

August 21, 2013

The minutes of the special meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on August 21, 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	Kathleen Mullen
David Branan – Absent, notified	Nancy Szaroleta
Sandra Dodd	Linda Bond-Nelson
Thomas Kasper – Absent, notified	

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, and approximately 1 member of the staff and public.

Introduction of New Staff

There was none.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved to accept the public session minutes of July 24, 2013.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of July 24, 2013.

Financial Report

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated July 31, 2013 in the amount of \$5,538,402.41.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen 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 June, 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.

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

Comments from the Public

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public, Mr. Thomas Mazur, supervisor of fine, practical, and performing arts, discussed obtaining approval for a trip to Gettysburg, PA to meet Congressional Medal of Honor recipients. The trip is scheduled from September 18 to September 22, 2013 and a request was made for the Board of Education to fund the expenses associated with the cost of this trip. The board members agreed to this request.

Student Representative Report

There was none.

Presentation

There was none.

Superintendent's Report

There was none.

Ms. Mullen moved, seconded by Ms. Szaroleta and unanimously approved to adjourn to executive session at 8:30 pm for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law.

Ms. Mullen moved, seconded by Ms. Szaroleta to reconvene to public session at 9:00 pm.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools

Personnel

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

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

WHEREAS Annie Gauss, paraprofessional in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on August 1, 2013, and

WHEREAS she 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 Ms. Gauss 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 August 21, 2013, 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. Gauss.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

August 21, 2013

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education rescind the previously approved recommendation to employ Hope Blecher, Ed.D. as the supervisor of English/language arts, social studies, and library/media services, effective August 22, 2013.

Further, that the Board of Education approve the employment of Dr. Blecher as the supervisor of English/language arts and literature, effective August 22, 2013 and that an adjusted contract to employ be issued.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education rescind the previously approved recommendation to employ Patricia Marseglia as the supervisor of mathematics and science, effective August 22, 2013.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Marseglia as the supervisor of mathematics, effective August 22, 2013, and that an adjusted contract to employ be issued.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Jamil Maroun as the supervisor of social studies, science and library/media services, at the annual salary rate of \$100,000 to be prorated effective August 22, 2013, and that a contract to employ be issued.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Allen abstaining, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Stuart Buckman as the district safety/security specialist at the annual salary rate of \$75,000, to be prorated effective October 16, 2013, and that a contract to employ be issued.

Thomas Allen – Abstain
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen 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 July 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

August 21, 2013

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the non-certificated staff indicated below be reimbursed for courses taken between May and June 2013:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>University</u>	<u>Crd</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Amount Reimb.</u>
Zoraida Otero (Sec/NPHS)	Cnslng in Human Dev.	Kean Univ.	3	\$2121	\$1060.50

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Nora Leary as a special education/English teacher at NPHS at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. Leary will replace Amanda Hempel.)

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education employ the following staff members to serve as ELL facilitators at a stipend of \$1,000 each:

Francesca Petrucci-Cardona	East End School
Erika Gambuti	West End School
Karen Moore	Somerset School
Donna Tackach	NPHS

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education rescind the previously approved recommendation to employ Andrea Grasso to work an additional five days during the summer of 2013 and one day in June 2014. (Ms. Grasso resigned.)

Further, that the Board of Education approve the employment of Dana Smith to work an additional five days during the summer of 2013 and one day in June 2014, to coordinate the opening and closing of school, at the per diem rate of \$351.38. (Ms. Smith will replace Andrea Grasso to work the additional six days.)

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

August 21, 2013

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Constance Phillips as a substitute paraprofessional in the district to be called on an as-needed basis, effective September 9, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Eileen DeMeo as an academic support/grade 5 teacher at Somerset School at the MA/Step 6-7(7) annual salary rate of \$59,090, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. DeMeo will replace Joann Myer.)

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education adjust the previously approved recommendation to grant Christine Cascione, school counselor at NPHS, an unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act **from** September 10, 2013 through November 4, 2013 **to** September 1, 2013 through October 20, 2013.

Further that the Board of Education rescind the recommendation to grant Ms. Cascione an unpaid leave of absence effective November 5, 2013 through June 30, 2014. It is understood that granting this does not establish a precedent or past practice applicable to other individuals.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education accept with regret the resignation of Louis “Skip” Pulcrano, cheerleading coach, for reasons of retirement, effective August 1, 2013.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Shireen Ali as a special education teacher at the NPHS Bridge Program at the MA/Step 2-3 (2-3/3) annual salary rate of \$58,690, and that a contract to employ be issued.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

August 21, 2013

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education adjust the guide and step of Sandra Deller, special education teacher at East End School, from the BA guide to the MA guide/Step 10 (10-11/11) at \$61,760 plus \$375 longevity entitlement for a total of \$62,135, to reflect her attainment of a Master's degree, and that an adjusted contract to employ be issued.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education rescind the previously approved recommendation to employ Tara Naturile as a district paraprofessional.

Further, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Tara Naturile as a temporary special education teacher at West End School at the BA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$55,490, to be prorated effective September 1, 2013 through December 1, 2013. (Ms. Naturile will temporarily replace Nancy Anne Schreck.)

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve Jed Feibush as a volunteer in the district Pathways Program, teaching students about photography.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Jacqueline Darvin as a school counselor the North Plainfield Alternative High School Program at the rate of \$32 per hour for up to four hours per night.

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Adam Strugatch as a temporary computer technician in the district at the salary of \$38,000, effective August 26, 2013 through February 7, 2014. (Mr. Strugatch will temporarily replace Roseann Caruso.)

Thomas Allen – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Aye

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the teachers indicated on the attached list to teach a sixth class as indicated after their names.

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

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Adam Schreiber as a special education teacher at NPHS at the MA/Step 2-3(3) annual salary rate of \$58,690, and that a contract to employ be issued.

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

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the following fall student teacher and/or internship placements from the Rutgers Graduate School of Education:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>Class/School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Lindsey Capone	Elementary/West End English/NPMS	Kourtney Karl (10 weeks) Mary Ann Reilly (6 weeks)
Laura Berger	Elementary/Somerset English/NPMS	Janet Darvin (10 weeks) William Saccardi (6 weeks)

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

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the transfer of Lynnelle Thomas, elementary teacher at East End School, to student liaison coordinator at East End School at the 6YR/Step 13 (17-18/18) annual salary rate of \$70,275, and that an adjusted contract to employ be issued.

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

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Dawn D'Andrea-Duval as a secretary at NPHS, at the Secretary II/Step 9 annual salary rate of \$51,355, effective September 9, 2013, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. D'Andrea-Duval will replace Noraima Villanueva.)

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

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the adoption of the following curriculum for the high school elective:

Music Theory I and II (grades 9-12)

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of classified student YYYYY-13-14 at the Center for Education Advancement (CEA)/Spring Run School at a total cost of \$77,779.80 (Tuition - \$51,949.80, Paraprofessional - \$25,830.00), effective September 4, 2013.

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated June 30, 2013.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated August 21, 2013.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve change order number LP-001, for the NPHS Media Center Project, in the amount of \$8,368.36 for the purpose of enhanced interior entry way not included in original scope of work. The cost of the project will now be as follows:

Original Installation Cost	\$ 133,300.00
Change Order	\$ 8,368.36
Adjusted Total Installation Cost	\$141,668.36

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve change order number LP-002, for the NPHS Media Center Project, in the amount of \$6,851.02 for the purpose of covering of exposed north side wall (studs and drywall) not included in original scope of work. The cost of the project will now be as follows:

Original Installation Cost	\$133,300.00
Change Order LP-001	\$ 8,368.36
Change Order LP-002	\$ 6,851.02
Adjusted Total Installation Cost	\$148,519.38

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the transfer of \$5934.51 from capital reserve (Fund 10) to debt service (Fund 40) to fund deficit.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$2,000 from Target in support of Nancy Rodino, educational media specialist at Somerset School, for the purpose of supporting a reading program.

August 21, 2013

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve and accept the donation of \$7,200 from the Marching Band Parents for the purchase of replacement marching band uniforms for the NPHS fine, practical and performing arts department music program.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve of the disposal of equipment whose useful value has expired and/or is irreparable as follows:

NPHS/MS Roland Drafting Plotter GRX 350 Tag #01339

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve Thomas Mazur, supervisor of fine, practical and performing arts, to apply for a grant from Target in the amount of \$2,000 for the purpose of funding Smart Music Program computer software to assist students with in-home practice.

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 – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Negotiations – no meeting scheduled at this time.

NJSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCESC – Ms. Mullen discussed current issues presented to the Commission.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

Mr. Sternberg mentioned a tour of the McAuley building was scheduled for Wednesday, August 28th at 4:00 pm.

Dr. Birnbaum discussed a proposal to change the qualifications for new paraprofessionals.

New items requested to be placed on the Agenda

Current Events in Education

There were none.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

Future Agenda Items

There were none.

August 21, 2013

Adjournment

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on Tuesday, September 3, 2013 at 6:30 pm for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Mullen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg