

November 6, 2013

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on November 6, 2013 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  
Thomas Kasper

Kathleen Mullen  
Nancy Szaroleta  
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 15 members of the staff and public.

#### **Introduction of New Staff**

There was none.

#### **Minutes Approval**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved, to accept the public session minutes of October 16, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved, to accept the executive session minutes of October 16, 2013.

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

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public, Ms. Cushanda Mapp asked to comment on an issue relative to registering for school.

Mr. Mazur, supervisor of fine arts, updated the Board on the status us Gettysburg Project and details regarding viewing of documentary featuring our students.

#### **Student Representative Report**

The student report was presented by Amaree Gardner as follows:

On Friday, November 1, 2013, the Freshman football team defeated Governor Livingston in a 20-0 win.

The Tunlaw staff handed out their fall edition of the school newspaper which featured sections such as Fall Fashion and Editorials on new teachers.

The National Honor Society induction ceremony was held on Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup> and honor society tutoring began this week.

November 6, 2013

The Boys' soccer team has a NJSIAA Sectional tournament game today at Bordentown Regional High School. For admission they're requesting nonperishable food items for those in need this holiday season.

The Interact Club food drive will continue through November 15<sup>th</sup>, with the winning homeroom being prized a free breakfast from Dunkin Donuts.

November 11<sup>th</sup> is district Red, White, and Blue day and there will be a Veteran's Day Ceremony in front of the high school at 7:00 am for any who would like to attend.

The North Plainfield High School Choral Music Department is presenting a Cabernet dinner and musical performance on Friday, November 22, 2013. Ms. Six is now selling tickets at a cost of \$10.00 each.

The blood drive held on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> was a huge success. North Plainfield High School collected 77 pints of blood thus saving 231 lives!

### Presentation

Dr. Rich, along with several administrators, presented the results of the Annual State Testing and provided an overview of the NJQSAC Performance Review. Also presented was an overview of currently utilized programs assisting in achieving testing goals.

### Superintendent's Report

## RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

### Students

The following NPHS students were inducted into the **National Honor Society** at a special ceremony on October 29, 2013:

**Samantha Adoptante**  
**Moala Bannavi**  
**Fabian Buenano**  
**Johanna Canales**  
**Thomas DeMeola**  
**Erick Dodd**  
**Jonathan Eugenio**  
**Olivia Flood**  
**Christina Forrester**  
**Mona Gaballa**

**Amaree Gardner**  
**Mateo Gilsilveti**  
**Bryan Huezo**  
**Jennifer Jones**  
**Jonathan Lima**  
**Khawar Malik**  
**Margarita Manzano**  
**Ashley Marshall**  
**Tamera McMillan**  
**Melody Njoku**

**Nicole Peregina**  
**Carmen Pravia**  
**Julissa Ramirez**  
**Michael Small**  
**Shelby Smith**  
**Anne Tang**  
**Jessica Tirado**  
**Charlotte Williams**  
**Ja'wana Wilson**

The following **East End School** students were awarded certificates at the **Citizens of the Month Assembly** held on October 21 at 9:00 a. m. in the community room. Parents, family, and friends were in attendance to support the achievement of the students as they demonstrated and excelled at the six pillars of character education. At the end of the assembly, **School Counselor Nicole Rivlin** introduced **Somfenna Enwerkeowe, Abdon Andahur, Tatiana Sarmiento, and Nicole Lilndemeyer** as the winners of the respect essay contest. The students read their pieces to the audience, but Tatiana Sarmiento chose to put her words to music and was accompanied by a family friend, **Isaiah Weaver** on the guitar. The next day, all winners were invited to a "hot chocolate party" hosted by Ms. Rivlin who facilitated the "**Week of Respect**" and all of the activities.

**Citizens of the Month at East End School  
October 2013**

**KINDERGARTEN**

Precious Marita  
Jacob Negron  
Frank Auccapina  
Ashley Veras  
Ciara Brown  
Jayden Jimenez  
DenisseAmyaBohorquez  
Erica Sollberger

**FIRST GRADE**

Aaron Smith  
Samantha Melgar  
Manuela Roncancio  
Erika Chavez  
SrutiChaparala  
Sofia Jerez- Salazar  
KaitlynSanichar

**SECOND GRADE**

GisselAlvarenga  
Kyle Irving  
Destiny Mazariegos  
Melanie Claros  
Anestell Wilhelm  
Jennifer Guevera  
Brandon Sailema  
Caleb Contreras

**THIRD GRADE**

Jennifer Van Buren  
Darrell Cogdell  
Lillian Munoz  
Benjamin Acevedo  
Desiree Mitchell  
Daniel Melendez  
Daisy Dong  
Lamont Jordan

**FOURTH GRADE**

Genesis Rivas  
Pablo Rivera  
AlexaVillacreses  
Bryan Auccapina-Aliaga  
Daniel Barriga  
Amelia Accardo  
Brian Berruecos  
Karla Guevera

**VOCAL MUSIC**

Gabriella Andahur/K  
Alexander Pozolonte/1  
YarelisMinaya-Fernandez/1  
YassinHassanien/2  
Bisleisy Cordon/2  
Lamont Jordan/3  
Donna Siegel/3  
SomfennaEnwerekowe/4  
AlexaVillacreses/4

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC**

Nala King/4  
Abdelrahman Fayed/4

**ART**

Frank Auccapina/K  
Ashley Salazat/K  
Jermaine Smallwood/1  
Krishna Patel/1  
Natalie Moya/2  
Helena de Bang/2  
Victor Pena/3  
GiulianoMarcano/3  
Sharjeel Evans/3  
Bruce Palush/4  
Hope Kaiser/4

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Christopher Accardo/K  
Samir Ibrihim/K  
Sayde Prado/1  
SrutiChaparala/1  
Nikko Evans/2  
Ava Blaine/2  
YasmenZafar/3  
Samantha Draben/3  
Alexa Lourenco/4  
Liam Alvarado/4

**LIBRARY**

Gabriella Andahur/K  
Naomi Tucker/1  
Jesse Dong/1  
Carlos Jimenez/2  
Theodore Desipris/3  
Karina Quinteros/3  
Angelina Brito-Eusebio/4

**ESL**

Milena Ramos Chavez/4  
Daisy Dong/3  
GisselAlvarenga/2  
Hillary Rodriguez/2

**RESPECT CONTEST WINNERS**

AbdonAndahur/4  
Nicole Lindemeyer/4  
Tatiana Sarmiento/4  
SomfennaEnwerekowe/4

**PRINCIPAL**

Corey Cady/2  
Daniel Barriga/4

## District

**Men's Night of Singing:** **Amy Six, NPMS choral director**, organized the first annual "Men's Night of Singing" on October 30, 2013. Males from each chorus representing the district's six schools presented a selection or two on their own, and for the grand finale all the singers, grades 4 -12, joined together on stage for a rousing rendition of "In the Jungle." **Lucas Miller** led his Stony Brook boys and Somerset School boys, and accompanied West End School on their song. **Diana Van Hise** led her East End group of boys; **Ivan Izeppi** directed the NPMS male chorus, and Ms. Six led her large group of men in their two selections. **Tom Mazur**, supervisor of fine, practical and performing arts, expressed his pleasure with the fun everyone was having as well as to hear the full, rich, vibrant resonant sound that is so extraordinary with male voice in concert.

**"Team Maroon" vs. "Team White":** The first annual **"All Star Faculty Basketball Game"** will be held on Tuesday, November 19 at 7:00 pm. in the N.P.H.S. gymnasium. Over 30 staff members from the district will participate in this event. Proceeds will support the NPMS boys' basketball program. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; admission is \$3.00. "Come cheer the teachers, administrators and support staff to victory and enjoy refreshments, prizes, music, and much more! We are looking forward to an evening of healthy competition, laughs, and fun," exclaimed **Reginald Sainte-Rose, Somerset School principal and NPMS varsity boys' basketball coach.**

## Schools

### West End School

**Respect Week:** West End School's **Week of Respect** began with assemblies about respectful behavior designed for all students by **Taryn Buffolino, school counselor, and Marilyn Pinto, student liaison.** Children learned about respectful behavior in school, particularly in the lunchroom and the classroom. Scenarios were presented as the group played a game of "Respectful or Not?" Every morning students heard quotes about respect during announcements. Teachers participated in daily activities on the topic of respect during the week. Ms. Buffolino went to each classroom to do lessons and activities. In kindergarten, they read *Fill a Bucket* and discussed ways to be "bucket fillers" (positive people who make others happy); in first grade, they read *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?* and practiced bucket-filling behavior; in second grade they read *"Bubble Gum Radar"* from *Yoko's World of Kindness* and discussed how harmful teasing can be; in third grade, they read *Friendship Rules*, about relational bullying and created classroom "Friendship Rule Books"; in fourth grade, they did a special activity about put-ups and put-downs and learned the difficult lesson that once someone is hurt with words, the words can never be taken back and the damage cannot be repaired.

**Respectful Student Recognition:** Coordinated by **Taryn Buffolino, school counselor,** each teacher nominated a student who had been respectful all week. Each nominee received a certificate and a spirit monkey tag saying either "Bucket Filler" or "Caught Doing Good." With the help of **Lisa Cerulo, fine arts teacher,** Ms. Buffolino created a respect bulletin board upstairs, featuring an enlarged picture of the nominees as well as samples of student work from the Week of Respect. Following are the nominees:

**Kindergarten:**

Durkin: Styles Spann, Chloe Rodriguez  
Laudino: SalihDurmus, Raja Ali  
Lubreski: Mark Fultz  
Matthews: Camilla Collao  
Scott: Manuel Vasquez

**Third Grade:**

Bigden: Giancarlo Chuquitarco Morales  
DiFiore: Katerine Pimentel  
Harris: Joseph Santos  
Lysicatos: Israel Velasquez  
Zlotnick: Catherine Dustin

**First Grade:**

Dolan: Julian Lopez  
Dunston/ Shealy: Kayla Bradley  
Durkin/ Navarro: Emily Baksh  
Karl: Sergio Muz  
Knauer: Jeremiah Pasteur  
Silverii: Charlie Damacela

**Second Grade:**

Cirillo: Tyler Simpson  
Lilly: James Contreras Meda  
Quick: Sophia Rodriguez  
Russell: Samantha Killimett

**Fourth Grade:**

Apisa: Gerardo Rodriguez  
Birnbaum: Alejandra Garcia  
DosSantos: Victoria Smagalla  
Johnson: Asia Hargrove  
Morgan: Sandra Alfaro-Lopez  
Cerulo: Nikolas Thunberg (3rd)  
Parreott: Madison Kasper (4th)

**School Violence Awareness Week:** Coordinated by **Taryn Buffolino, school counselor**, students heard thought-provoking quotes pertaining to peace and non-violence during the daily morning announcements. The topics were discussed in the classroom throughout the week. All students signed a peace pledge, which is now hanging in the hallway outside of the community room. Students also were invited to participate in a contest called **What a Wonderful World**, in which they were to depict their vision of a wonderful world through a poster, poem, song, or essay. Winners will receive a pizza party. All submissions will be featured on the bulletin board in the front entryway.

**WEST END WILDCAT PEACE PLEDGE**

I am a West End Wildcat, and this is my Peace Pledge:  
To give a thumbs-down to put-downs because actions & words can hurt.  
To say I'm sorry when I've made a mistake  
And forgive others when they make mistakes.  
To keep my hands to myself.  
To never say 'You Can't Play'  
And to help, not hurt, others.  
To celebrate our differences and our similarities.  
To listen & live with a kind heart.  
And to know that I am not alone.

**Winners:**

**Kindergarten: Raiden Landa**  
**First grade: Savion Parish**  
**Second grade: Joel Williams**  
**Third grade: Farah Abraham**  
**Fourth grade: RaquelKruszczyński**

**Participants:**

Marilyn Lopez

Ari Johnson

Gregory Russo

Julian Josias

Sebastian Serna

McKinzie Dankins

Justyn Gonzalez-Rivas

Ege Kanaldi

John Gomes

Merlos Katerine Pimentel

Abigail Calderon

Jahmir Jacobs

Omar Elkhoul

Berke Kanaldi

Ariana Vira

Sandy Veliz

Zinelabidine Regragui

**East End School**

The **school based planning team** held an assembly for the school community on October 15. Committee members **Rachel Padian**, **Ridhima Bajaj**, **Allison Longley** and **Kathy Porter** wrote and performed a skit which focused on nature. A PowerPoint was also presented which highlighted plants and animals and raised awareness of their importance to the environment. East End is entering year two of the study of nature, and each morning during announcements **Principal Kathleen Herrmann** reminds students to “Take a minute to be in it” and to blog **Ms. Ladybug** with any interesting findings or sightings. In addition, the school is in the early stages of developing End End School’s Butterfly Garden. On the afternoon of October 25, fourth grade teachers, **Kathy Porter** and **Rachel Padian**, took their class outside, and with shovels in hand, the students, teachers and Ms. Herrmann began to fill the two large planters with fresh soil. The planters were made by parent **Jaminson VanBuren**, father of third grade student **Jennifer Van Buren**. He was recognized for his time and effort by Ms. Herrmann on Back to School Night. Once the soil settles, seedlings that attract butterflies will be planted; everyone is hopeful that this coming spring butterflies will visit the garden. The garden is located adjacent to the playground and is a perfect location for everyone to enjoy.

On October 23 members of the East End School community met at Hydewood Park Baptist Church located at 100 Norwood Avenue in North Plainfield at 8:00 a.m. and walked to school as part of the **Safe Routes to School** program. The event was facilitated by Safe Routes Coordinator **James Crane**, and he was joined by **Mayor Michael Giordano**, Business Administrator **Donald Sternberg**, student liaison **Lynnelle Thomas** and school counselor **Nicole Rivlin**. Approximately fifty students joined in the walk along with twenty parents. The event raised awareness of the importance of exercise and walking to school safely.

On October 25 the students and staff of East End attended an assembly entitled ***The Lean Green Cleanup Machine***. The assembly was paid for by a **grant** from **Somerset County Clean Communities Program**. **Jay Mankita** educated and entertained the audience about the importance of recycling and protecting the environment. Weeks before the assembly, Mr. Mankita provided the teachers with a CD of his songs and a copy of the lyrics, and teachers played the music to familiarize the students and prepare for the assembly. Mr. Mankita used a PowerPoint presentation to project the words of each song as he played his guitar so the audience could follow along. “It was an amazing assembly because not only did everyone learn about the environment, they were entertained and actively engaged from the moment it started until it ended. Mr. Mankita is an outstanding entertainer and perfect for an elementary school audience. We are so grateful to the

Somerset County Clean Communities Program for providing this assembly,” remarked **Kathleen Herrmann**. The assembly also supported the building’s nature objective.

On October 29 students at East End School participated in ***Mix It Up at Lunch Day***. Students were assigned to eat at different tables during the lunch period. *Mix it up at lunch day* is part of a national campaign that seeks to break down the barriers among students and encourage them to make new friends. Each student was asked to wear a specific color for that day and sat at a table representing that color. As students entered the community room, they immediately knew which table to sit at because the colors were represented by a cluster of balloons on each table. The event was hosted by school counselor **Nicole Rivlin** and student liaison **Lynnelle Thomas**. “It was an exciting learning experience for everyone and supported what the students hear each morning during announcement when they are told to take the time to make a new friend,” stated **Principal Kathleen Herrmann**.

**Rutgers** professor **Susan Dougherty** met with **Kathleen Herrmann** and **Lynnelle Thomas** after school on October 27 to discuss upcoming plans for an evening program to support literacy. Ms. Dougherty shared that she received a grant that will provide books in both English and Spanish to students. Each student will be accompanied by his/her father or any important male figure so they can read together. The tentative plans were mapped out and the event will be held once a week for six weeks. A light dinner will also be provided. **Dr. Leslie Morrow**, Rutgers professor, worked with the district of North Plainfield in the past and suggested East End as the recipient of the grant. “This is an exciting opportunity for the students at East End. Not only will it promote a love of reading, but at the same time the children will get to spend time with their fathers or special male figures in their lives. They will also get to keep the books. We are honored to be selected for this program,” replied Ms. Herrmann. The targeted age group and the start date are still being discussed.

Fliers went home to the students at East End School from the **Families and School Together (F.A.S.T)** committee to invite them for an evening of homework help. F.A.S.T. members **Lynnelle Thomas, Sharon Egan, Katie Shuster, Deborah Lockley Thompson** and **Reema Bajaj** facilitated the event from 5:30 – 7:30 on November 5 in the community room. Parents received tips to help their children with homework and learn more about the curriculum. A pasta dinner also was served. The event was sponsored by the NJEA. East End School continues to emphasize the importance of a strong community and the importance of parent support at home.

### **Stony Brook School**

**Stony Brook’s Annual Harvest Festival:** The story of *Charlie Brown and the Great Pumpkin* by Charles Schultz was, once again, the inspiration for Stony Brook’s Harvest Festival. Thanks to the combined efforts of **Patricia Klatt, academic support teacher, the PTA and veteran teachers Gail Murray, Kathie Willwerth, Linda Helmstetter, and Andy Stout**, the students and staff were once again treated to the annual Harvest Festival on October 31. Students and staff members arrived to school to find the front lawn of Stony Brook School magically converted to a “Pumpkin Patch” with over 300 pumpkins all donated by Stop & Shop of Watchung. Students were invited to select and decorate their own pumpkins, visit the story corner and enjoy the fall festivities. At 1:30 parents, students and staff gathered in costumes for a costume parade followed by classroom festivities. “Parents joined the classes throughout the day and it was so much fun having everyone together. Thanks to all for a great fall celebration!” exclaimed **Cathy Kobylarz, principal**.

***Stony Brook's Family Fun Night:*** On Friday night, October 26, Stony Brook's families and friends gathered for Stony Brook's first "Family Fun Night" with a **Hispanic Heritage** theme. **PTA officers, Michelle Wallace, Lisa Ellis, and teacher/officers Leslie Castillo, Leanne Borbely and Kelly Feeney** organized a fun-filled night celebrating Hispanic Heritage. Families were invited to participate in a "Pot Luck Dinner" and food arrived with foods from many different Latin American countries: Colombia - Pandebono; Ecuador - Llapingachos; Guatemala - Rellenitos; Mexico - Tamales; and from Salvador – Pupusas. They also had empanadas from Ecuador, Guatemala, and Salvador; pizza, fruit salad, broccoli casserole from US; tacos from Salvador and Mexico and oven roasted chicken Spanish style. Families enjoyed cake and cookies for dessert.

Two dance troupes were invited to share their cultural stories. The first group was a small dance troupe from New Brunswick, NJ hoping to share their Mexican culture with others. That night was only their third performance. The girls range from 6-14 years old and performed two dances. Their traditional costumes and joy of dancing really captured the essence of the pride in their culture. The second group was a **Capoeira Martial Arts Group**. They have been passing down the art form of Capoeira in New Jersey and New York for the past 12 years. Capoeira is Brazilian martial arts combining elements of music, dance, and acrobatics dating back to origins in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Mestre Zumbi, and his group of three instructors under his direction, have been running programs at schools, universities, and community centers. Their emphasis lies in working with children to stimulate their creativity and help them channel it in a community oriented and constructive way.

*"Family Fun Nights are held periodically throughout the school year to give the Stony Brook families a chance to meet and mingle, while enjoying each other's company. It was a night to remember. Special thanks to our performers, cooks and PTA members, remarked **Cathy Kobylarz, principal.***

### **Somerset School**

**El Poder:** El Poder is a joint ten-week, Saturday program for parents designed to prevent and manage diabetes. Organized by **Somerset Medical Center** and **Somerset School**, the diabetes management program successfully started on October 12, 2013. (It should be noted that the program reached full capacity two weeks before the classes started!)

To accommodate the participants, nurses, presenters, and facilitators, **Luis Jaime, assistant principal and coordinator of the program**, reorganized the community room to allow for greater learning and easier screenings. The first Saturday began with parents signing-in, receiving informational folders and sitting with facilitators to fill out any additional health assessment paper work. As part of the initial assessments, health screenings were provided as a baseline method to all participants. This summary of their baseline assessments by way of a medical card will provide all participants with initial results indicating their cholesterol, blood sugar, and HDL levels. Following the screenings was a counseling session with the registered dietician to help interpret and answer some nutrition questions and concerns. By the end of the program, the medical card will play an essential role, as it will be used to compare their progression and used to measure their goals at the end of the ten weeks.

"All the participants show excitement with the potential the program has to educate them on improving their overall health. This program allows participants to partake in a safe environment conducive for learning and structured to aid in support of many chronic

conditions that may be hindering their health. The support created among all the participants is one that will enhance achieving better health by understanding that they are not alone in attaining their goals. We look forward to what the next ten weeks will bring, as this will allow us to work towards our goal of better health,” remarked **Reginald Sainte-Rose, Somerset School principal**.

### NPMS

**“Fright Night”:** Middle school students celebrated “Fright Night” on Friday, October 25 at the annual Halloween dance. With the lunchroom eerily transformed into a haunted house, students showed off their most creative and scary costumes. The PTO and student council co-sponsored the event and provided the refreshments for the evening. Music, activities, and a costume contest made for a monstrous good time.

**Student Council Elections:** On October 16, the middle school conducted its annual student elections. Student candidates addressed the entire student body during an assembly to introduce themselves and present their ideas to improve the school climate. Each student prepared excellent speeches and remained poised and confident throughout the program. Student **Andre Eason** won in a close election to become this year’s class president. Also elected for leadership positions were **Jessica Cerdena** as vice-president and **Mikaela Given** as secretary. In addition to helping sponsor and organizing student activities, the leadership team meets monthly with **Assistant Principal John Ferguson** for a “working lunch” to share their ideas and help bring about positive change in the middle school.

**The Middle Ages:** Eighth grade students in **Meagan Farrell’s** social studies classes recently learned all about life during the Middle Ages. Working collaboratively, students created posters displaying certain aspects of medieval life. Topics such as, castles, knights, the feudal system, and the manorial system were explored. Students conducted research utilizing online databases and original sources. At the completion, students presented their information to their peers and answered many questions. The posters are now on display in the middle school hallways and in room 110 for viewing.

**A Visit From Our Librarian:** On October 28, school librarian **Susan Feibush** visited reading teacher **Suzanne Sapega’s** class with a cart of books relating to the history and culture of India. Ms. Feibush helped prepare the students for an upcoming research project by reviewing research protocols and assisting them in locating information from texts using the current index system employed in the school.

**Mind & Body:** Physical education teacher **Greg Kilmer** and mathematics teacher **Dawn Kleinfeld** developed an educational and fun interdisciplinary activity called “Greek Ball” which tested students on their physical and mental prowess. With an understanding of the Greek alphabet and various mathematical formulas needed to attain correct answers, students had to quickly solve arithmetic problems in order to move their team’s ball across the gym floor. Eighth grade student **Jarred White** led his team to victory in the final moments by answering the last ten questions correctly.

**The Box That Rocks:** Recently, science teacher **Deanne D’Armiento** received a congratulatory message from the public relations department of **TerraCycle Inc.** informing her that the entry from North Plainfield Middle School was chosen as one of the ten “Viewer’s Choice” finalists in the **“Terracycle Box that Rocks” contest**. Schools

around the nation designed boxes to collect recyclable materials to earn “TerraCycle Points.” The winner of the Viewer’s Choice award receives 20,000 terracycle points which is the equivalent of about \$200. Ms. D’Armiento and her students worked tirelessly to design a functional and aesthetically pleasing collection box that will be showcased in the lunchroom. The voting phase lasts from October 25 to November 15 and a national winner will be announced on November 22. Students and parents can visit the middle school’s webpage to cast their vote.

**Parlez Vous Francais:** French teacher **Valerie Reverchon** recently had her students practice their understanding of conversational French with a “meet and greet” session conducted by the students. Students demonstrated their understanding of the French language by introducing themselves and sharing information about their families, all while speaking in French, to other students.

**Middle School Minute:** Social studies teachers **Danielle Fauci** and **Kristen Didyoung** taught their students lessons on the different aspects and characteristics of cultures in the world. As part of teaching cross-cultural appreciation, students were encouraged to share their own knowledge and understanding of their nationality to give personal insights on how culture affects their daily lives. The classes were required to develop visual representations of various cultures and create a “community mosaic” representing the different cultures found in North Plainfield. Reading teacher **Pat Bailey** announced that her classes have collectively read over 160 books since the start of school. The titles of the books and names of the readers are proudly displayed outside her room. **Robyn Enderle**, PE teacher and girls’ field hockey coach, shared that this year’s intramural team had a higher than expected turnout and enjoyed a season of great competition and friendship. Music director **Kyle Skrivanek** and members of the middle school band joined the high school marching band at the last football game to experience the revelry and excitement of playing for the home-town crowd. Student council advisor **Lindsey Mulry** reported that the school-wide fall fundraiser collected over \$2,500. This money will be used to help fund the end-of-year annual class fieldtrips. District Anti Bullying Specialists **Dana Smith** and **Frank DaSilva** arranged for Franklin High School’s award winning Applied Theatre program to perform a powerful anti-bullying show entitled “Shadows” in front of the entire middle school on October 22. At the conclusion of the assembly, the high school actors took time out to meet with several middle school students and share their experiences and insights about navigating the pitfalls of early adolescence.

### NPHS

The state schedule for **Boys Soccer, Central Jersey Group 2**, is as follows:

11/5	Round #1 (NP beat Bordentown HS, 4-3 and advance to round #2.
11/8	Round #2 (Game at Cinnaminson HS, 2 pm)
11/12	Semi-Finals
11/15	Finals

The state schedule for **Football, North Jersey Group 3**, is as follows:

11/15/11/16	First Round (also a Consolation Round for those who do not qualify for a state game).
11/22/11/23	Second Round
12/6/12/7	Finals

## **DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES**

### **EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING**

**Safety Topic - Operations.** The safety topic for October was electrical safety and lock out/tag out. The safety topic for November is confined space awareness.

**Safety Topic - Transportation.** We are currently in the process of scheduling a Harassment & Bullying Training Session specifically created for bus and van drivers. This training session is being provided by the Union County Educational Services Commission at no cost to the district.

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

Additionally, a Right to Know training session for new employees has been scheduled for December 17, 2013. This training session will cover a wide range of safety topics including classroom safety and district safety policies.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

#### **SECURITY SPECIALIST**

As of this date, our new security specialist, Stuart Buckman, has toured all of our facilities and has begun to make recommendations regarding short term and long term security improvements and upgrades. Additionally, Mr. Buckman, in conjunction with the Operations Department, is compiling comprehensive site information to be stored in a state-wide data base in the event of an emergency.

#### **SECURITY DRILLS**

The security drill for October was a bomb threat. All schools completed their assigned drills. The security drill for November is a lock down drill.

#### **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The next joint safety committee and crisis team meeting has been tentatively scheduled for November 12, 2013 at Watchung School. This meeting will cover a wide range of topics including an introduction of our security specialist and updating of our Crisis Management Emergency Plan (flipchart).

#### **FEMA MITIGATION GRANTS**

As requested by the New Jersey State Police, the North Plainfield Board of Education has applied for, and been granted access to, the newly created Hazard Mitigation Grant Submittal Porthole. All future grant applications must be submitted using this new site.

#### **FEMA 4046-DR-NJ**

The district recently received a partial reimbursement for expenses related to Hurricane Sandy. UPDATE: No additional reimbursements have been received as of the date of this report.

#### **CCTV SYSTEMS**

As of this date, the new CCTV System at Somerset School is now operational. This system, including twelve interior and four exterior cameras, is the latest addition to our district wide surveillance program.

## **MAINTENANCE PROJECTS/SUMMER PROJECTS**

A complete listing and status update of all current maintenance projects has been provided with this report under separate cover. Additionally, the Operations web page has been updated to accurately reflect the current status of our summer projects and includes a number of recent photographs.

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS, STATUS REPORT (Current)**

### **DISTRICT WIDE SOLAR ENERGY**

The solar system at the East End School has not been granted PTO (Permission to Operate) from the utility authority. The district had received incorrect information from the contractor. We are still waiting for necessary approvals at this time.

### **HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY RENOVATIONS**

The construction phase of this project is now complete and all punch list items have been corrected. A final payment request is currently being discussed with the contractor and this project should be closed out by the end of November.

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (2012/2013)**

### **HARRISON WINDOWS**

The installation phase of this project is currently underway. As of this date, the majority of the windows have been replaced, and we anticipate substantial completion by November 8, 2013. It should be noted that a second change order has been issued for this project to replace the window blinds, building wide.

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (2013/2014)**

### **HIGH SCHOOL ROOFING**

This project has now reached substantial completion. The contractor will return in the spring to touch up the seams and to spread granular fill to any areas disturbed by the heating and air conditioning contractor. A final request for payment and close out documents are pending at this time.

### **HIGH SCHOOL GYM A/C**

This project has also now reached substantial completion. The contractor has scheduled a start-up of the new equipment for Thursday, October 31, 2013 and the system should be fully operational at that time. A final request for payment and close out documents are pending at this time.

### **ROD GRANTS**

We were recently advised that all fifteen of our applications met the criteria for Tier 1 Submission and our chances of being awarded these grants are currently above average. Announcement of grant awards is expected within the next sixty days.

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.

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 for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the Board member and/or staff member conference and travel expenses, as per the attached list.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 following fall student teacher and/or internship placement(s) from the College of Saint Elizabeth:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher(s)</u>
Veronica Andrechick	Elementary/East End		Gina Stripto/Sharon Egan

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 the staff members indicated on the attached list to teach after-school professional development courses at the rate of \$30 per hour to be funded as indicated and paid at the conclusion of each course.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 appoint the following staff members to teach in extended-day mentoring programs at the rate of \$38 per hour to be funded with NCLB Title III Immigrant Grant FY'14 monies:

Somerset ELL  
 Kate Moore 40 hours  
 Sara Spaner 40 hours

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 grant Mindy Durkin, elementary teacher at West End School, an unpaid leave of absence for child care purposes, effective November 25, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 adjust the temporary employment of Heather Novarro, temporary elementary teacher at West End School, **from** September 3, 2013 through November 27, 2013 **to** September 3, 2013 through June 30, 2014, at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490. (Ms. Novorro will continue to temporarily replace Mindy Durkin.)

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 appointment of the following staff members to work the morning breakfast program at Somerset School at the rate of \$16 per session:

Timothy Mentone

John Vogel

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 following part-time appointments for the NPHS Alternative High School Program at the rate of \$32/hour:

Denise Van Horn  
HSPA/AHSA Facilitator of Language Arts and Mathematics  
Substitute Teacher

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 terminate the employment of Maria Serrano, probationary night head custodian at NPHS, effective October 17, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 adjust the guide and salary of Jacquelyn Fields, student liaison at NPMS, from the Master's guide to the 6 Year Guide/Step 11 annual salary rate of \$66,360 plus \$375 longevity for a total of \$66,735, to reflect her attainment of a Master's degree plus 30 credits, effective October 1, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 adjust the guide and salary of Angela Roman, elementary teacher at West End School, from the Bachelor's guide to the Master's Guide/Step 6-7 at the annual salary rate of \$59,090 to reflect her attainment of a Master's degree, effective September 1, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 rescind the recommendations to appoint the following staff members to co-curricular coaching positions:

Rescind: Yuri Urrutia as Assistant Wrestling Coach at NPHS  
Rescind: John Vogel as Wrestling Coach at NPMS

Further, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education appoint the following staff members to the co-curricular coaching positions indicated after their names at the stipends indicated, and that supplemental contracts be issued:

Yuri Urrutia                      NPMS Wrestling Coach                      \$5515

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 following staff members to serve as volunteer assistants to coaches:

John Vogel	MS/HS Wrestling	DeJohn Cataldo	HS Winter Track
Scott Diaz	MS/HS Wrestling	Stephanie Myers	HS Winter Track

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 Argie Kantilierakis, teacher of English at NPMS/HS, to tutor students in the P.A.S.S./Extended Day Program before and/or after school for up to 1.5 hours weekdays and for up to 3.0 hours on Saturday mornings, at the rate of \$40 per hour.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 following applicants as district K-12 substitute teachers:

Jane Helck	Magalie Pasteur
Alfredo Oquendo	Joseph Petrillo
Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 unpaid leave of absence granted to Lizet Zuniga, school social worker, from October 16 through October 28, 2013 to October 16 through December 10, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 grant Wendy McClellan, special education teacher at West End School, an unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, from March 19, 2014 through May 4, 2014, for child care purposes. (Ms. McClellan will begin her disability period on January 21, 2014 through March 18, 2014 using accrued sick days.)

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 the following applicants as substitute paraprofessionals to be called on an as-needed basis, at the hourly rate of \$21.14, effective November 11, 2013.

Paul Bey      Sindy Flores      Alfredo Oquendo

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 with regret the resignation of Donna Tackach-Gasser, ESL teacher at NPHS, for reasons of retirement, effective November 1, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 Julie Kelman as an ESL teacher at NPHS at the MA/Step 2-3(3) annual salary rate of \$58,690, effective November 1, 2013, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. Kelman will replace Donna Tackach-Gasser.)

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 rescind the recommendation to appoint Donna Tackach-Gasser as English Language Learners/ESL Facilitator for NPMS/HS.

November 6, 2013

Further, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Elba Velazquez as the English Language Learners/ESL Facilitator at NPMS/HS, at the rate of \$1,000. (Ms. Velazquez will replace Donna Tackach-Gasser.)

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education grant employee PHY-2-13-14 a leave with pay, effective October 25, 2013, pending evaluation.

Further, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, direct that employee PHY-02-13-14 submit to a physical examination and any such examination as the examining physician deems appropriate in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-2.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 appointment of Elba Velazquez to the after-school NPMS detention program at the rate of \$25 per session.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 May and August 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 Priscila Weber to assist at athletic/school events at the hourly rate of \$28.35.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 appoint the following staff members to teach in extended-day mentoring programs at a rate of \$38 per hour to be funded with NCLB Title I FY'14 monies, as follows:

West End School

Suzanne Parmalee	47 hours	Heather Morgan	46 hours
Michelle Tafuri	47 hours	Alison Apisa	46 hours
Kourtney Karl	47 hours	Angela Roman	46 hours
		Erica Gara	46 hours

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 use of JAG Physical Therapy to provide substitute athletic trainers on an as-needed basis, at the rate of \$35 per hour.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 use of Delta-T Group to provide substitute school nurses on an as-needed basis, at the rate of \$41.75 per hour, not to exceed \$6,000.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 transfer of Vivianette Rivera, OCR paraprofessional at Stony Brook School to instructional paraprofessional at East End School, effective October 28, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 Susan Megaloudis as a paraprofessional to work in OCR math and language arts class at Stony Brook School for 3.5 hours per day at the rate of \$21.14 per hour, effective October 28, 2013. (Ms. Megaloudis will replace Vivianette Rivera.)

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 adjust the recommendation to temporarily employ Adam Strugatch as a district computer technician from August 26, 2013 through February 7, 2014 to that of a regular computer technician, effective November 7, 2013 through June 30, 2014, at the annual salary rate of \$38,000, and that a contract to employ be issued.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 grant Sarah Cohen, school counselor at Somerset School, an unpaid leave of absence for child care purposes, effective January 24, 2014 through June 30, 2014.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 adjust the temporary employment of Erica Fuchs, temporary school counselor, **from** September 3, 2013 through January 24, 2014 **to** September 3, 2013 through June 20, 2014. (Ms. Fuchs is temporarily replacing Sarah Cohen.)

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 with regret the resignation of Kathleen Herrmann, principal of East End School, for reasons of retirement, effective February 1, 2014.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 adjust the temporary employment of Meredith Reedy, temporary school social worker, from effective October 7, 2013 through November 15, 2013 to October 7, 2013 through December 20, 2013. (Ms. Reedy is temporarily replacing Lizet Zuniga.)

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the attached Annual Nursing Services Plan.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the following classified students undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Elisa Dulay at the cost of \$850 each:

PSY-07-13-14                      PSY-08-13-14

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve that classified student PSY-09-13-14 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$350.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve that classified student NEU-03-13-14 undergo a neurological evaluation to be provided by Dr. Kavita Sinha at the cost of \$325.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve classified student ACE-01-13-14 undergo a one-hour acoustical evaluation to be provided by Summit Speech School at the cost of \$145 per hour.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-22-13-14 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective October 21, 2013.

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 EEEEEEE-13-14 at Somerset Academy at the cost of \$43,146, to be prorated effective November 7, 2013. Transportation is required.

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 FFFFFFF-13-14 at Bright Beginnings Learning Center at the cost of \$51,120, to be prorated effective November 11, 2013. Transportation is required.

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

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

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the North Plainfield Board of Education does hereby adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, 18A:7a-10 and N.J.A.C. 6A:30 establishes the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) for evaluating performance of each school district, and

WHEREAS, the evaluation of the district is based upon five key components of school district effectiveness: instruction and program, personnel, fiscal management, operations, and governance, and

WHEREAS, three years ago North Plainfield School District's five components were reviewed by the New Jersey Department of Education in the 2010-2011 school year, and received the maximum designation as 'High Performing School District,' and

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield School District is required once every three years to undergo a full NJQSAC evaluation,

WHEREAS, in 2013-14 must complete a District Performance Review (DPR) and complete the annual Statement of Assurance (SOA).

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the North Plainfield Board of Education does hereby approve the submission to the New Jersey Department of Education the District Performance Review and Statement of Assurance as certified by the Chief School Administrator and Board President.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 and approve the donation of five \$50.00 gift cards from Modell's Sporting Goods Company, in support of the walking to school promotional program for elementary students.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 district's Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the 2013-2014 school year:

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting "required" maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of North Plainfield School District are consistent with these requirements, and

**WHEREAS**, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the North Plainfield School District hereby authorize the School Business Administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the North Plainfield School District in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 and approve the donation of one used Vito Alto Sax #540465, with an approximate value of \$800, to the Stony Brook School music program from Catherine Kobylarz, Stony Brook School principal.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 of the disposal of equipment whose useful value has expired and/or is irreparable as follows:

Stony Brook School

Laminator, General Binding Corporation  
Model #GBC4250 Serial #HA00529

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye  
Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – 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 change order number HW-002, for the Harrison School Window Replacement Project, in the amount of \$3,210.00 for the purpose of installing 2” window shades (total of 39) per specifications, not included in original scope of work. The cost of the project will now be as follows:

Adjusted Installation cost.....	\$146,620.00
Change Order HW-002 .....	<u>\$ 3,210.00</u>
Adjusted Total Installation Cost.....	\$ 149,830.00

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the transfer of \$3,210.00 from 30-000-403-450-00-01 High School Bathroom Project to 30-000-401-450-09-07 Harrison School Window Project, for the purpose of funding change order HW-002.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education authorize Beth Sobel, principal of West End School, to apply for a grant from BJ’s Wholesale Club, as part of the "Adopt a School Program," in the amount of \$500, to be used in support of the purchase of general school supplies for West End School.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

**Correspondence**

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

**Committee and Delegate Report**

- Board Staff – next meeting scheduled for November 14, 2013.
- Communications – no meeting scheduled at this time.
- Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.
- Finance & Facilities – a meeting is November is anticipated.
- Policy Meeting – no meeting scheduled at this time.
- Negotiations – no meeting scheduled at this time.
- NJSBA – meeting is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup> as well as a Delegate Assembly.
- SCSBA – next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2013.
- SCESC – no meeting scheduled at this time.

**Old Business**

Ms. Dodd asked about the debris on Chestnut Street and mentioned it needs to be picked up. She also asked a question regarding the length of time for the Midland School transportation run.

**New Business**

Dr. Rich discussed policy update and rationale for change.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the following revised policies:

6145	Extracurricular Activities
Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

Mr. Kasper asked about our conflicted Board Members and resolving the voting issues.

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

**Current Events in Education**

There were none.

**Comments from the Public**

There were none.

**Future Agenda Items**

There were none

**Adjournment**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on November 20, 2013 at 6:30 pm 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 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED: Donald Sternberg