

September 18, 2013

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on September 18, 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 - absent, notified
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 4 members of the staff and public.

Introduction of New Staff

There was none.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved, with Ms. Mullen abstaining, to accept the public session minutes of September 3, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved, with Ms. Mullen abstaining, to accept the executive session minutes of September 3, 2013.

Financial Report

Mr. Kasper moved, seconded by Mr. Branan and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated August 31, 2013 in the amount of \$2,895,266.71.

Mr. Kasper moved, seconded by Mr. Branan and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Funds, for the month of July 2013 and further recommends in compliance with NJAC 6:23-2.11(B), that the Board of Education certify that to the best of their knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of this fiscal year.

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

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

Comments from the Public

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

Student Representative Report

The student report was presented by Amaree Gardner as follows:

On September 17 the high school held their Back-to-School night with well over 200 parents in attendance. Mr. Stephenson received many comments from parents complimenting him on the wonderful job the school is doing for the students, including the wonderful staff that are teaching the students. What a great school!

On September 18 the entire Freshman class participated in the Freshman Experience. The freshman class was broken down into 2 sessions. One in the AM and one in the PM. The Canuck Mentors worked with their homeroom students with icebreakers and different fun activities.

On September 20, Camfel productions will be at the high school and will have a program for all grades 7-12 entitled DREAM, DARE, DO!

The middle school will hold a pizza night on Thursday, October 3, at 5:30pm

The middle school Back-To-School Night is Thursday, October 3 at 6:30 pm.

Presentation

There was none.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Staff

The following article was featured in the "New Jersey Social Studies Network News" monthly e-newsletter:

For Action Initiative: Five North Plainfield, NJ School District educators have been selected as the first annual For Action Initiative Teacher Fellows. The For Action Initiative advances the educational mission of the "**Families of September 11.**" The North Plainfield educators include **Dr. Hope Blecher, District K-12 Supervisor of Language Arts Literacy, Social Sciences and Media Services; Michele Armento, High School Academic Support English Teacher; Susan Feibush, High School and Middle School Media Center Librarian; Michael Mulry, High School Social Studies Teacher; and Suzanne Sapega, Middle School Reading Teacher.** The group will receive \$4,000 to develop programs that take teachers, K-12 students, and community members beyond traditional subject matter to explore world politics and the roots of terrorism. Dr. Blecher says, "In a district where half the population speaks one of 100 languages other than English at home, we must instill a sense of mutual respect and community. This program plants seeds of knowledge and curiosity with the hope that our young people will act in ways that demonstrate their commitment to one another, their awareness of the past, and a respect for our collective future."

Note: The ceremony on September 11 at 7:00 a.m. at the high school was the starting event for the various activities that have been planned for the district this school year

Students

(Reprinted from September 16, 2013, *Courier News*, MyCentralJersey.com)

Four days of honor, valor for North Plainfield students at Gettysburg

A group of six students from North Plainfield High School will participate in the film “Four Days of Honor and Valor at Gettysburg,” which will document their reflections on interviewing Medal of Honor recipients at this year’s Medal of Honor Convention.

*Beginning Sept. 18, the students will spend four days in Gettysburg, Pa., and will return on Sept. 21, said **Tom Mazur, supervisor of fine, practical, and performing arts at North Plainfield High School.***

During the Gettysburg trip, the students will tour the battlefields and interview Medal of Honor recipients, Mazur said. He also said the students will be interviewed on their experience.

According to the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation’s website, the Medal of Honor first became an official military award in 1863 during the Civil War, when Congress passed legislation establishing the medal.

All six students are cadets in the NJ ROTC program, which stands for Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, Mazur said. He said the NJ ROTC program picked the six cadets from 120 total cadets for their special dedication to the program.

“The six are exceptional students, and reflect the diversity of the school,” Mazur said. “Their grade levels range from sophomore to senior.”

***Lt. Col. Eric Hansen, senior naval science instructor for the school’s NJ ROTC unit,** said the program emphasizes both academics and life skills. One of the most important things for NJ ROTC cadets is that they be successful students, Hansen said. “They are really held accountable for that. “They have to have certain GPA averages in order to be promoted in the program.”*

In addition, the NJ ROTC program has a similar rank structure to the U.S. Navy, Hansen said.

