraham Monroy, Chris Monroy, Julia Pacheco, Flabia Recinos, Tyler Rodriguez, Arelis Romero, Amir Simmons, Nabil Twyman, Mark Wambaa, and Alex Yumiguano.** Performing for their first time, in front of over 500 students, the “Pep Rally Sisters” brought the students to their feet with their rendition of “Clarity” by the musical artist “Zedd.” Members of the group were **Stephanie Martinez, Imani Scott, Jacy Silva, Jessica Dardignac, Nadia Hussein, Akirah Jackson, Jessica Cerdena, Mikaela Given, Radha Patel, and Erlinda Lopez.** After presenting the school with the **2014 March of Dimes Championship trophy**, boys’ basketball coach **David Hooker** once again concluded the ceremony with his inspirational words about being a “Canuck” and how all the students will achieve success on the upcoming NJ ASK test.

**Hoops for the Heart:** On Wednesday, March 26, the middle school PE and health classes held its annual “Hoops for Heart Day.” Sponsored by the American Heart Association (AHA), this program, helps educate the students on the importance of physical activity and proper diet to prevent heart disease. In addition, this worthy event helps raise funds to support the local chapter. Facilitated by PE teachers **Chris Eshelman, Robin Enderle, Greg Kilmer, and Corinne Laurie,** the middle school students raised over \$800.00. Special contributors were students **Anthony Yalango,** grade 8, and **Omar Malik,** grade 7. “It was a fun-filled day with students competing in various tournaments, games, and jump rope activities. Newly hung ‘Hoops for Heart’ banners, a gift from the AHA, now adorn the gym, commented **John Ferguson assistant principal.**

**Girl Power: Girls Empowered through Mentoring Services,** also known as GEMS, is a mentoring program designed for girls, ages 11-17. By being involved in GEMS, the girls are exposed to opportunities and activities that encourage their physical, social, and personal development. Facilitated by **Dana Smith, school counselor** and **Marissa Eberstadt,** volunteer community member, the GEMS attend bi-monthly training sessions on a variety of topics, such as peer pressure, bullying, body image/perception, and expanding leadership roles for women. “I am so glad to be part of this wonderful group of girls and see the growth and maturity that they have shown in such a short time,” remarked Ms. Smith.

**Through These Doors Walk Future:** As part of the middle school’s career readiness initiative, guidance counselor **Sally Reagan** has spent the last month visiting classrooms and discussing future career options with the students. Utilizing the *Career Decision-Making System (CDM)*, students performed a self-scored assessment that helps them identify occupational interests, values, and, abilities—and matches these dimensions to career options and school subject preferences that they would like to explore.

**Making Connections with the Text:** In a *Lord of the Flies* unit, eighth grade English students in **Christine Colonel’s** classes studied and analyzed human nature in a text as well as in a classroom experiment. On the first day of the unit, students entered the classroom and were given a problem. “On a field trip to Spain, our plane went down and you are all alone on a deserted island. Although you survived, Ms. Colonel wasn’t as lucky. As a group you have to come up with a list of 10 items to be given to you for survival.” The students were given no further information or input from the teacher. Without knowing it, students responded in a very similar way as the boys in *Lord of the Flies* did when they found themselves alone on an island with no adult. They argued and struggled to share power and make decisions as a group. Although very upset and disappointed by their actions during the activity, the students learned a valuable lesson about themselves as well

as human nature. While reading the novel throughout the unit, students continually connected back to that first day in the class when they were “alone” without an adult and how their natural instincts took over similar to the boys in *Lord of the Flies*. By the end of the unit, students were able to reflect on their ideas about human nature and good vs. evil while pulling from a variety of sources. The activity proved to be a memorable classroom experience.

**Middle School Minute:** On Friday, March 25, art teacher **Tammy Mackiewicz** visited **Danielle Fauci’s** social studies classes to teach the students about the ancient Japanese art of origami and its relationship to the practice of Shintoism. After exploring the use of soliloquy and monologues in verbal expressions, reading teacher **Maryann Reilly** invited teachers **John Thompson** and **David Hooker** to perform the classic *Who’s On First* skit in front of her classes. In addition, Mr. Thompson performed a dramatic interpretation of the courtroom dialogue voiced in the movie *A Few Good Men*, while Mr. Hooker recited lines from his favorite Shakespearian play *Macbeth*. Next week, the students will have the opportunity to share their monologues with their peers. Reading teacher **Pat Bailey**, in collaboration with English teacher **William Saccardi**, developed an interdisciplinary unit based on the theme of “transformation.” Her students recently read about the “Recycled Orchestra of Cateura,” showcased on TV’s *60 Minutes*, in which poor students formed an orchestra with instruments made from recycled discarded trash. As part of a NJ ASK preparation assignment, Ms. Bailey had her students write personal letters to the students of Asuncion, Paraguay.

### Somerset School

On April 2, 2014, fifth and sixth graders viewed a musical theater production of “Celebrating New Jersey!” a “Pushcart Players” show commemorating the 350<sup>th</sup> birthday of the state.

**Gerald Fierst, Master Storyteller**, will be entertaining Somerset Intermediate School’s students on Monday, April 14, 2014

### Stony Brook School

**Stony Brook’s Celebration of the “Family”:** Food, fun, and family were the themes of the evening on March 28, 2014 as Stony Brook’s PTA launched another Family Fun Night. This event consisted of a pot luck dinner, an extra talented “DJ Dad,” and a silent auction. Every family arrived with a dinner to share. Once again, many different dishes were shared from different countries: Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Salvador and the United States. DJ Dad Hernandez kept the night rolling as he led the students in music activities and all around fun. The parents and staff were very busy participating in the silent auction, which has been a small fundraiser intended to raise money for Stony Brook’s Cultural Enrichment Program. “This year over 60 baskets were assembled thanks to the incredible efforts of **Leanne Borbely, Stony Brook School teacher**. She and her team of PTA volunteers **Michele Wallace – PTA president; Leslie Castillo – SB’s counselor; Kelly Feeney – SB’s teacher**, put the baskets up for bid and the fun began. Profits were over \$1000.00 dollars, which was just incredible. Special thanks to everyone for a great team effort,” remarked **Cathy Kobylarz**, principal.

### West End School

**Golden Guest Day 2014:** On April 4, 2014, West End third graders celebrated Golden

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Guest Day. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents, and other special people in the children's lives were invited to spend the morning doing various learning activities and crafts with students. Golden guests were greeted by West End student liaison **Marilyn Quinones** and school counselor **Taryn Buffolino**. West End PTA provided a continental breakfast for the Golden Guests as they gathered in the community room and got to know one another. The morning opened with the entire third grade on stage singing "We are the World" by Michael Jackson. Afterwards classes were directed to different stations around the community room where they could participate together with their Golden Guest in reading together, practicing math skills, interviewing each other, a craft, and bingo. The groups moved through the stations during a 20 minute rotation schedule, which allowed for a bustling, energetic community room where students and Golden Guests alike, were completely engaged with one another. "The turn out this year was fantastic. Over 90 Golden Guests came this year which included volunteer parents, staff, and even the parents of some of our staff members. The children were thrilled with the experience and many Golden Guests expressed their gratitude for being invited on this special day. Teachers at West End hope to keep this tradition alive for years to come," remarked **Beth Sobel, principal**. "Thank you to the third grade teachers: **Brian Bigden, Alyson DiFiore, Marianne Harris, Debbie Lysicatos, Andrew Zlotnick, Christina Moscatello, and Morgan Mescal**. Thank you to our volunteers who helped to make the day go smoothly: **Taryn Buffolino, Erika Gambuti, Paula Lemos, Vicki Mendes, Brian Steger, Sandy Markert, Sara Gagliano, Wendy Alvarez, Marilyn Quinones, Angel Lopez and John Vaughan**. Thank you to our PTA for your support, always!" continued Ms. Sobel.

**West End P.T.A. Basket Auction:** On March 22, 2014, West End School PTA held its annual basket auction. Two-hundred sixty-seven (267) beautifully decorated baskets, gift certificates and gift cards donated by local businesses, parents, teachers, staff, students, PTA members and friends of West End School were auctioned off. The Grand Prizes included two complimentary nights of lodging in a villa at Suites at Hershey, four one-day Park Hopper tickets for Walt Disney World, a Sony PS4 with extra controller and 1 year PlayStation Online, a one night stay in a family Suite-Poconos Great Wolf Lodge, "Wicked the Musical" package- two orchestra seats to a performance at the Gershwin Theater, backstage tour, CD sampler, and Playbill, and \$1000 off orthodontia care and basket of goodies from Warren Hills Orthodontics. Auction committee members included **Michelle Coslit, Danielle Rassa, Karen Rink, Toni Lewis, Karen Maloney, Paige Fitzgerald, Debbie Holzer, Jennifer McGovern, and Dawn Kasper**. Through the proceeds of the basket auction, the PTA has been able to provide West End students with numerous educational assemblies, author visits, and museum programs.

### East End School

After a two-month hiatus, **Brian Farrell** arrived on April 3, 2014 at East End School as the new principal. Mr. Farrell is an experienced educator, serving previously as a teacher, director of special services, principal, and superintendent/principal. His formal educational background includes a Bachelor of Science degree from St. John's University and two Masters' degrees from Monmouth University.

#### **A. OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES**

##### **EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING**

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for April is Fire Safety.

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Safety Topic - Transportation. No courses are assigned at this time.

Related safety training is being provided via our on-line employee training system and all employees completed their assigned training as scheduled.

RTU Training – All Staff Members. UPDATE: As of April 1, 2014, over 95% of our employees have completed this training.

Stair Chair Training – In the event of an emergency evacuation, assigned staff members must be trained in the proper use of a stair chair. A training notice has been posted to District Announcements and a hands-on session will be held in the near future.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Crisis Management Emergency Plan Update – A draft copy of the updated plan has now been completed and is currently being reviewed.

## **AED'S**

On March 31, 2014, a representative from Cardiac Science completed a district-wide survey of our AED'S (Automatic External Defibrillators). This survey was conducted to ensure the district complies with the regulations of the new Janet's Law. For additional information regarding this new law, please visit the following website.  
[www.njleg.state.nj.us/20122013/A2000/1608\\_IL.HTM](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/20122013/A2000/1608_IL.HTM)

## **SECURITY**

Uniforms – The district has now completed the process of outfitting our security personnel with uniforms so they can be immediately identified.

Door Magnets – The district has now completed the distribution of door magnets for emergency lock downs. As discovered during distribution, there are a number of doors throughout the district that must be retrofitted to accept these magnets. We are in the process of preparing work orders to address these door issues. These magnets allow classroom doors to be freely opened while in a locked position and are instantly removed in the event of an emergency.

## **SECURITY DRILLS**

The security drill for March was a Lockdown Drill. All of our schools completed their assigned drills. The security drill for April is a Bomb Threat Drill.

## **CCTV SYSTEMS**

The district has installed CCTV Systems in all of our buses. This system includes GPS tracking and is accessible in real time. UPDATE: Our service provider has now completed the update of our software and all systems are operational.

## **EAST END PAVING**

Due to the deteriorating condition of paving at the East End School, emergent resurfacing will take place over the upcoming spring break.

## **13/14 CAPITAL PROJECTS (Other) DIRECT INSTALL PROGRAM**

The district was recently approved to participate in the latest round of Energy Reduction Grants sponsored by P.S.E. & G. This project will include replacing outdated interior and

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exterior lighting fixtures at Somerset School and the high & middle school. We anticipate a start-up of this project on or about June 23, 2014.

#### **14/15 CAPITAL BUDGET**

Specifications for the following Capital Improvement Projects, partially funded by Rod Grants, have now been completed. Bid documents were available on April 7, 2014 and a pre-bid walkthrough was scheduled for April 9, 2014. The bid opening date established for these projects is April 24, 2014.

High & Middle School – Fire & Intrusion Alarm System Replacement.

East End School – Fire & Intrusion Alarm System Replacement.

West End School – Fire & Intrusion Alarm System Replacement.

Stony Brook School – Fire & Intrusion Alarm System Replacement.

Stony Brook School – \*Building Wide Window Replacements Including the Gym.

\*This project is still under review for available and/or anticipated funding.

#### **14/15 MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (Approved)**

The following maintenance projects have now been approved for completion over the upcoming summer months.

Stony Brook School – Installation of a building-wide surveillance system.

Stony Brook School – Rear courtyard improvements and shed roofing.

Stony Brook School – Kitchen modifications to include a serving line.

West End School – Faculty Room improvements.

High School – Wrestling Room improvements.

High School – Upper vestibule, refreshment area improvements.

High School – Overflow room improvements to include flooring.

#### **14/15 SUMMER MAINTENANCE**

A memo was issued on April 1, 2014 to all building principals requesting they submit their lists of required and/or requested summer upgrades or repairs. Once this information has been received, a final listing of all summer work will be generated. The completion of any and all maintenance projects or improvements is dependent upon budgetary restrictions. Any safety and security related improvements or upgrades will be a priority.

#### **SAFE ROUTES MINI-GRANT**

The district was recently notified that we have been awarded a Safe Routes to Schools Mini-Grant. This grant will provide additional playground equipment for the Stony Brook School. UPDATE: The funds have now been received by the district and the equipment has been ordered.

Additional information regarding recently completed maintenance and capital improvement projects, as well as digital photographs and a current project register, can be viewed on our website. Please follow the link to District Operations and click on the listed tabs for more information.

#### **Informational Items**

Letter to NJDOE re: QSAC Reconsideration Request

Teacher of the Year Award Letters

Copy of *Star Ledger* Ad for Superintendent

Letter from ACLU re: Requiring Photo ID's and *Star Ledger* Article

NPMS Talent Show Program

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Playbill for NPHS Production of *Anything Goes*  
Spring Arts Festival Brochure  
Community Health Fair Flier - May 1, 2014  
Superintendent's Monthly Report  
Various Newspaper Articles

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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that:

WHEREAS Kerry Thomson, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that he wishes to retire on July 1, 2014, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Mr. Thomson 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 April 9, 2014, 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. Thomson.

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:

WHEREAS Barbara Curtis, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2014, and

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

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

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RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 9, 2014, 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. Curtis.

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 for the 2013-2014 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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve the certificated staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for courses taken between October 2013 and March 2014.

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 for the **2014-2015** school year, the Board of education approve the following fall student teacher and/or internship placement(s) from the Rutgers Graduate School of Education:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>Class/School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Soyoun Ouh	ESL/NPHS	Stefanie Myers
Chelsea Grau	ESL & Spanish/HS	Alexandria Pereira & Sara Spaner

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education employ the following teacher(s) to work on curriculum projects or school-based planning activities at the school/department as indicated at the hourly rate of \$49.74 to be funded with local funds:

<u>NPMS School-Based Planning</u>	
Kimberly Annette	\$398
Danielle Fauci	\$398

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Lauren Meyer	\$398
Maryann Reilly	\$398
Suzanne Sapega	\$398

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve Ryan Boyd to serve as a volunteer assistant to the baseball coach at NPHS.

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education adjust the temporary employment of Meredith Reedy, temporary school social worker, **from** October 7, 2013 through March 31, 2014, **to** October 7, 2013 through June 20, 2014.

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Priscilla Weber, NPMS student liaison coordinator, as a substitute teacher in the NPHS Alternative Program at the rate of \$32 per hour for up to five hours per night.

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as K-12 substitute teachers in the district:

Daisy Gutierrez	Ashley Regan	Ingrid Reyes
Lucy Pimpinella		

Further, that Ms. Pimpinella be employed as a substitute paraprofessional as well, to be called on an as-needed basis, at the rate of \$21.14 per hour.

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

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
 Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve Katherine Lee as a school counseling intern from Caldwell College as follows:

<u>Term</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>On-Site Supervisor</u>
Fall 2014	Stony Brook School	Leslie Castillo
Spring 2015	NPMS	Sally Reagan

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve a reduction in hours for Fred Bradford, paraprofessional at NPHS/West End School, **from** 4.25 hours per day to 3.25 hours per day at NPHS, effective March 24, 2014.

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 the Board of Education accept the resignation of Jonathan Shealy, part-time security officer in the Alternative High School Program, effective March 25, 2014.

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 for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education grant Anne Corkery, education media specialist at Stony Brook School, an unpaid leave of absence effective September 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, for child care purposes.

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

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

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Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Michelle Hobson as a paraprofessional in the preschool class at East End School for 2.50 hours per day at the rate of \$21.14 per hour, effective April 7, 2014.

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Jennifer Mariani as a temporary replacement teacher of English at NPHS, at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490, to be prorated effective April 1, 2014 through June 20, 2014. (Ms. Mariani is temporarily replacing Rita DaFonseca.)

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 that the following recommendation be tabled:

That the Board of Education enter into a personnel agreement, #PERS-1-13-14, effective April 9, 2014.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education adjust the unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act granted to Rita DaFonseca, teacher of English at NPHS, **from** effective May 14, 2014 through June 30, 2014 **to** effective April 30, 2014 through June 30, 2014, for child care purposes.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve the use of the following textbook(s) and/or trade book(s) in the district as indicated:

Title:	<i>Reading Literature and Writing</i>
Author:	Missy James and Alan P. Merickel
Publisher:	Pearson
Copyright:	2013
Course/Levels:	English, Grade 12

Title: *Good Habits, Great Readers Comprehensive Literacy*  
Author: Dr. A. Klein, Dr. D. Fisher and Dr. Nancy Frey  
Publisher: Pearson  
Copyright: 2010  
Course/Levels: K-5

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 the Board of Education approve the following classified students each undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be conducted by Dr. Elisa Dulay at the cost of \$850 each:

PSY-22-13-14      PSY-24-13-14  
PSY-23-13-14      PSY-25-13-14

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 the Board of education approve the following classified students be placed on home instruction for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff:

	<u>Effective</u>		<u>Effective</u>
HI-48-13-14	March 14, 2014	HI-50-13-14	March 27, 2014
HI-49-13-14	March 24, 2014		

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of classified student III-13-14 at Green Brook Academy at the annual cost of \$62,914, to be prorated effective April 10, 2014.

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

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

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the use of translations services for classified student TRANS-03-13-14 to be provided by Ambassador Translating at the cost of \$110 per hour, plus \$45 per hour for travel for up to three hours, effective date to be determined.

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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of classified student PPPPPP-13-14 at Celebrate the Children at the cost of \$60,714, to be prorated effective April 14, 2014.

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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve classified student HI-51-13-14 be placed on home instruction for ten hours per week to be provided by Education, Inc., at the rate of \$45.50 per hour, effective March 26, 2014 through April 3, 2014.

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

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

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Branam abstaining, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education extend the contracts of the following pre-school providers to provide pre-kindergarten programs for eligible residents of North Plainfield:

Growing Tree Pre-School  
Holy Cross Nursery School  
Taylor Learning Center

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

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

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Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the rate of \$5,483 per enrolled eligible child for the approved pre-school providers to offer pre-kindergarten programs for eligible residents of North Plainfield.

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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated February 28, 2014.

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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated April 9, 2014.

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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education approve and accept a donation from the Family Health Initiatives for the Shaping NJ Healthy Community Grant in the amount of \$5,922.00 for the purpose of adding playground equipment to Stony Brook School. Grant amount will be supported by a local share of \$3,159.00 for a total of \$9,081.00. This grant is made possible by Safe Routes to Schools/Ridewise of Somerset County.

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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education authorize and approve of the disposal of non- functioning and irreparable AV equipment located in NPBS as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Model #</u>	<u>Serial #</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Buhl	4059	none	non-functional
Elmo	L355	none	non-functional
Da-Lite	none	none	non-functional
Bell and Howell	81233	none	non-functional
Bell and Howell	74008	none	non-functional

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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 the Board of Education approve and accept a grant from the New Jersey Department of Agriculture, School Breakfast Program Expansion Grant in the total award amount of \$8,667.00 to be allocated to the following schools:

North Plainfield High School  
Somerset School  
West End School

Grant will fund equipment purchases necessary to expand the "Breakfast After the Bell" Program in the awarded schools.

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: Resolution for the North Plainfield Board of Education Fire and Intrusion Alarm 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 North Plainfield High School, Fire and Intrusion Alarm Upgrades (the "School Project"), State Project No. 3670-050-14-1001-G04; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Agreement provides for an anticipated grant amount of \$719,609.00, and an initial local share of \$396,991.00 for a total anticipated total project amount of \$1,116,600.00; 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

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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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that: Resolution for the North Plainfield Board of Education Fire and Intrusion Alarm 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 West End Elementary School, Fire and Intrusion Alarm Upgrades (the “School Project”), State Project No. 3670-110-14-1013-G04; and

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WHEREAS, the Grant Agreement provides for an anticipated grant amount of \$167,380.00, and an initial local share of \$92,340.00 for a total anticipated project amount of \$259,720.00; 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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that: Resolution for the North Plainfield Board of Education Fire and Intrusion Alarm 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-

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I, 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 Stony Brook Elementary School, Fire and Intrusion Alarm Upgrades (the "School Project"), State Project No. 3670-090-14-1008-G04; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Agreement provides for an anticipated grant amount of \$185,992.00, and an initial local share of \$102,608.00 for a total anticipated project amount of \$288,600.00; 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

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Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that: Resolution for the North Plainfield Board of Education Fire and Intrusion Alarm 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 East End Elementary School, Fire and Intrusion Alarm Upgrades (the "School Project"), State Project No. 3670-060-14-1007-G04; and

WHEREAS, the Grant Agreement provides for an anticipated grant amount of \$169,627.00, and an initial local share of \$93,579.00 for a total anticipated project amount of \$263,206.00; 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

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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. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that the Board of Education authorize and approve of the disposal of twelve-year old, outdated, non-functioning Gateway Model 305 and 405 laptop computers: 70 at NPMS/NPHS, and 41 at East End School, 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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, that for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the agreement with Klubhouse Kids Inc. for after-school child care at a fee of \$16.50 per day per student. A reimbursement to the district of 30% of the aforementioned fee is for transportation costs.

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: WHEREAS, the North Plainfield School District desires to transport special education, non-public, public, and vocational school students to specific destinations; and

WHEREAS, the Somerset County Educational Services Commission, hereinafter referred to as the SCESC, offers coordinated transportation services; and

WHEREAS, the SCESC will organize, provide and schedule routes to achieve the maximum cost effectiveness;

NOW THEREFORE, it is agreed that in consideration of pro-rated contract costs, plus an administration fee of 6%, as presented to the North Plainfield School District as calculated by the billing formula adopted by the SCESC's Board of Education. Said formula shall be based on a route cost divided by home to school mileage of students allocated to each participating district. The total amount to be charged to district will be adjusted based on actual costs. Payments will be due within 30 days of receipt by the district and deemed late after 60 days with an additional 1% fee for late payments. At the discretion of the Commission Superintendent, late fee charges may be waived for extenuating circumstances.

I. The SCESC will provide the following services:

- a. routes coordinated with other districts to achieve a maximum cost reduction while maintaining a realistic capacity and travel time;
- b. monthly billing and invoices;
- c. computer print-outs of student lists for all routes coordinated by SCESC;
- d. all necessary interaction and communication between the sending district, receiving school, and the respective transportation contractors;
- e. constant review and revision of routes;

It is further agreed that the North Plainfield School District will provide the SCESC with the following:

- f. Requests for any additional transportation on approved forms to be provided by the SCESC, completed in full and signed by previously authorized district personnel;
- g. Withdrawal for any transportation must be provided in writing and signed by authorized district personnel; no billing adjustments will be made without this completed form and will become effective on the date the form is received;

II. Additional Cost - All additional costs generated by unique requests such as mid-day runs or early dismissals will be borne by the district. All such costs must first be approved by the North Plainfield School District

III. Whereas, the SCESC also provides coordinated regional bus maintenance services, safety training, coordinated purchasing, professional development and other related transportation services for an additional fee as a shared services program, the LEA (North Plainfield Board of Education) may participate at any time.

IV. Length of Agreement - This agreement and obligations and requirements therein shall be in effect between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015 in writing over authorized signature.

V. Entire Agreement - This agreement constitutes the entire and only agreement between the parties and may be amended by an Instrument in writing over authorized signature.

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 the Board of Education approve the following field trips as indicated on the attached list.

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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 was none.

### **Committee and Delegate Report**

Board Staff – no meeting scheduled at this time  
Communications – no meeting scheduled at this time  
Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time  
Finance & Facilities – no meeting scheduled at this time  
Policy Meeting – Second Reading  
Negotiations – Ms. Bond Nelson is trying to confirm meeting dates  
NJSBA – Mr. Kasper provided a report  
SCSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time  
SCESC – no meeting scheduled at this time  
Superintendent Search-Ms. Bond-Nelson updated the board on the status of the search, the process and encouraged all to fill out the survey and attend the community meeting

### **Old Business**

Mr. Sternberg reviewed options Mr. Fisher provided regarding setting up email accounts for Board of Education members. The Board decided not to change.

Dr. Birnbaum discussed the need to cancel previously scheduled special meeting on April 23, 2014. Dr. Birnbaum offered the Board the opportunity to review staff evaluation books, on Monday, April 28, 2014.

### **New Business**

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve for second reading of the following policy:

2130                      Principal Evaluation

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

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

### **Current Events in Education**

There were none.

### **Comments from the Public**

M. Forbes mentioned the Vermule Center and the desire to start summer children's program

### **Future Agenda Items**

None Discussed

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**Adjournment**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that be it resolved that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session on 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. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg