

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on June 3, 2014 at West End School, 447 Greenbrook Road, 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 19 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 May 21, 2014.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of May 21, 2014.

Comments from the Public

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

Student Representative Report

There were none.

Presentation

Mayor Giordano Jr. presented a Proclamation and Key to the City from the Borough of North Plainfield recognizing Dr. Birnbaum for her career and efforts during 44 years of dedicated service.

Dr. Birnbaum and Mr. Mazur presented the 2014 Teacher of the Year Awards.

Mr. Karl Gordon discussed with the Board ensuring compliance with Janet's Law and reviewed the requirements.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Staff

The following six outstanding educators have been selected from the North Plainfield School District as the **2014 “Teacher of the Year” Award Recipients**. These educators are being honored tonight at our district’s Teacher Recognition Ceremony. In addition, the North Plainfield leadership team has invited each recipient with a guest to a special luncheon at Giovanna’s Restaurant on June 13, 2014. The honorees submitted the following biographical data:

Anthony Della Rosa
Computer Science Teacher
NPHS

Mr. Della Rosa graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a degree in Business Management.

After graduation Mr. Della Rosa worked as a computer programmer for the Party City Corporation and the three-time Stanley Cup Champion New Jersey Devils. Mr. Della Rosa was also an adjunct professor at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City where he taught computer programming and systems analysis and design classes for ten years. During that time he developed his passion for teaching by working with students of varying academic and cultural backgrounds, including ESL students.

In 2002, Mr. Della Rosa made a permanent change in his career by becoming a full-time teacher. He returned to college after ten years to finish his last semester and earned a Bachelor’s degree in Business Management. He then began teaching full time at the Hudson County Schools of Technology in North Bergen, New Jersey where he taught Advancement Placement Computer Science and Business Applications. Next he taught Kindergarten through 8th grade computer classes at Jersey City Golden Door Charter School, where he also served as their Director of Technology.

In 2007, Mr. Della Rosa married, had a son and moved to Summit, New Jersey. While searching for a job closer to home, he was hired by North Plainfield Public Schools to teach high school web design and middle school computers. In 2010 Mr. Della Rosa was approached by Patricia Marseglia, math supervisor, to run a digital camp with the Johnson & Johnson Corporation. Since the program’s inception, students have been exposed to corporate culture, worked on case studies, learned presentation skills while networking with the staff of Johnson & Johnson in hopes of securing future employment.

This past school year the Johnson & Johnson Corporation extended to Mr. Della Rosa and his students an opportunity to expand the Digital Camp into their Technology Awareness Program (T.A.P.) where students visited the facilities at Johnson & Johnson in Raritan, New Jersey, and worked in groups on various business case studies to solve common problems. Students also attended seminars by Google, Apple, and Microsoft to learn about cyber security systems, business ethics and career opportunities at Johnson & Johnson. The program also includes students with an interest in pharmaceutical careers; they were given a tour of Johnson & Johnsons Ethicon facility and actually worked on a simulator to perform mock laparoscopic procedures.

Mr. Della Rosa's educational philosophy is "never give up." After leaving college in 1993, Mr. Della Rosa was able to go back and earn his degree, which is why he can stand before you today as proof that "never giving up" works. He is also a firm believer in "if students cannot learn the way we teach, then we must teach the way they can learn."

Shona Hodge-Wright
Reading Teacher
NPMS

Ms. Wright believes that reading, consequently learning, should be empowering. She wants her students to be excited about acquiring new information while reading. Her favorite Dr. Seuss quote "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn the more places you'll go" expands on the old adage that knowledge is power. Ms. Wright encourages her students to read by emphasizing that anything they want to learn about is in a book in the public library. Ms. Wright didn't begin her teaching career in reading but realized along the way the value of inspiring young minds through books. Ms. Wright started her career with a BA in math and history from the University of Binghamton in upstate New York. Her first teaching job came right after college as a Catholic elementary school teacher. Ms. Wright worked as a third and fourth grade teacher for three years in the Catholic system. While teaching all the disciplines separately she found great fulfillment connecting all the content areas through literature. It was then that she decided to return to school to earn her Masters in Reading Education from Brooklyn College. It also was during this time that she decided to challenge herself further by joining the United States Army Reserves. After completing her Masters and her military training, Ms. Wright decided to join the New York City public school system, teaching there for three years.

Before she began working in the North Plainfield School district, Ms. Wright took a hiatus from the educational field and experienced life as an assistant production editor at Penguin Putnam Publishing Company. Although she loved this job and found it fulfilling, she missed being in the classroom, inspiring young minds. She had made the decision to return to teaching but it was put on hold while she served a one-year stateside deployment after 9/11. When her deployment was over, Ms. Wright looked for a job placing her back in the classroom. She was lucky enough to obtain a teaching position in the middle school ten years ago. Ten years later she still finds joy teaching students that anything they want to learn is in a book in the public library, anything.

Colleen Strickland
Science Teacher
Somerset School

Ms. Strickland has lived in North Plainfield her whole life. In 2001 she graduated with honors from North Plainfield High School. From there she went on to receive an Associate's Degree in Pre-Pharmacy from Raritan Valley Community College and then transferred to Rutgers University – New Brunswick where she received her BA in Biological Sciences. After graduating from college, Ms. Strickland was unsure of what she wanted to do next, so she began to substitute teach in the district, worked as a teacher's assistant for Klubhouse

Kids at West End Elementary School, and continued her work with the North Plainfield Recreation Department. It was through these experiences that Ms. Strickland soon realized her true calling was to work with kids. It was then that she enrolled at the Alternate Route Teacher Certification Program offered through the Morris Union Jointure Commission. She is currently in her seventh year with the North Plainfield Public School District as a sixth grade science teacher and is looking forward to watching her first class of students graduate from high school at the end of June.

Ms. Strickland has one sister who lives in Pennsylvania with her husband and four children. She is the proud mama of a two-year-old French bulldog who enjoys eating peanut butter, going for walks, and snuggling. Ms. Strickland enjoys kayaking, paddle boarding, snorkeling, snowboarding, being with her nephews, animals, and taking naps too. She states, "I chose to work in the field because it makes me happy. How many people can honestly say they are happy and satisfied in their career choice? I can! I believe that each child is a unique individual who needs a secure, caring, and stimulating atmosphere in which to grow and mature emotionally, intellectually, physically, and socially. It is my desire as an educator to help students meet their fullest potential in these areas by providing an environment that is safe, supports risk-taking, and invites a sharing of ideas."

Nancy Lubreski
Kindergarten Teacher
West End School

A native of Staten Island, New York, Ms. Lubreski received her BA in Speech/Theatre and English Summa cum laude from Wagner College. Upon graduation, she pursued a career in musical theatre and performed in productions at Disney World, dinner theatres summer stock companies, and Holland America Cruises. Then she traded in her sheet music and tap shoes, married Jeff, an educator/coach, and was blessed by the arrival of sons, Ryan, Sean and Brett. "I am very proud of my three student athletes, who never cease to amaze me! My life has been a happy combination of My Three Sons, Home Improvement and Sports Center!" she notes.

Theatrical training and experience, and the wonder years spent at home, have provided a great deal of background material for her teaching success. "I believe that teaching kindergarten, which is truly a child's garden, must be joyful, and include ample amounts of laughter and love. Incorporating the arts, and learning through song, poems, and dramatic play is essential to student engagement. As a performer, one develops the ability to improvise, to remain creative, and flexible, and to be childlike. On any given day, I am a combination of mom, the Pied Piper of Hamelin, Peter Pan, and Mary Poppins! These qualities have helped me to connect with my students and to create a classroom environment that allows students to feel comfortable and confident and loved. Children of all ages love to play games, and learn best when information is presented in ways that are meaningful and fun! Think Playdo, bubbles, and "magic" writing pencils, throw in some pixie dust and you have the recipe for happy, motivated students!" Ms. Lubreski remarks.

Ms. Lubreski continued, "Life has a funny way of coming full circle. The first book I received was a gift from my father, a member of the NYPD for thirty two years. My dad was a child of the depression who shared shoes with his brothers. The essential question of the day for him was, 'Am I going to eat?' The 'silver fox' did not have the benefit of a formal education past high school, but he clearly understood the value of education and

worked hard to provide that opportunity for me. He taught me the importance of treating people kindly and the necessity of retaining a sense of humor. The book he gave me was called *My First Book of Flowers*. I still have the book, crumbling yellowed pages. I learned to read by looking at the illustrations and re-reading it until I knew the name of every flower. How fitting that now I am the gardener of the Room 15 kindergarten. I call my students 'my flowers' and each year, it is my privilege to watch the little September seeds blossom into June blooms."

Sonya Larado
Art Teacher
Stony Brook School

Sonya Larado graduated from Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of Art with a Bachelor's degree in Fine Arts in Printmaking and Photography in the year 2000, with a minor in Art History. She then received her Master of Fine Arts degree in Printmaking as well as her Master of Art in K-12 Education at West Virginia University, College of Creative Arts in 2003. A highlight of her graduate career was participating at the Caversham Press artist residency in Balgowan, South Africa. She has exhibited her prints and photographs in numerous juried exhibitions throughout the United States.

The past two summers, Ms. Larado was awarded a scholarship to the Artist Teachers' Institute at Stockton College, NJ. She attended a Digital Photography program to improve upon her technical abilities and learn new computer technology useful when working with students in North Plainfield and her own work as a photographer.

This is her tenth year of teaching in North Plainfield as an art teacher. She has taught kindergarten to fourth grade art at Stony Brook School and kindergarten art at West End School. Additionally she has taught Exploring Art and Digital Photography courses at the high school. She is the advisor for both after-school art and computer programs at Stony Brook School and a coach for Stony Brook "Girls on the Run." She has dressed up as Dr. Seuss characters and participated in Read Across America each year creating large scale projects with students based on the year's theme. Ms. Larado also organized a school-wide recycling project to create a bottle cap mural for Earth Day. This project was designed so that the exterior courtyard of Stony Brook School can become an inviting place full of art as it depicts Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night*.

Ms. Larado states, "I have always loved making and creating art. It is this outlet that has made me able to express my thoughts and feelings easily. My goal as a K-12 art educator is to foster creativity in all of my students and that they will learn how to look at and see things differently as they grow through the years in North Plainfield."

Sharon Egan
East End School
Special Education Teacher

Ms. Egan is in her 14th year of teaching in the North Plainfield School District. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in History. Several years ago, she returned to school to earn her Teacher of the Handicapped certification at Kean University. Ms. Egan has spent her career at East End School where she has provided instruction in Kindergarten through fourth grade as either an in-class

support or resource room teacher. This year, she is an in-class support teacher in both first and second grades.

Ms. Egan believes that every child has the potential to develop abilities for learning. Every child may learn at a different pace in his/her own unique manner. Therefore, each and every child should be provided with an environment which consists of instructional strategies that will make them successful. It is her philosophy that in order for learning to take place in a child, the teacher must create a positive, caring and nurturing environment, in which children feel confident to take risks to learn, without feeling threatened or ridiculed.

In addition, Ms. Egan believes that her role as a teacher plays an integral part in creating the future of our society and notes that children are most impressionable during their formative years. "Therefore, it is crucial that teachers exhibit good values, build self-esteem and be the kind of role model that provides an example to our students. Teachers should strive to help students become self-sufficient, self-motivated and productive citizens," she remarked.

In reflecting on her career, Ms. Egan concludes, "The teaching profession remains one of the most positively stimulating experiences in my life. Teaching gives me a strong sense of self-worth and accomplishment. As a teacher, I know that I have a strong influence on my students' lives. Therefore, each day I try to do my best to provide my students with every opportunity to be successful in their learning. This may be difficult at times and some days may provide a great challenge. However, I know that I can make a big difference in my students because of my dedication to make them the best that they aspire to be."

Students

Congressman Lance Thanks NPHS trumpeters: Congressman Leonard Lance thanked **Mark Romero** (senior) and **Aaron Ervin** (sophomore) after their playing of Taps at the Blue Star Memorial program on Friday, May 23, 2014. Also representing NPHS were the JR ROTC Color Guard. The Blue Star Memorial was formed in 1944 by local garden clubs who beautified a six mile stretch on Route 22 to honor the men and women in the Armed Forces. In 1945 it became a national project, where garden clubs developed similar sites throughout the United States in collaboration with their State Highway Department. Mark played Taps and Aaron juxtaposed an "echo" that offered a poignant ending to the program that also included North Plainfield Mayor, Michael Giordano, Jr.; Rear Admiral Christopher J. Paul, U.S. Navy; Susan O'Donnell, GCNJ Chairperson and Davis Earl, NJDOT Office of Landscape Architecture.

Middle School Assistant Principal **John Ferguson** is proud to announce the following students for recognition on achieving the **Honor Roll** for the third marking period:

(*) = All A's

Grade 7

Acevedo, Demetrius	Hosny, Rana	Nguyen, Tien
Adams, Kierra	Ibrahim, Sarah	Nunez, Xiomara
Amancha, Laura (*)	Imtiaz, Hassan	Orozco, Diana
Andrews, Alyssa	Jackson, Teri	Osegueda, Andy
Arguello, Kayla	Jeffries, Stacy	Pacla, Myles

Benson, Brian Jr.	Jones, Janiyyah	Parra, Stephanie
Betancourt, Jeiner	Josias, Joshua	Peregrina, Elisa (*)
Butler, Darryl Jr.	King, Noah	Pucciarelli, Nico
Carranza, Sarah	Lindsay, Amanda	Rady, Abdelwahab
Casco, Sheyla	Llewellyn, Mason (*)	Ramirez, Jaime
Cobo, Joseph (*)	Maliza, Josselyn	Rehmatullah, Zamaleena
Datu, Adon'Rich-Ter	Marin, Catherine	Sanchez, Kevin
Dombroski, George	Marquez, Samantha	Sandoval, Katherine (*)
Edwards, Joy	Martinez, Laura	Shahzad, Shafaq
Elalfy, Hala	Melgar, Jhonatan	Somwaru, Samuel
Elsheikh, Dania	Mendoza, Jennifer	Stacey, Jamie
Enwerekowe, Soluchi	Molina, Jose	Tapia, Anthony
Falowo, Mobolaji	Molina, Joseliny	Thomas, Courtney (*)
Ford, Troi	Monrroy, Abraham (*)	Urmaza, Audrey
Gardiner, Ny'Asia	Monrroy, Christopher (*)	Vargas, Mariely
Gonzalez, Mariateresa	Motta-Romero, Katherine	Vega, Veronica
Gordon, Kristen (*)	Muhando, Ashley (*)	Walsh, Maeve
Granizo, Stacey	Muhando, Jasmine (*)	White, Jared
Havrilla, Danielle (*)	Muhando, Sydney	Womack, Amaya
Hernandez, Jennifer	Ndegwa, Bernice	Yanez, Steven
Holston, Chanel	Nguyen, Jacqueline	Zafar, Sabriya
		Zarate, Alveiry

Grade 8

Abrantes, Daniela	Eason, Andre	Mady-Abraham,
SalmaAlfaro, Pablo	Elsais, Ayah (*)	Matos, Jefferson
Appezato, Reilly	Evans, Lance	Metz, Olga
Athar, Dlavar (*)	Fellin, Victoria	Miranda, Matthew
Atubi, Ashley (*)	Funelas, Abigail	Nunez, Sheila
Aurelien, Kiora	Galvez, Wendy (*)	O'Neal, Shaniyah
Bahnasy, Menatallah (*)	Gamez, Allison (*)	Pacheco, Julia
Barbosa, Erika	Giron, Estefany	Patel, Radha
Barrett, Kalin (*)	Grundy, Jordan	Perez, Kimberly
Carhuaricra, Samantha	Guevara, Jenna	Pompey, Alyssa
Cerdena, Jessica (*)	Guox, Sam	Recinos, Flabia
Chen, Fiona (*)	Hosny, Mohamed (*)	Reyes, Kelly
Conroy, Zachary (*)	Hussein, Nadia	Rodriguez, Tyler
Corral, Francisco (*)	Jackson, Walter	Romero, Arelis
Crowther, Jane	Joseph, Anne-Gaelle	Scopel, Jaclyn (*)
Dardignac, Jessica (*)	Kaur, Crispreet (*)	Spontak, Daniel
Del Rosario, Rikka	Lesaca, Jared	Turcios, Selena
Duncan, Joseph	Lozada, Teresita	Urquizo, Jimmy
		Weyand, Bruce
		Zaher, Noran

Character Education: Character Education advisors **Danielle Fauci** and **David Hooker** proudly announced this month's NPMS recipients of the "Students of the Month" at the May's Character Education assembly. The following students were recognized for their

outstanding academic performance and their demonstration of the May trait of “perseverance”:

Students of the Month:

Team 7-1:	Steven Yanez Daniela Gonzalez	Team 8-1:	Elliot Reyes Edgar Castenada
Team 7-2:	Aneesha Perry Danielle Havrilla	Team 8-2:	Jaclyn Scopel Evelyn Perez
Team 7-3:	Paco Guanatagsi Danisha Tiban Galarza	Team 8-3:	Adeshola Adedeji Sam Guox

Awesome Acts:

Grade 7:	Jahir Evans Joseph Cobo Jeiner Beatancourt Ayden McLaughlin Scott Almonte Taylor Lacon Stacy Richards	Grade 8:	Imani Scott Steve Martinez David Flores Shayna Cross Elmer Guevara
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West End School Third Marking Period Honor Roll

Third Grade High Honor Roll

Molly Brennan

Honor Roll

Sebastian Aparicio
Giancarlo Chuquitarco
Carly Coslit
Zachary Dombroski
Emirhan Durmus
Catherine Dustin
Sarah Fabian
Rachael Given
Corey Jones
Avery Lacon
Aidan Lameira
Justin Lascano Cruz
Jianna Mejias
Katerine Pimentel
Lauren Miller
Ryan Savaryn

Chelsea Scott
Nikolas Thunberg
Samantha Torres
Devon Walker
Raheem Williams
Nicole Zubieta

Fourth Grade High Honor Roll

Elizabeth Dustin

Honor Roll

Jordan Cheatham
Brianna Cookman
Alicia Dey
Zuri Felton
Bryant Fiallos
Julia Gomes
Keiahn Grenald
Asia Hargrove
Amna Imtiaz
Madison Kasper
Tyler Kasper
Raquel Kruszczyński
Niah Llewellyn
Melanie Martinez
Jason Melendez
Carlos Menendez

Ruth Munoa
Samuel Okereke
Gerardo Rodrigues
Sean Rassa
Carly Robertson
Mya Salgado
Yonden Sawyers

Andrew Scopel
Laiba Shahzad
Da'sahn Smith
Lily Spanton
Naila Twyman
Shaughn Williams

Schools

Stony Brook School

Writers in Bloom: Stony Brook's staff members continually celebrate the writing accomplishments of its young writers throughout the school year. The yearly culminating event takes place annually at the "Writers in Bloom" celebration. This year, the tradition continued. On May 27 and 28, the Stony Brook multi-purpose room was magically transformed into a garden of writing. As classical music filled the air, each class decorated a display table with a theme and then covered the table with copies of teacher and student selected best works. Parents and students were then invited to view and read the writings presented. Student work ranged from informational, research to short stories, poems, biographies of famous Americans. In order to enhance the writing celebration, PTA President Michelle Wallace arranged for a guest speaker and renowned poet to visit the third and fourth grade classrooms. **Robert Carnevale, a Drew Professor** spent the day at Stony Brook encouraging the students to connect with their inner poet. Mr. Carnevale's poems have been published in *The Paris Review*, *The New Yorker*, *The Literary Review* and other magazines and anthologies. He has visited dozens and dozens of schools in New Jersey to share poems with students and teachers and spread the word about poetry. He teaches at Drew University and has worked on many projects for the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation Poetry Program. Mr. Carnevale has recently moved to an apartment in Lafayette, in a barn which he shares with seven very beautiful horses. While visiting the classrooms, Mr. Carnevale started the students with a simile chain game. Next they gathered up their favorites of the similes, and each class created a poem using one or more of the similes. "The results were fantastic. The students and staff members were delighted and very grateful for the opportunity to work with a 'real' poet. Congratulations to all poets and writers and special thanks to the Stony Brook PTA," exclaimed **Cathy Kobylarz, principal**.

East End School

The **East End Play Committee** is extending an invitation to the Board for the children's performance of *Annie*. They will be performing Wednesday, June 4 and Thursday, June 5 at 7 p.m., with the doors opening at 6:30 p.m. "We will have a complimentary ticket waiting for you at the door! If you plan to attend either night please just e-mail me back so I can have your ticket waiting for you at the door! Thank you in advance and we hope to see you there!" stated **Ashley Gutowsky**, teacher, on behalf of the committee.

Writers' Fair: East End School hosted their annual Writers' Fair on Tuesday, May 20, 2014. Each classroom attended the fair during the school day to read all of the different grade level writing pieces. For the evening session, over 300 students, parents, friends and

community members packed the community room to attend the event. This year's fair once again showcased great writing samples from all students of East End, kindergarten through fourth grade. The event featured creative displays, colorful balloons and lively music. The student writing pieces spanned many genres which included narrative, descriptive, expository and poetry. Students wrote biographies and autobiographies, science reports, funny stories and poems about themselves and math! The writing displays highlighted East End students' growth, creativity and love of writing. During the evening event, students were chosen from each class to read their compositions aloud to those in attendance. Speaking – is a skill that is part of the new Common Core State Standards. This event, gave students the opportunity to practice their speaking skills and build their confidence! There was also a free raffle to win Writing Baskets which included many fun goodies for students related to being a “good writer.” The winning students were announced the next morning and came down to receive their prize from **Brian Farrell, principal**. The Writers' Fair committee members for this year were **Angela Phillips, Barbara Curtis, Leslie Hansen, Sharon Egan and Allison Longley**. “Great job and way to go East End School!” exclaimed Principal Farrell.

Family Carnival: STEP RIGHT UP! STEP RIGHT UP! East End School held its annual East End PTO Family Carnival on May 31 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. In addition to food and drinks, there were many fun-filled games and activities for the whole family, including the bounce & slide rides, dunk tank, face painting, photo booth and train ride. The big highlight was the basket auction with awesome prizes to support the East End students!

West End School

Third Grade Vocabulary Parade: Using the idea taken from the book *Miss Alaineus, A Vocabulary Disaster*, by Debra Fraiser, the third grade celebrated their achievements in building their vocabulary skills by having a vocabulary parade that paraded throughout the whole school. Students picked vocabulary words (mostly tier 2 and some tier 3 words) and created costumes to showcase the meaning of the words. The following is a description of the book taken from the *School Library Journal*: “*This inventive picture book is a spelling book, a vocabulary book, a game book, and a costume book all rolled into one. Sage, a fifth grader who is home sick, phones a classmate to get her homework assignment. In a big hurry, Starr spells each word out except for the last one. Mistakenly, Sage writes what she hears, Miss Alaineus. When she returns to school, Mrs. Page holds a Vocabulary Bee and gives her the word miscellaneous. Her creative spelling and definition sends the class into gales of laughter, much to Sage's dismay. Resolution occurs 10 days later when she arrives at the Annual Vocabulary Parade dressed as "Miss Alaineus, Queen of all Miscellaneous Things."* The student's ability to take her mistake and remake it into a positive experience is a valuable lesson.” A few other grade level classes participated in the project and also paraded with the third grade. “This was so much fun and the students learned so many new vocabulary words that we are going to do this with every grade level next year,” stated **Principal Beth Sobel**.

NPMS

Spring Concert: On the evening of Tuesday, May 20, students, parents, and community members were entertained by the talented middle school band and chorus during the annual spring concert. Under the direction of choral instructor **Ivan Izeppi** and band

instructor **Kyle Skrivanek**, over 100 students gathered in the auditorium to share a symphony of brass and wood harmonics. The evening began with the jazz band playing an arrangement entitled *Maynard & Maynard* and transitioning to the recent pop sensation, *Forget You*, by recording star Bruno Mars. The concert band delighted the audience with their renditions of *Affirmation Overture* and *Ancient Voices*. The wind ensemble's medley of *Vortex* and *Afterburn* brought the crowd to their feet. Showcasing their beautiful voices, the chorus performed such classics as *One Love*, *Unwritten*, and *Cantar*. A medley of songs from the rock band *Queen* blended the graceful sound of the soprano section with the balanced harmonies of the altos. Students **Nabil Twyman, Noran Zaher, Jacqueline Nguyen, Elisa Peregrina, Stephanie Martinez, and Trevor Sullivan**, complemented the arrangements, with their solo performances. Supervisor of the Arts **Tom Mazur** and Assistant Principal **John Ferguson** marveled at the displayed talent, and offered their high praise to the hardworking students.

World Cup Fever: In recognition of the upcoming World Cup soccer games being held this summer in Brazil and to promote geographical awareness, physical education teachers **Greg Kilmer, Chris Esleman, and Robin Enderle** hosted their own games, with students assigned to ten different "nations." Before competing in a series of physical tasks and games, each team had to conduct research about their country and create a poster, including important facts about the country and a description of the nation's flag. Teams received points for their academic and athletic prowess. "Argentina" with a total of 80 points currently holds the top position over a determined "Japan" with 65 points.

NPHS

NPHS Bands Wow Audience at Spring Concert: Under the extraordinary direction of instrumental music teacher, **Heather Fencik**, the high school concert and jazz bands far exceeded expectations Thursday evening, May 29, 2014. The jazz band performed four selections: "Sir Duke," "The Best is Yet to Come," with a stellar solo sung by senior **Mikaelah Villacruz**, "Stormy Weather," which featured a remarkably professional saxophone solo by senior, **Bryan Huezo**, and "Spain" that featured solos by sophomore **John Attis** and freshman **Alexander Marquez**. The range of repertoire of the concert band was challenging and the impressive results were more than just hearing a band play in tune and be right on top of every cue. Examples of the range of the repertoire are "Second Suite in F for Military Band," by Gustav Holst (1911) to "Blue Shades" by Frank Ticheli (2010), a contemporary piece that demanded the utmost focus and discipline. The students transcended the necessary technicalities and presented an aesthetic experience that captivated a thrilled audience. The other program selections were "Carnegie Anthem," "Scramble," "Nimrod," from *Enigma Variations* by Elgar, "Junkyard Jam" and "Bayou Breakdown." **Tom Mazur, supervisor of fine, practical and performing arts**, expressed his gratitude to Ms. Fencik and the 65 students who obviously worked so diligently to make a challenging program seem so effortless: "The exhilarating effect was like watching a high wire act work without struggle and without a net."

Audience Blessed by NPHS Singers: Five separate and distinct choruses, all under the direction of **Amy Six**, presented the NPHS Spring Choral Concert on Tuesday, May 22, 2014. At the very start, the audience was treated to a lively song and dance rendition of "It Don't Mean a Thing if it Ain't Got that Sing, Sing, Sing" by the Show Choir, (featuring soloist, senior **Mikaelah Villacruz**). The Gospel choir showered vocal blessings with "Let Go, Let God," (soloists **Moala Bannavti** and **Breanna Worthey**), and "True Light"

(soloists **Sefa Kolubah** and **Yavonna Williams**). Vocal workshop favored everyone with very lovely harmonies, and the concert choir ended their varied repertoire with “Salmo 150” (Psalm 150). Filling the stage, the 95 members of the mixed chorus began their portion of the program with “Point of Light” and just like the concert choir, they also presented a varied program which fittingly ended with Peter Lutkin’s famous “The Lord Bless You and Keep You.” The crescendo of the concluding “Amens” truly came straight from the hearts of the singers, which in turn touched the hearts of the listeners in the audience. “That’s what it’s all about,” commented **Supervisor Tom Mazur**.

North Plainfield High School Kicks Off Memorial Day Ceremonies

NA Rudy

Friday, May 23, 2014 • 10:16am

Reprinted from The Alternative Press of North Plainfield & Green Brook, Nathan Rudy Publisher.

NORTH PLAINFIELD, NJ – The North Plainfield High School community held its annual flag ceremony this morning before classes began, kicking off a series of Memorial Day events in the borough that will run through the weekend to Monday.

Freshman Emily McGrath started the ceremony with a rendition of the national anthem, followed by ROTC members Jason Le and Penpa Llahmo reading essays on what Memorial Day means to them personally.

Le focused on the honor that Memorial Day bestows on those who died in combat, saying, “Each of these heroes deserves our gratitude for their service to our nation.”

Llahmo relayed a personal experience she had as a ROTC cadet visiting the Veterans Administration Hospital, when she asked one veteran what he thought the greatest gift soldiers give to their country. “Our lives,” he said.

She also lamented that too many in her generation don’t understand what Memorial Day means. “For many adolescents Memorial Day is just another day off from school,” said Llahmo. “It’s a day to honor and express our gratitude for those who gave up their lives for us.”

The ROTC cadets then presented more than two dozen full-size flags that were placed along Wilson Avenue. The flags were purchased by organizations and residents of North Plainfield to honor family members, veterans groups and any United States soldier who died in battle.

Later today the Garden Club of New Jersey and the New Jersey Blue Star Memorial Highway Council will rededicate the Blue Star Memorial Drive that runs from North Drive in the borough to Mountainside. This stretch was the first Blue Star Drive in the country back in 1948, and started a national movement.

On Monday the borough will run its events throughout the morning, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Vermeule Cemetery that includes soldiers from as far back as the Revolutionary War. At 9:30 there will be a ceremony at the Fire Bell at the North Plainfield Fire House, and then at 10:00 move to the ceremony on Brook Avenue. The final two events will be 10:30 at the World

War II monument at the Library, and finally at 11:00 at the Memorial Park at the corner of Willow, Myrtle and Washington Avenues.

(See attached letter from Mayor Michael Giordano, Jr.)

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for May was personal protective equipment (PPE). The topic for June is chemical safety.

Safety Topic - Transportation. The current safety course assigned to all van drivers is "Evacuation Planning for Students with Special Needs."

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 May 28, 2014, 99.6% of our employees completed their assigned 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 – The updated plan has now been reviewed and approved. We anticipate going to print this month and currently project distribution to take place in September with the opening of school.

AED'S

The district has now entered into a contract with Cardiac Science to provide and maintain twenty five new AED'S (Automatic External Defibrillators). This acquisition and service agreement will ensure the district is in compliance with the regulations of the new Janet's Law. We are now on target to have all of the new units in place prior to September 1, 2014. For additional information regarding this new law, please visit the following website. www.njleg.state.nj.us/20122013/A2000/1608_I1.HTM

SECURITY

Door Magnets – The district has now completed its 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. UPDATE: A preliminary list of door modifications has now been prepared. This work will be scheduled for completion over the upcoming summer months.

SECURITY DRILLS

The security drill for May was a Lockdown Drill. All of our schools completed their assigned drills. The security drill for the month of June is an Active Shooter Drill.

CCTV SYSTEMS

Over the upcoming summer months, the district will be enhancing its CCTV Systems at Watchung School, the NPHS/MS, and East End School. Additionally, we will be installing cameras at Harrison School.

13/14 PROJECTS GRADUATION 2014

A final list of maintenance work associated with this year's graduation ceremony has been prepared and distributed. Additionally, all rental items, including the stage, ramps and seating, have been reserved and scheduled for delivery. In addition, the high school gym air conditioning system will be operating in the event of inclement weather.

A number of new pieces of playground equipment were recently installed at East End School. This new equipment, funded by federal grant monies, is specifically geared towards pre-school age children.

13/14 CAPITAL PROJECTS (Other) DIRECT INSTALL PROGRAM

UPDATE: This project is now 95% complete. The contractor is currently awaiting delivery of several fixtures for the Somerset School cafeteria. We now anticipate reaching substantial completion within the next fourteen days. This project includes replacing outdated interior and exterior lighting fixtures at Somerset School and NPHS/MS.

14/15 CAPITAL BUDGET

Bids for the following capital improvement projects were awarded at the May 7, 2014 Board meeting to a single qualified vendor.

- 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.

UPDATE: On May 23, 2014, a project start-up meeting was held with the contractor and our architect. The contractor has requested that they be granted permission to begin some installation work prior to the end of this school year in order to ensure project completion prior to the beginning of the next school year. This request was approved with the understanding that this work will be completed on the second shift and shall not interfere with any planned activities or instructional programs.

The following capital improvement project has now been approved for completion over this coming year. Due to a long lead time for the manufacturing of windows, we do not anticipate completion of this project until late fall or early winter. This project is being partially funded by a ROD grant.

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

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 new flooring.

14/15 SUMMER MAINTENANCE

UPDATE: A preliminary listing of all summer maintenance work has now been generated. It should be noted that the completion of maintenance projects or improvements is dependent upon budgetary restrictions and that any health, safety or security related improvements will be a priority. Additionally, the following routine summer work will be completed prior to the opening of school.

- Painting. District wide utilizing both in-house and contracted personnel.
- Floor Refinishing. Gymnasiums and the multi-purpose room at Harrison.
- Concrete & Asphalt. District-wide repairs.
- Fencing. Repairs and upgrades at a number of locations.
- HVAC. Contracted periodic maintenance as required.
- HVAC. In house filter changes and required maintenance.
- Boiler Maintenance. District-wide in preparation of annual boiler inspections.
- Gym Equipment. Contracted district-wide inspections and any required repairs.
- Flooring. Contracted replacement of flooring in a number of rooms.
- Alarm Systems. Contracted district-wide annual inspections and repairs.
- Playgrounds. Contracted replenishment of surfacing material at three locations.
- Herbicide Treatment. Contracted district-wide services as needed.
- Arborist. Contracted district-wide tree maintenance including removal as needed.
- Turf Management. Contracted grooming of the upper turf field.

- Acquisition. Sourcing of requested furnishings and/or equipment.
- Window Blinds. Contracted repair and replacement of window blinds as needed.
- Window Repairs. Contracted district-wide repairs to windows.
- Roofing. Contracted district-wide repairs as needed.
- Hazardous Materials. Contracted district-wide disposal of hazardous materials.
- Housekeeping. Completion of all summer cleaning and floor refinishing.

HIGH SCHOOL PTO DONATION

The district has with great appreciation accepted the donation of four (4) new large screen television monitors and wall mounting brackets from the NPHS PTO. These monitors will be mounted in the cafeteria and will be networked so that school-related information, as well as special events or programming, can be broadcast throughout the day. It is also the intention of the NPHS PTO to eventually furnish one additional television monitor for the overflow room when funds are available.

SAFE ROUTES MINI-GRANT

UPDATE: The installation of four new pieces of playground equipment at Stony Brook School has now been completed. Additionally, site improvements are currently in progress and should be completed within the next week. Please note that there is a ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled at this site for June 10, 2014. Representatives from Safe Routes to Schools, as well as other stakeholders, will be in attendance. This project was partially funded by a matching grant from Safe Routes to Schools.

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

2014 Yearbook

The Walnut Review - May 2014

Flier – First Annual Dance Gala - June 11, 2014

Thank you Note from Patricia Klatt

NPHS Spring Concert Program

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 Lois G. Sheeler, 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. Sheeler its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on June 3, 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. Sheeler.

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 Diane Stanton, 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 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. Stanton its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on June 3, 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. Stanton.

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 Thomas A. Kavanagh, 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 ten 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. Kavanagh 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 June 3, 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. Kavanagh.

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 Maureen Krauter, 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 nine 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. Krauter its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on June 3, 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. Krauter.

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 acknowledge its appreciation for the efforts of volunteers throughout the school system who have served so faithfully and graciously during the past year.

It is further recommended that the Board extend its best wishes for a happy and healthy summer to the entire group of volunteers and that a notice of adoption of this resolution be posted in each school building.

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	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 individual(s) as substitute custodian(s) in the district, to be called on an as-needed basis, at the rate of \$18.29 per hour:

Can (John) Marangoz

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 **2014-2015** school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Cindy Dilts as transportation facilitator at the stipend of \$1,200, effective July 1, 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 **2014-2015** school year, the Board of Education approve the following individuals as translators for the district at the rate of \$26 per hour:

Leah Glicksman Alfredo Oquendo, Jr.

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 **2014-2015** school year, the Board of Education approve the following individuals as attendance officers in the district at the rate of \$19 per hour:

Carl Gaebel Carlos Rodriguez E. Michael Sugalski

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 **summer of 2014**, the Board of Education approve the appointment of John DeLaurentis, teacher of English at NPHS, to conduct an inventory and organize the NPHS English bookroom for up to 40 hours, at the rate of \$21.14 per hour, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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 **summer of 2014**, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Cynthia Crawford, district gifted and talented teacher, to work as a mentor trainer in the summer training program for up to 15 hours at the rate of \$49.74 per hour, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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 employment of Cynthia Crawford as district mentor facilitator at the stipend of \$1,000.

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 Board of Education approve the following individuals as facilitators for the Summer School Initiatives Program for students in grades 5-8, held at Somerset School for up to 60 hours each (20 days/8:30 - 11:30 a.m.) at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, effective June 23, 2014 through June 30, 2014, and then at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, effective July 1, 2014 through July 24, 2014, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement:

Camille Ragin

Laurie Pfundheller

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 employment of the staff members indicated on the attached list to work in the North Plainfield Summer Academy held at West End School for a total of twenty-five days, effective June 23, 2014 through June 30, 2014 (25 days/9:00 - 12 noon) at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, and from July 1, 2014 through July 25, 2014, at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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 Sarah Cohen, counselor at Somerset School, an unpaid leave of absence for child care purposes effective September 1, 2014 through January 31, 2015.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. 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 January and May 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 that the following recommendation be tabled:

That for the 2014-2015 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of John Burke, special education/social studies teacher at NPHS and Pathways instructor, at the BA/Step 8 (8) annual salary rate of \$56,560, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, and that a Letter of Intent to Employ be issued.

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 employment of Christopher Werner, special education/social studies teacher at NPHS, at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, and that a Letter of Intent to Employ be issued.

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 **summer of 2014**, the Board of Education appoint Suzanne Dahlinger as summer registration and testing coordinator for up to 50 hours during the weeks of August 18 through August 29, 2014, at the hourly rate of \$52.24, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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 school counselors to work an additional five days during the summer of 2014 and one day in June 2015, to coordinate the opening and closing of school at the per diem rates indicated, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement:

Joelle Bruno	\$302.80	Sally Reagan	\$435.45
Christine Cascione	\$294.45	Nancy Reyes	\$336.38
Lindsey Mulry	\$294.45	Diane Signorelli	\$303.68

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 building assignments for administrators:

East End School	Brian Farrell
Somerset School	Reginald Sainte-Rose
Stony Brook School	Catherine Kobylarz
Watchung School	Brian Farrell
West End School	Beth Sobel
NPMS/HS	Jerard Stephenson, Ed.D.
Alternative High School Programs/ Harrison School	John Tarnofsky

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 **summer of 2014**, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as summer maintenance or custodial helpers at the rates indicated, for eight hours per day, five days per week, effective July 1, 2014:

Maintenance Worker - \$12/hr
Roger T. Blake

Custodial Worker - \$8.50/hr
Gino Capodiferro

Alex Dempsey
James Morgan

Christopher Davis
Alfredo Oquendo
Bryan Thomas

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 Dana Smith to work an additional day (June 23, 2014) to assist with the closing of school at the rate of \$351.38 for the day.

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 Alfredo Oquendo to serve as a volunteer assistant to the boys' soccer coach.

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 Jennifer Ferraino, special education teacher at Stony Brook School, effective July 1, 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 Courtney Kopf, teacher of science at NPHS, effective July 1, 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 Colleen McDonald as a district K-12 substitute teacher.

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 employment of Morgan Mescal, special education teacher at NPHS, at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, and that a Letter of Intent to Employ be issued.

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 Ryan Lubreski as a substitute paraprofessional in the district.

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 for the **2014-2015** school year, the Board of Education approve the services of Dr. Robert C. Stucky to perform psychiatric evaluations for classified district students at the cost of \$350 per evaluation.

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 classified student NEU-12-13-14 undergo a neurological evaluation to be provided by Dr. Kavita Sinha at the cost of \$325.00.

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 identified student PSY-30-13-14 to undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Elisa Dulay at the cost of \$850.00.

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

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

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

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 authorize the Superintendent of Schools to apply for the following funding in conjunction with the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Local Education Agency (LEA) Consolidated Application FY'15, as per the attached proposed budget and accept these funds upon the subsequent approval of the FY'15 application:

Title I Part A Basic/Concentration	\$737,335
Title II Part A	\$102,191
Title III	\$ 54,727
Title III Immigrant	<u>\$ 35,220</u>
TOTAL ALLOCATION	\$929,473

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 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE MIDDLESEX REGIONAL
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION**
(New Jersey State Approved Cooperative Pricing System #65MCESCCPS)

“SMALL TICKET LEASE PROGRAM”
(Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission Bid No. 13/14-23)

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTH
PLAINFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The Board of Education of the Borough of North Plainfield in the County of Somerset, New Jersey (the “Board”) hereby authorizes the application for funding of automated electronic defibrillators (the “Equipment”) through the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission (“MRESC”) Cooperative Small Ticket Lease Purchase Financing Program bid number 13/14-23 in an amount not to exceed \$62,000.00 and for a term not to exceed 5 years.

Section 2. For the financing of the Equipment, either one of the Board President or the Business Administrator/Board Secretary (each an “Authorized Representative”) acting on behalf of the Board, is hereby authorized to negotiate, enter into, execute and deliver an Equipment Lease (the “Lease”) in substantially the form provided by the MRESC, and such other agreement or documents relating to the Lease (including, but not limited to, an escrow agreement) as the Authorized Representative deems necessary.

Section 3. The Board's obligations under the Lease shall be subject to annual appropriation or renewal by the Board as set forth in the Lease, and the Board's obligations under the Lease shall not constitute indebtedness of the Board under the laws of the State of New Jersey

Section 4. It is hereby determined that the acquisition of the Equipment is permitted under the laws governing the Board and is essential to the efficient operation of the Board.

Section 5. The Board covenants that it will comply with all requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, (the "Code") necessary to ensure that the interest portion of rental payments due under the Lease will be excluded from gross income under Section 103(a) of the Code. The Board reasonably expects it will not issue more than \$10,000,000 of tax-exempt obligations (other than "private activity bonds" that are not "qualified 501(c)(3) bonds") during the calendar year in which the Lease is issued and hereby designates the Lease as a qualified tax-exempt obligation for purposes of Section 265(b) of the Code. The Authorized Representative is further authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to ensure the continued status of the interest portion of the rental payments due on the Lease authorized by this resolution as excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes pursuant to Section 103(a) of the Code.

Section 6. The Board hereby declares its intent to issue the Lease in the expected maximum principal amount of the Lease set forth herein and to use the proceeds of the Lease to pay or to reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purpose for which the Lease is authorized herein. This resolution is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for the purposes of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2 or any successor provisions of federal income tax law. This section of this resolution does not bind the Board to make any expenditure, incur any obligation or proceed with the acquisition of the Equipment.

Section 7. The 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 approve the field trips as indicated on 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:

WHEREAS, The Arc Kohler School is a non-profit NJ Department of Education approved Private School for Students with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the School District of North Plainfield has contracted to send to The Arc Kohler School certain students with disabilities who reside in the District; and

WHEREAS, The Arc Kohler School provides meals that meet the nutritional requirement of the Child Nutrition Program as administered by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, The Arc Kohler School will apply for and receive funding for meals in accordance with the income eligibility criteria established by Child Nutrition Program as administered by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

WHEREAS, The Arc Kohler School does not charge students for the cost of meals,

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved that the North Plainfield Board of Education acknowledge the foregoing actions and in accordance with N.J.A.C..6A:23-4.5(a) 20 authorize The Arc Kohler School to include the cost of meals provided within the annual tuition rated charged to students.

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:

WHEREAS, The Green Brook Academy is a non-profit NJ Department of Education approved Private School for Students with Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the School District of North Plainfield has contracted to send to Green Brook Academy certain students with disabilities who reside in the District; and

WHEREAS, Green Brook Academy provides meals that meet the nutritional requirement of the Child Nutrition Program as administered by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture; and

WHEREAS, Green Brook Academy will apply for and receive funding for meals in accordance with the income eligibility criteria established by Child Nutrition Program as administered by the New Jersey Department of Agriculture.

WHEREAS, Green Brook Academy does not charge students for the cost of meals,

BE IT RESOLVED that, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-18.5, the Board of Education of North Plainfield does not require Green Brook Academy to charge students for reduced and/or paid meals for the 2014-15 school year.

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

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from: Dr. Birnbaum mentioned complimentary letter from Mayor Giordano Jr.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Communications – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Curriculum – Dr. Rich mentioned the textbook approval form.
Finance & Facilities – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Policy Meeting – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Negotiations – Meeting June 12, 2014 and June 23, 2014 with NPEA.
NJSBA – Mr. Kasper updated Board on officer interviews and other upcoming events.
SCSBA – No meeting schedule at this time.
SCESC – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Superintendent Search- Ms. Bond-Nelson updated the Board.

Old Business

There were none.

New Business

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 that it be resolved that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session Wednesday, June 18, 2014 on at 6:00 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 that be it resolved that the Board of Education will adjourn to Executive Session at 8:45 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 reconvene to public session at 9:20 pm.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED: Donald Sternberg