Hansen also said the NJ ROTC program teaches students citizenship, patriotism, and leadership, and that the program offers many opportunities to demonstrate leadership, such as having more experienced cadets teach younger cadets skills.

Hansen also said the NJ ROTC program teaches the cadets the Navy’s core values of honor, courage and commitment. “We hope that by the time they graduate from high school, those core values and principles will become part of their lives,” he said.

***Nancy Bahnasy, a 15-year-old sophomore cadet seaman,** said she was enthused by the fact that she soon would have the opportunity to speak with Medal of Honor recipients.*

September 18, 2013

Bahnasy also said she is excited that the "Four Days of Valor and Honor at Gettysburg" film will document her experiences.

"We actually speak to Medal of Honor recipients on what they did to earn the medal and what their motivations were to do what they did," she said. "It would be a great opportunity to speak to them during the trip. I would love to hear their stories of heroism and sacrifice."

***Kyle Pacla**, a 15-year-old junior and cadet master chief petty officer, said of the trip: "It's a huge honor, because I get to talk to Medal of Honor recipients," Pacla said. "I was really surprised when I was selected for the trip, because there were many other people who were qualified to go."*

***Jared Ruiz**, a 17-year old sophomore cadet seaman, said he loves the NJ ROTC program, because it teaches him leadership skills he never thought he would learn. Ruiz also said he has learned other skills, such as learning to communicate effectively with people, but that developing leadership skills was what stood out the most for him.*

"Once the film is edited, it will be premiered at this high school," he said. "The Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation would like to eventually have this screened throughout the country."

"I would like those both inside and outside the North Plainfield community to see what this school is all about, which is impressive young people who are polite, disciplined, and aware of what good citizenship is all about," Mazur said. "One of the ways I hope to accomplish this is through this film."

***Dr. Anthony Mussari & Kathleen Loftus-Mussari**, of Mussari-Loftus Associates, will be the film project's producers as part of the **Face of America Project**.*

Schools

West End School

New Parent Breakfast: West End hosted its annual **PTA-sponsored** "Welcome New Parent Breakfast" again this year. Kindergarten parents were welcomed in to their child's kindergarten classroom from 8:25 to 9:00 a.m. to assist their child in becoming acclimated to their new classroom. At 9:00 a.m. parents were directed to the community room for a light breakfast and a new parent orientation. Topics included an overview of the school, the role of the PTA at West End, and introductions along with roles and responsibilities of the school counselor/ anti-bullying specialist and student liaison coordinator. Moreover, there was an overview of the character education program, building objectives, the HIB policy and various projects that will be sponsored throughout the year. North Plainfield Schools Superintendent **Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum** was also in attendance and addressed the audience.

Whole Brain Teaching: Many thanks to Stony Brook teachers **Gretchen Jacot, Rachel Rehfeld**, and **Sharon Switek** for their presentation on Whole Brain Teaching (WBT). They attended the first building meeting and presented to the West End School teachers the five rules and call backs, a part of WBT. Many North Plainfield teachers will be attending a professional development opportunity on Saturday, September 21 when two

presenters from WBT will be at West End School providing a free conference thanks to West End second grade teacher **Andrew Zlotnick** and Stony Brook first grade teacher **Sharon Switek** who were instrumental in making the arrangements for this conference.

Professional Development: “Special thanks to School Based Planning members **Michelle dos Santos, Kourtney Karl, Theresa Knauer, Wendy McClellan, Marilyn Pinto,** and **Regina Silverii** for presenting the 2013-2014 Building Objectives to the West End staff during the professional development workshops. Also thanks to **Christina Moscatello, Angela Roman, Marilyn Pinto, Wendy McClellan,** and **Kourtney Karl** for presenting MAP training to the staff,” noted Beth Sobel, principal.

Battle Bullying ... with Chivalry! On September 13, the PTA sponsored the *Chivalry for the 21st Century* assembly for the students of West End School. *Chivalry for the 21st Century* used storytelling to focus on the message of respect and positive choices. The following is a description of the program from <http://www.daysofknights.net>:

“The 'Code of Chivalry' was all about respect — respect for yourself and for those around you. Featuring a knight clad in real armor, this program promotes positive thinking and behavior, self-acceptance, and compassion and empathy for all. These topics are creatively reinforced through a dynamic retelling of a fun medieval story. Students will be inspired and challenged to keep the spirit of 'chivalry' (respect) alive in the classroom, on the playground, in the hallway and even at home. Everyone in the audience will also receive his or her own copy of the 'Code of Chivalry' to take home.”

East End School

Opening day at East End School ran smoothly and was filled with the excitement of a brand new year. Principal **Kathleen Herrmann** and staff greeted students and families at the front door where they were escorted to their new classrooms. Kindergarten parents accompanied their children to the classrooms in order to make the young learners comfortable with the new school setting. “We all look forward to a collaborative year filled with academic rigor. Our school community is strong and working together is having a positive impact,” remarked Ms. Herrmann. Later that morning, the entire school community came together in the community room to listen to Ms. Herrmann welcome students and staff to a new school year. Ms. Herrmann stated that this year at East End would be the year of learning, happiness and kindness. Office paraprofessional **Casey Sobel** created a bulletin board where visitors enter the building and the posted message will be emphasized each day. Ms. Herrmann discussed student responsibilities, the importance of reading every day, and finding time to play with family and friends. Ms. Herrmann also discussed the rules of the school and emphasized that East End School is a NO BULLY ZONE. Lunch procedures were reviewed and **Lynnelle Thomas**, student liaison coordinator, assisted in the presentation. East End School was honored to have **Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum**, Superintendent of Schools visit the school and attend the assembly.

On September 10, Ms. Herrmann conducted her morning walkthroughs accompanied by **Jamil Maroun**, North Plainfield’s newly appointed supervisor of social studies, science and library media. Together, they enjoyed visiting each classroom and chatting with students and staff. “Mr. Maroun shared a great many ideas with me and it is evident that he has become a stakeholder in the district and is focused on bringing all students toward academic excellence,” stated Ms. Herrmann.

September 18, 2013

On the morning of **September 11**, East End students, teachers, and parents gathered on the front lawn to remember the events of 9/11. School counselor, **Nicole Rivlin**, welcomed everyone and spoke about the purpose of the ceremony. **Fourth grade students Alexa Lourenco, Daniel Barriga-Cardenas, Katherine Amaya and Nala King** spoke about the attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. The students further discussed how special America is, the freedoms that are afforded to every American citizen and why everyone should be proud to be American. In addition, they stated the importance of remembering the country's heroes who protect American citizens each day. On display beneath the flagpole was an actual piece of one of the Twin Towers. Through a grant, fourth grade teacher **Kathy Porter** acquired a portion of the supporting I-beam which has now become an artifact for the district to circulate for years to come. Ms. Porter addressed the school community and provided details about the artifact. She informed the audience that the fragment was from the "impact zone" of one of the two towers. Music teacher **Diana Van Hise** led the students and staff in singing *America the Beautiful* and *You're a Grand Old Flag*. Ms. Herrmann addressed the audience and recognized **Veronica Knight**, mother of fourth grade student Michael, as one of the first responders on 9/11, as well as **Clara Chavira**, mother of fourth grade student Giovanni, for her service in the armed forces. Finally, Ms. Herrmann played the song *Carry On* which was written by her son-in-law, **Michael Kuchar**. She explained that he was inspired on 9/11 to write it when he saw his neighbor hang the American outside his home. The song sends a strong message about the strength of America and how the citizens carry on through tragedy. As the song states, "We will stumble but we will never fall." A moment of silence was held to remember those who lost their lives.

Physical education teachers **Corrine Cecala** and **Todd Vanderputten** will continue their **character education** incentive during classes each day. One student will be chosen daily who is identified for demonstrating good sportsmanship and being safe in the environment while using equipment. The child will then have the privilege of taking home a colorful rubber fish to celebrate the achievement. If the parents choose, they can take a picture of their child holding the fish and the pictures will be displayed on the bulletin boards outside of the gymnasium. "This incentive is being continued this year and it was wonderful to see so many children walking with their "rubber fish" and demonstrating great pride last year. It is a positive way to promote good character and affords every child the opportunity to follow rules and strive to be the best," said Ms. Herrmann.

Stony Brook School

Stony Brook School's Opening Ceremonies for the New School Year: On September 9, 2013 Stony Brook School opened its doors to welcome all students, families and staff members for the 2013-2014 school year. Silver and gold balloons lined the path to the new "Welcome Door" on Grove Street, as parents and students were greeted by **Principal Cathy Kobylarz** and staff members. The colors of silver and gold were chosen as the opening theme to remind everyone to "remember the old and welcome the new." New parents/guardians were invited to the "New Parents' Tea" held in the Stony Brook library. During this short session, parents were given a brief introduction to life at Stony Brook and were invited to meet the core team consisting of PTA members, the School Counselor **Leslie Castillo**, School Nurse **Doreen Humiston** and Principal Kobylarz. It was also a time for the parents to greet each other. Stony Brook's favorite VIP, Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, superintendent, visited the school later in the morning and greeted students as they moved through the halls. Good Luck wishes were exchanged, as the students eagerly shared handshakes and many smiles. Opening activities continued the following day with

the “Happy New Year” all-school assembly. Students were introduced to Stony Brook School’s Whole Brain Teaching Rules, met new staff members, enjoyed a patriotic sing-along with **Lucas Miller** on guitar and took the annual “Stony Brook Learning Pledge.” “Stony Brook School is off to great start as we begin another silvery, golden year together,” stated Principal Kobylarz.

Former Stony Brook Student Published: Phoebe North, a former Stony Brook School student, just had her first book published with a dedication to her **fifth grade teacher, Susan Garatino**. Remembering her as a wonderful writer, even in fifth grade, Ms. Garatino was all smiles when she learned of the book. Ms. North’s first book, *Starglass*, is a science-fiction, mystery, teenage thriller that is receiving rave reviews. Imagine Ms. Garatino’s heartfelt joy when she read the dedication page: “For Susan Garatino, my fifth-grade language arts teacher, who told me I could write as many stories as I wanted as long as I dedicated my first book to her.” As educators, we never know which heart has been touched or which life has been changed simply by sharing a thought. “Congratulations to both teacher and student!” exclaimed Cathy Kobylarz, principal.

Somerset School

Welcome Back Fair: Somerset School will be collaborating with the **PTO** and the **Empower Somerset** agency by bringing together the **Welcome Back Fair on September 19, 2013 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Empower Somerset will be donating carnival games and providing useful resources for parents. In addition, Somerset School will set up the volleyball net and basketball courts for students to enjoy. The event will take place in both the community room and gymnasium. The community room will offer pizza and refreshments, plus all of the informational booths. In the gymnasium families will find all the carnival games, volleyball, and basketball activities. This event will also provide the PTO an opportunity to promote and recruit new members.

During the events, several outreach programs will be disseminating information about their organizations via informational booths and materials. As a partner in the fair, Empower Somerset will be assisting with the carnival games and providing information for the community about several programs available such as **ESL classes, Healthy Me program**, and the **Strengthening Families Program. Prevention Links** will be joining as well, offering families mentoring programs along with health information. **Healthfirst NJ** will be providing information on low-cost to free health insurance opportunities available to many families. “These are just a few of the organizations who will be participating and donating resources and vital education to both our students and the North Plainfield community. We hope to use this event to welcome back our families to a new and positive school year, along with providing the staff a great opportunity to collaborate with our parents in building a successful future for our students and the North Plainfield community,” explained **Luis Jaime, new assistant principal**.

NPMS

Even though the first day of school was still two weeks away, the North Plainfield Middle School was full of energy on Thursday, August 22 with its annual **7th Grade Orientation**, as students and parents visited the school for preparation for the upcoming school year. Students met with **John Ferguson, assistant principal** and **Jackie Fields, student liaison coordinator** to welcome them and review the middle school’s goals and objectives. Particular emphasis was placed on discussing strategies for successfully transitioning from

the intermediate level to middle school. "Making the transition from Somerset School to our large campus can be an anxiety-filled experience for many our new students," stated Mr. Ferguson. Students not only received their classroom schedule and locker assignment but also had an opportunity to tour the building with current 8th grade "student ambassadors."

NPHS

Technology Awareness Program (TAP): Anthony Della Rosa, technology teacher, has been working closely with Tony Tran of Johnson & Johnson in planning North Plainfield High School's participation in their **Technology Awareness Program (TAP)**. The schedule of events for the fall semester includes an initial visit by Mr. Tran to Mr. Della Rosa's computer science class to motivate students to become involved in the program. Mr. Della Rosa is hoping for full participation by that class. Just prior to the start of the **NPHS Back to School Night**, parents of Mr. Della Rosa's students were given an overview of the program by Pete Ward from Johnson & Johnson. Parents must give permission for their children to enter the program. Three sessions will be held at Johnson & Johnson and two will be held at NPHS. Students will tour the Johnson & Johnson facilities including the Creative Lab, break down and build a computer, hear guest speakers, and attend sessions about business ethics, global connections and presentation skills as they work on their own business case studies. Two additional sessions will give students the opportunity to practice their presentation of their business case studies at NPHS in December, just prior to their ultimate exhibition of their newly found skills at a banquet dinner at Johnson & Johnson on December 13, 2013. Parents and NPHS staff members will be invited to this event. NPHS is one of only two schools in New Jersey involved in the TAP program; the other is Hillsborough High School. "We are excited for the opportunities afforded to our students by Johnson & Johnson, and plan to repeat the program with an additional group of students in the spring semester," remarked **Patty Marseglia**, supervisor of mathematics.

Freshman iPads: "We had a very successful parent/student meeting Monday night as we discussed the iPad policy and handed out iPads to 119 ninth graders and their parents," reported **Ron Fisher, director of technology and information services**. The rest of the ninth grade was invited to this Thursday's meeting. There are 230 ninth graders in all. "Many thanks to **Jerard Stephenson, Patty Marseglia, Jamil Maroun, and Rob Dixon** who helped to make the evening such a success," continued Mr. Fisher.

Freshman Day: On September 18, 2013, **ninth graders** and their **Canuck mentors** will participate in Freshman Day, an experience designed to improve leadership skills, enhance communication, build confidence and self-esteem, manage conflict and stress, teach how to target and achieve goals, and enhance teamwork skills. The workshop will be run by Optimal Performance Associates (OPA) LLC and will take place at NPHS. The certified and trained staff of OPA will debrief the students and make connections on applying the lessons and skills learned. The workshop will not only benefit the students involved in all the activities, but also benefit the total school program and community. "When students complete the program, they will be better prepared to face the academic rigors and social situations that make up their day," explained **Jerard Stephenson, NPHS principal**.

Pep Rally: The high school will hold a Fall Season Sports Pep Rally on Friday, September 20 at 1:50 p.m. on Upper Krausche Field. In case of rain the pep rally will be held in the high school gym.

DARE, DREAM, DO! - An Assembly on Friday, September 20, 2013

Dare, Dream, Do is a motivational program that challenges the student to dream big, then dares them to do something to make those dreams come true. Students will face many challenges on the road to attaining goals. Bullies, peer-pressure, and conflicting goals are just a few of the obstacles highlighted in the program. Dream, Dare, Do encourages the student to overcome fears and make life the best it can be.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for September is equipment safety and operation.

Safety Topic - Transportation. The safety topic for September is wheel chair securement and transportation.

Related safety training is being provided via our on-line employee training system and all employees are currently completing 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

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Our Five Year Hazard Mitigation Plan has been accepted by the Somerset County Office of Emergency Management and will be included in the updated All County Mitigation Plan.

FEMA MITIGATION GRANTS

As requested by the New Jersey State Police, the district is in the process of submitting its request for web site access authorization for the newly created Hazard Mitigation Grant Submittal Porthole.

FEMA 4046-DR-NJ

The district recently received a partial reimbursement for expenses related to Hurricane Sandy. We are currently reviewing our application submittal to determine what expenses were included in this reimbursement.

SECURITY DRILLS

The security drill for September is an Active Shooter Drill. All of our schools completed their most recent assigned drills.

Additionally, an Annual Security Drill Schedule is currently being prepared for submittal to all agencies as required by code.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

The next meeting to update the Crisis Management Emergency Plan will be scheduled after Stuart Buckman, the district's new security specialist is in place since this new position will be an integral part of the overall safety program.

MAINTENANCE PROJECTS/SUMMER PROJECTS

A number of in-house and contracted summer projects were completed or are in the process of being completed at this time. A complete listing and status update of these projects has been provided with this report under separate cover.

CAPITAL PROJECTS STATUS REPORT (Current)

DISTRICT WIDE SOLAR ENERGY

East, West, Somerset, and NPHS. The solar systems at Somerset School, NPHS, and West End School are now fully operational. The solar system at the high school is now back on line and functioning properly. The solar system at East End School is awaiting an approved PTO (Permission to Operate) from the utility authority.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

This project is now complete and all punch list items have been corrected. A final payment request is currently being reviewed by our architect

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (2012/2013)

HARRISON WINDOWS

The replacement windows are currently being manufactured and will be scheduled for installation upon shipping confirmation. We have set a tentative installation schedule for the second week of November.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (2013/2014)

HIGH SCHOOL ROOFING

This project is currently being completed. To date, three of the four sections scheduled for replacement have been completed with only minor coping work remaining at this time. The fourth section will be replaced in conjunction with the gymnasium HVAC replacement project.

HIGH SCHOOL GYM A/C

The old heating equipment has been disconnected and removed from the gymnasium roof. The new equipment is currently in production, and we anticipate reaching substantial completion during September.

ROD GRANTS

A total of fifteen Rod Grant Applications have now been submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education. These applications include a number of capital improvement projects throughout the district. We have been advised that all of our applications meet the criteria for Tier 1 submission and our chances of being awarded these grants is above average. Announcement of grant awards is expected within the next few months.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools
Personnel

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

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of James Morgan as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$18.29 per hour, effective September 19, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as substitute paraprofessionals in the district, to be called on an as-needed basis, at the rate of \$21.14 per hour, effective September 19, 2013:

Victoria Alfaro	Yaneth Gaitan	Vivianette Rivera
Kayley Barge	Maureen King	
David Branan – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye	
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye	
Thomas Kasper – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye	

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following teachers to the co-curricular advisory/coaching positions as indicated after their names:

Somerset School

Kathleen Fry	Art Advisor	\$1706.00
Megan Schutz	Computer Club	\$1548.00
Chemagne Kania	Literary Magazine Co-Advisor	\$1138.50
Melissa Hunton	Literary Magazine Co-Advisor	\$1138.50

NPMS/NPHS

Megan Farrell	National Junior Honor Society	\$ 933.00
Ted Amo	Asst. Boys' Basketball Coach	\$6689.00

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education rescind the previously approved recommendation to employ Stephanie Cuomo as a paraprofessional for the 2013-2014 school year.

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. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Connie Baker as a temporary paraprofessional in the K-2 self-contained class at West End School for 3.75 hours per day at the rate of \$21.14 an hour, effective September 9, 2013 through December 1, 2013. (Ms. Baker will temporarily replace Tara Naturile.)

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. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education adjust the salary of Stephen Masterson, custodian, to include a stipend of \$675 to reflect his attainment of a boiler license, effective July 25, 2013.

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. Kasper 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.

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. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education adjust and extend the probationary period of Maria Serrano, head custodian at NPHS, for an additional sixty days, **from** July 1, 2013 through September 28, 2013 **to** July 1, 2013 through November 27, 2013.

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. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve Barbara Kreyling, library media specialist at NPHS, to reorganize the high school library for 20 additional hours at the paraprofessional rate of \$21.14 per hour.

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. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the summer of 2013, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following Department of Pupil Services staff to complete child study team evaluations, IEP writing and transition testing as indicated:

Transition Testing

Patricia Nemeckay	One speech/language evaluation @ \$350
Ronit Jacobs	One speech/language evaluation @ \$350

IEP Writing

Amanda Hempel	Up to three IEP's @ \$50 each
Lisa Chambers-Smith	Up to three IEP's @ \$50 each

Case Management

Neal Dalton	Up to three hours @ \$49.74 per hour
-------------	--------------------------------------

Further, that the Board of Education approve an increase in hours for the following previously approved child study team members to provide case management at the rate of \$49.74 per hour:

Mary Thomsen	Increase from 40 hours to 48 hours
Catherine Pate	Increase from 60 hours to 66 hours
Kimberly Scott	Increase from 30 hours to 41 hours

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education appoint the following staff members on the attached list to teacher 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.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education grant employee PHY-01-13-14 a leave with pay, effective September 4, 2013 through September 18, 2013.

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

That for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Christopher Tyler, teacher of physical education at NPHS, as advisor for the Heroes and Cool Kids character education mentor program at NPHS at the stipend of \$500.00.

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. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education rescind the previously approved recommendation to appoint Jennifer Riolo as the mathematics/science facilitator at NPMS.

Further, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Lauren Meyer as the mathematics/science facilitator at NPMS at the stipend of \$1,000. (Ms. Meyer will replace Jennifer Riolo.)

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. Kasper and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve Robyn Enderle to assist at athletic events at the rate of \$28.35 per hour.

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. Kasper and unanimously approved that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the continued use of Pediatric Workshop to provide physical therapy services at the rate of \$44 per 20-minute session and \$82 per 40-minute session, to the following classified students:

<u>Classified Student</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Start Date</u>
OT/PT-61-13-114	Two 20-minute sessions per week	7/1/2013
OT/PT-62-13-14	One 20-minute session per week	9/3/13
	One 40-minute session per week	9/3/13
OT/PT-63-13-14	One 20-minute session per week	7/1/2013
	One 40-minute session per week	7/1/2013
OT/PT-64-13-14	One 40-minute session per month	9/3/2013
OT/PT-65-13-14	One 20-minute session per week	7/1/2013
	One 40-minute session per week	7/1/2013
OT/PT-66-13-14	Two 20-minutes sessions per week	7/1/2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the continued use of Therapeutic Rehabilitation Services to provide occupational therapy services at the rate of \$36 per each 20-minute session and \$72 per each 40-minute session to the following classified student:

OT/PT-67-13-14 Two 20-minute sessions per week during the Extended School Year, effective July 1, 2013 through August 13, 2013

One 40-minute session per week during the 2013-2014 school year, effective September 3, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the use of Dynamic Therapeutic Services to provide speech/language services to classified students at the rate of \$107 per hour for five days per week and up to six hours per day.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for the following classified students to be provided by district staff for up to ten hours per week, effective September 9, 2013:

HI-3-13-14

HI-4-13-14

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated July 31, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated September 18, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the following field trip:

School	Date	Purpose	Location	Cost	Trans.
S. O'Donnell NPHS/HOPE Club	02/14/14	Participate in and complete bird checklists for the Great Backyard Bird Count	Scherman Hoffman Wildlife Sanctuary Bernardsville, NJ	\$0.00	District

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve and accept a grant from Ericsson of various office supplies, valued at approximately \$500.00 for the purpose of supplementing general supply needs at the high school.

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Communications – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Finance & Facilities – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Policy Meeting – next meeting scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2013 @ 5:00 pm.

Negotiations – no meeting scheduled at this time.

NJSBA – Mr. Kasper mentioned upcoming topics being discussed.

SCSBA – next meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 3, 2013.

SCESC – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Old Business

Dr. Birnbaum discussed and reviewed the proposed presentation calendar.

Ms. Bond-Nelson asked about possible dates for the Board Retreat and inviting the Administrators. Dr. Birnbaum suggested February, 2014.

New Business

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

Dr. Birnbaum discussed NJQSAC and the visitation scheduled for January 7, 2014.

Current Events in Education

Ms. Bond-Nelson discussed a newspaper article on school food service programs.

Comments from the Public

Ms. Alexis Gardner asked if we could revisit public relations efforts at the high school.

Future Agenda Items

There were none.

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on October 2, 2013 at 7:00 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. Kasper and unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg