

April 17, 2013

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on April 17, 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	Nancy Szaroleta
Sandra Dodd	Linda Bond-Nelson
Thomas Kasper	

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 7 members of the staff and public.

Introduction of New Staff

There was none.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the public session minutes of April 3, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of April 3, 2013.

Financial Report

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated March 31, 2013 in the amount of \$5,807,930.26.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen 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 February 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	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

Comments from the Public

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public, Tracy Peters asked about employee recommendations for retirement. Denise VanHorn indicated 2012 and was this incorrect on the recommendation.

Dorothy Marro questioned the lockdown that occurred at the high school and wanted to speak with the Principal regarding her son who was involved.

Student Representative Report

There was none.

Presentation

Mr. Pocius, Mr. Iannucci, and Mr. Thompson presented to the Board a program on the Holocaust/Genocide curriculum project.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Students

Kevin Sani is one of 800 outstanding Black American high school seniors, nationally, earning an **Achievement Scholarship Award (\$2500)** through the **National Achievement Scholarship Program**. According to the *Courier News* (April 10, 2013), "These awards, totaling more than \$2 million, are financed by grants from National Merit Scholarship Corp. and 34 corporate organizations and professional associations.....More than 160,000 students entered the 2013 National Achievement Scholarship Program by requesting consideration in the competition when they took the 2011 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test as high school juniors."

The following graduating seniors have been selected to play in the inaugural **Basilone Bowl** on June 28 at Bridgewater-Raritan High School at 6 p.m.: **Omar Bailey – LB, Chris Smith – RB, Tyree Pinion – DL, Matt Barbosa – SE, Brandon Selby – LB, Tim D'Armiento – OL, and Coty Mendez – RB. Sponsored by the Somerset County Football Coaches Association**, the game will feature high school senior football players from 14 different schools in Somerset County. Gunnery Sergeant John Basilone, of Raritan, New Jersey, was awarded the Medal of Honor in recognition of his outstanding heroism at Guadalcanal during World War II. Later, during the Iwo Jima campaign, he was killed in action on D-Day, February 19, 1945.

As part of the "North Plainfield High School Students of the Month" program, the following students were nominated by their teachers and selected by a committee of teachers for their contributions to NPHS for January and February. Students are recognized for their accomplishments with a NPHS pride pin, a North Plainfield Canuck t-shirt, a certificate, and a letter to their parent/guardian thanking them for their support and congratulating them on their child's achievement:

January 2013

Fine /Performing Arts

Practical Arts

Academic Achievement, grades 11-12

Academic Achievement, grades 9-10

Academic Excellence, grades 11-12

Academic Excellence, grades 9-10

"The Canuck" (steadfast support of school)

School Spirit (outward display)

Jose Lopez-Mendez

David Aponte

Genesis Villacis-Salcedo

William Aquino

Stephanie Veintimilla

Melody Njoku

Timothy D'Armiento

Jonathan Hernandez

February 2013

Fine /Performing Arts

Practical Arts

Academic Achievement grades 11-12

Academic Achievement grades 9-10

Academic Excellence grades 11-12

Academic Excellence grades 9-10

“The Canuck” (steadfast support of school)

Daniela Lopez

Ashley Ramirez

Jenery Fernandez

Chloe Williams

Angelo Cartagena

Nicholas Mercuri

Caitlin Gugliotta

Santiago Gomez-Duran

Character Education Assembly: Character Education advisors Danielle Fauci and David Hooker proudly announced April’s middle school recipients of the “Students of the Month” and “Awesome Acts” at the monthly Character Education assembly. The following students were recognized for their outstanding academic performance and their demonstration of April’s trait of “fairness.”

Students of the Month

Team 7-1: **Nadia Hussein**

Jordan Grundy

Team 7-2: **Akirah Jackson**

Darian Belle

Team 7-3: **Leslie Cruz**

Julia Pacheco

Team 8-1: **Luhana Souza**

Oscar Romero

Team 8-2: **Christina Troung**

Sefa Kolubah

Team 8-3: **Amy Mendez**

Andrew Amato

Awesome Acts

Grade 7: **Hazar Marangoz**

Anthony Garrido

Rosemary Batano

Humberto Grisales

Grade 8: **Michelle Rodriguez**

Megan Hynes and **Keith Jeffries** were selected to represent North Plainfield High School at the **Somerset County Scholar-Athlete Awards Dinner**. The Somerset County Principals’ Association will recognize Megan and Keith at their annual dinner on May 15, 2013 at the Doubletree Hotel in Somerset, NJ. The following profiles will be part of the program brochure:

Megan Hynes

Megan has earned her varsity letters in tennis, basketball and track. Her commitment and leadership to her team has taken her to the captain’s position for both the tennis and basketball teams this year. Academically, she is ranked among the top ten students of her class, is a part of the National Honor Society and Italian Honor Society, and is a member of Heroes and Cool Kids. Megan is also a participant in the Canuck Mentor program. Finally, she has served on the student council for four years.

Keith Jeffries

Keith has excelled in both academics and athletics while taking honors level classes and being a leader for the students of North Plainfield High School. As president of the Senior Class, president of the Spanish Honor Society, Cadet Commander of NJROTC, and a member of both the National Honor Society and Canuck Mentor Program, Keith has served as a role model for his peers. He has received All-County and All-Conference awards as well as serving as captain of the soccer team and track team. Finally, Keith is a civic minded senior as shown by his volunteer efforts at soup kitchens and food drives throughout the community.

Schools

NPHS

Sara Spaner, Stefanie Myers, and Elba Velazquez, teachers of English Language Learners, took approximately 16 students to Kean University for an Open House field trip on April 6, 2013.



NPMS

“A Poet’s Birthday”: April brings thoughts of spring...flowers, warm breezes, and sunshine. April is also National Poetry Month and, in the middle school, that meant celebrating the birthday of one of America’s most beloved poets. On April 4, seventh grade students and the language arts teachers, **Kate Friedman** and **Patricia Bailey**, recognized the birthday of former Poet Laureate, **Dr. Maya Angelou**. In their reading classes, students learned of Maya Angelou’s life and explored two of her poems, *Woman Work* and *I love the Look of Words*. In their English classes, students came to school dressed up for the birthday party. When they entered Ms. Friedman’s class, they were greeted by the sounds of Maya Angelou singing. Next, the students read an excerpt from *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. Upon completion and discussion of the passages, students watched several clips of Maya Angelou which chronicled her life and showed her being interviewed. At the conclusion, students were asked to consider all they had learned about her. Ms. Friedman and Ms. Bailey asked them to think about her struggles, her traumas, her accolades, and her accomplishments. Then, on a cut-out paper butterfly, students completed the sentence, “Maya Angelou is...” The cut-outs were arranged to complete a tribute to Maya Angelou, which proudly adorns the hallway. In preparation for the NJ ASK, students will write a reflective essay on the My-Access software.

Nihongo o naratteimasu (“I am learning Japanese”): On April 2, students in **Stephanie Myers’** ESL class and **Danielle Fauci’s** social studies classes explored one of the three Japanese language systems called “Katakana.” This system is reserved for foreign names, words, and concepts. After a brief introduction and oral practice, the students learned to write their names and translate some phrases from Katakana to English and vice versa. The students had an opportunity to practice Japanese classroom culture and use oral social and instructional Japanese language to immerse themselves in their study of Japan.

Stony Brook School

Giving Gardens: Maschio's Food Service has provided the kindergarten classes at Stony Brook School with indoor **Herb Garden Growing Kits**. The students will be planting six different herbs in their classroom gardens: sweet basil, oregano, parsley, sage, thyme and cilantro. They will be watering, measuring and caring for the gardens. The gardens are being planted with the hope that within a few weeks, Stony Brook students will be able to give their herbs back to the kitchen to be used in food preparation for their own breakfasts and lunches. The herbs will not only spice up and enhance the flavors of the already delicious meals, but also teach the students about gardening and giving back to the community.

Golden Guest Day: There are many different traditions celebrated at Stony Brook School, but one of the favorites has always been the third grade "Golden Guest Day." So, in keeping with a great tradition, on April 5, 2013 the third grade students of Stony Brook School celebrated Golden Guest Day, by inviting family members and friends to join the children for a morning of special third grade leaning activities. Golden Guest Day has long been a tradition in the district, thanks to the efforts of former board member, **Winnie Letso**. Ms. Letso encouraged the district to create a program that would celebrate grandparents and all of their contributions. This program eventually became the program that we have today.

At Stony Brook, guests in **Michelle Motichka's**, **Kelly Feeney's** and **Leanne Borbely's** classes received personal invitations for the event. As the guests arrived, they were invited to the reception area to complete a survey, meet and greet each other, and then became wonderful audience members as they listened to stories shared by selected students. Six stations were set up for the guests to visit. The **PTA** set up a hospitality table and families also donated delicious and inviting snacks to share. The Stony Brook theatre featured a video streaming clip on families and family cultures. Also set up was a game center featuring Scrabble Junior, multiple laptops for links to story and puzzle challenges, the photo station and the family read aloud section. Ms. Feeney's mother and her grandparents were also special guests. The survey reminds us, year after year, that we have so much in common and so much to share. "Special thanks to all of our Golden Guests!" exclaimed **Cathy Kobylarz, principal**.

West End School

Golden Guest Day 2013: On April 5, 2013, West End third graders also celebrated Golden Guest Day. Grandparents, aunts, uncles, parents, and other special people in the children's lives were invited to spend the morning doing various learning activities and crafts with students. Golden guests were greeted by West End student liaison **Marilyn Pinto** and school counselor **Andrea Grasso**. **West End PTA** provided a wonderful continental breakfast for the Golden Guests as they gathered in the community room and got to know one another. The morning opened with the entire third grade on stage singing "We are the World" by Michael Jackson. Afterwards classes were directed to different stations around the community room where they could participate together with their Golden Guest in reading together, practicing math skills, interviewing each other, a craft, and bingo. The groups moved through the stations during a 20 minute rotation schedule, which allowed for a bustling, energetic community room where students and Golden Guests alike, were completely engaged with one another. "The turn out this year was fantastic. Golden Guests included volunteer parents, staff, and even a board of education member and the town's borough clerk. The children were thrilled with the experience and many Golden Guests expressed their gratitude for being invited on this special day. Teachers at West End hope to keep this tradition alive for years to come," remarked **Beth Sobel, principal**.

Improving Literacy Achievement Initiative: Bernard O'Neal Webster, Literacy Specialist from the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE) Office of Literacy will be visiting West End School two times this month. He will be conducting read aloud demonstrations in several second and third grade classrooms as a follow-up to the trainings that were provided by NJ DOE earlier in the year. Mr. Webster is part of the **Special Education Literacy Project** along with **Perkie Cannon, NJ DOE Office of Special Education**. The first step in this collaboration was to do a walk-through in the first through third grade classrooms during their literacy block. This was then followed by professional development training for teachers in these grades in the use of word walls and vocabulary development. This opportunity was brought to North Plainfield through the Office of Special Education. NJ DOE offered selected districts the opportunity to participate in this initiative to improve literacy outcomes for students with disabilities. The project comes with a **family outreach component, professional development for general education and special education staff and approximately \$10,000.**

East End School

East End held its annual ***Dress up Day*** on April 2. Each year, the day proves to be very special for staff and students. Everyone wears his/her best attire and the community room is decorated with lovely tablecloths and centerpieces. The students feel so special and there is a sense of elegance throughout the entire day. "We are so grateful for all of the time and effort that went into this event. The community room was lovely and the students and staff smiled when they entered the room. The elegant music that played throughout the lunch period added the perfect touch! Our PTO is wonderful and we are all grateful," stated **Kathleen Herrmann, principal**

Music classes at East End School are always filled with learning and fun. However, when the third and fourth grade students attended music classes on April 3, they were pleasantly surprised. **Third grade teacher Leslie Hansen** presented an in-depth lesson on the **harp**. Ms. Hansen is an accomplished harpist and plays at many public events. When the students entered the music room, they saw a large tri-fold board which contained colorful pictures of different types of harps, various trees and a map of the world. Ms. Hansen also brought in her own harp to show the students. First, Ms. Hansen explained that the harp was the national instrument of Ireland and provided a great deal of history and background. She then showed the students the different types of wood that were used to make her own harp and how the wood traveled across the United States so the harp could be made. Finally, the finished harp was sent to a store on the east coast where Ms. Hansen purchased it. Next, Ms. Hansen explained the different chords and played songs for the children to enjoy. She reminded them to listen carefully because the music and rhythm changed to tell a story. Ms. Hansen played songs from different parts of the world. Irish ballads were *Chanter*, *Sheebeg Sheemore/Southwind* and *The Star of the County Down*. Ms. Hansen also entertained the students and adults with a Japanese song entitled *Tsuki*. Finally, she played a Paraguayan song called *Danza de Luzma*. Ms. Hansen answered many questions and explained that mastering the harp takes a great deal of practice and compared that to reading. Throughout Ms. Hansen's lesson, she integrated music across all disciplines. "Last year, Ms. Hansen brought the harp to her own classroom, and this year she shared her talent and music with all of the third and fourth grade students during their music classes. Watching Ms. Hansen play and explain all aspects of the harp was an experience that the students will always remember," remarked **Ms. Herrmann**.

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Every Friday is **Pride Day** at East End. Staff and students wear their Mustang attire to show pride in the school community. **PTO Vice President Janet Quinteros** facilitates the attire sales for the school, and because she is continuously ordering new items, the majority of the school owns a piece of clothing representing an East End Mustang. "Coming to school each Friday and seeing everyone, including me, wearing East End clothing shows a great deal of unity. Even the parents are wearing Mustang attire to support the school. We are in the process of offering Mustang pajamas and plan on having a pajama day in the near future. Ms. Quinteros has worked very hard this year raising money for the PTO and uniting the school community," said **Ms. Herrmann**.

Somerset School

"The Wizard of Oz": The Somerset Intermediate School Drama Club presented the beloved classic, The Wizard of Oz, April 5 and 6, 2013 to a sold out audience on Friday night and a near packed "house" on Saturday night.

*After the first month of auditions and many months of rehearsals and set preparations, two different casts of main characters had the opportunity to perform on separate nights. On Friday, Dorothy, played by **Grace McGrath** and her friends the Scarecrow (**Arianna Canales**), Tin Man (**Sydney Muhando**) and Lion (**Maurice Coley**), simply entertained the audience scene after scene with their independence on stage, including the ability to get into their parts, leaving no regrets at the end of the play. The Saturday night cast continued the magic and included **Selma Yaljevac**, **Theodore Crowther**, **Sydney Muhando**, and **Teri Jackson** in these roles. **Tahnayah Chin** played Toto on both nights. The other main characters included the very wicked witches played by **Daniela Carpio** and **Jasmine Muhando**. The Good Witch, Glinda, was played by **Abby Smith** and **Cheyenne Mutura**, and the great Wizard of Oz was played by **Amanda Lindsay** and **Meg Savoy**.*

*The entire Oz ensemble included **Alexis Brown**, **Amanda Chacha**, **Amanda Lindsay**, **Amaya Womack**, **Ashley Muhando**, **Chantal Celis**, **Chelsea Toaza**, **Elisa Peregrina**, **Emely Ramirez**, **Evelyn Arboleda**, **Jacob Agui**, **Jaida Sampson**, **Jasmine Hernandez**, **Jenesis Diaz**, **Jennifer Vargas**, **Jeremiah Thomas**, **Joseph Leon**, **Kayla Barron**, **LaTonya** and **Diamonte Hubbard**, **Rebecca Oyola**, **Reina Globis**, **RiaBrumbaugh**, **Samantha Castro**, **Shianti Frazier**, **Teyanna Burke**, **Tyrell Pereira**, **Valerie Herdoiza**, **Vanessa Colon** and **ZoveidaPelaez**. The Oz Crew, including lighting, sound, set arrangements and special assistants were **Donaven Rivera**, **John Hurtado**, **Jeiner Betancourt**, **Diana Orozco**, **Kala Wright**, **Zoey Scott**, **Daniela Gonzalez** and **Kayla Brewer**. They amazingly learned their craft in a short period of time and were able to implement each facet of stage production to enhance the play with special effects, even when the actors took their performances off stage into the audience.*

*"Bravo to the entire cast, Oz crew, administration, faculty and staff who participated in the performances. A special thank you to **Tom Mazur**, **Tim Mentone**, **EvinAksay**, **Martha Schultz**, **Kate Moore**, **Andrew Preble**, **Colleen Strickland**, **Sarah Cohen**, **Martha Barrett**, **Eleftheria Fiotakis** and many parents who volunteered their time leading up to and the night of the production. The beautiful set design of Munchkinland and the Great Wizard of Oz picture was designed and painted by **Chloe DeMeola**. We could not have gone Over the Rainbow so successfully without their great assistance. I must say that I was very proud of the entire performance as well as being thoroughly entertained by my cast," proclaimed **Donna Patton**, director and advisor.*

On April 4, 2013, the PTO and Somerset School hosted a "**Gang Awareness Seminar**" presented by **Robert Turlington**. This seminar was intended to provide the community of North Plainfield with vital information on the staggering statistics of gangs and the devastation that gangs can cause on a community. The seminar provided parents with key identifying signs

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of gangs, applicable strategies, along with useful tools and resources. Mr. Turlington has been with the Union County Detention Center for over 28 years. With over 20 years of extensive gang training and instructional training, he was able to bring a firsthand look into the world of gangs. Mr. Turlington presented vital information through an easy to follow and interactive PowerPoint presentation and visuals. Engaged parents were encouraged to read and follow along and were given the opportunity to take part in a question and answer session. "Overall, the night was a complete success; parents were engaged and very receptive to the topic and Mr. Turlington. We would like to thank the PTO for organizing and collaborating with Somerset School in bringing such a great program together," commented **Reginald Sainte-Rose, principal**.

Student Faculty Basketball Game: Technically the faculty won the annual student-faculty basketball game on April 11, 2013. In fact, they won in a "stone cold barn burner," coming out on top by 10 points. No one was much concerned about the final score afterward, though, as students and faculty met at midcourt and celebrated the fact they came together to raise more money to donate to Somerset School's field day activities. "They all had fun and it was a good experience, and it's a great cause," said **Pat Wenk, math teacher and coach** of the student team. It's a fun thing for all of us to do. This is one of Somerset School's best events." Yes, indeed, this is a great event. "The kids get to see the teachers in a different light, and we get to see them in a different light, and it's all about fun and raising some money," added **Principal Sainte-Rose**.

A. Smile Train

West End School's annual **Smile Train** show will be held on Thursday, **April 25, 2013, 7:00 p.m.**, NPBS auditorium.

B. Community Health Fair

A **Community Health Fair** will be held on **May 2, 2013**, in the middle school gym, **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** The fair was created as one of the goals of the Coordinated School Health Grant sponsored by **Empower Somerset**. Members of the Coordinated School Health Grant committee and the district's school nurses were responsible for putting this program together.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

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

Safety Topic - Transportation. The safety topic for April is Evacuation Planning for students with special needs.

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

HEALTH & SAFETY

HURRICANE SANDY

Edward Ostroff, director, has completed a comprehensive analysis of the educational and financial impact of Hurricane Sandy.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The following emergency preparedness improvements are in progress at this time. See notes below for additional information:

- A stand-by generating system for the Operations Office at 63 Greenbrook Road: The generator has been received by the contractor and we are in the process of obtaining quotations for some minor roof reinforcement that must be completed prior to the generator installation. UPDATE: The steel support members are being fabricated at this time and the installation of the generator should be completed by month's end.
- Electrical load evaluations of the stand-by generator at the Somerset School. A preliminary assessment of the current load on the stand-by generator indicates there is sufficient power generated by this unit to energize additional circuits. UPDATE: The reconfiguration of electrical circuits powered by the stand-by generator will be completed over the summer recess.
- A wireless router back-up for our network systems (Verizon) is in progress.

FEMA MITIGATION GRANTS

The Federal Assistance Funds that are currently being allocated to FEMA for Hurricane Sandy relief contain monies for Mitigation Grants. These grants provide partial funding for mitigation work that will reduce losses suffered by municipalities and other government entities.

- NPHS. A permanently mounted stand-by generating system.
- East End School. A permanently mounted stand-by generating system.
- West End School. A permanently mounted stand-by generating system.

The North Plainfield Board of Education submitted three LOI's (Letters of Intent) for submission to FEMA for the aforementioned mitigation projects. This program provides seventy-five percent of the cost of these projects and the district is responsible for the remaining twenty-five percent. There are no penalties if the district decides not to fund these projects if they are eventually approved by FEMA. UPDATE: We are currently awaiting a determination of our grant requests.

FEMA -4046-DR-NJ

UPDATE: Our completed FEMA PW Application was filed on January 16, 2013 and was subsequently approved for reimbursement of submitted expenses on January 22, 2013. The established rate of reimbursement is currently 75% of the submitted total, some \$43,000.00 respectively. It is unknown at this time when payments will be made.

SECURITY DRILLS

The security drill for April is an evacuation, non-fire related. All of our schools are in the process of completing their assigned drills.

SECURITY DRILLS – UNANNOUNCED

UPDATE: On February 26, 2013, all public and private schools throughout the state received updated guidelines regarding unannounced drills and how they will be managed. Additionally, a copy of the unannounced drill evaluation form was distributed that details the areas of concern. The purpose of these exercises is to reveal areas that may need additional attention in the event of an actual emergency.

SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY PLAN

UPDATE: We are currently waiting to be scheduled for an exit interview with representatives from the Department of Education and the Office of Homeland Security.

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MAINTENANCE PROJECTS/REPAIRS

Listed below are just a few of our contracted and/or in-house maintenance projects that are currently in progress or were recently completed.

- Misc. door replacements at the High School and Stony Brook School (Scheduled).
- Security related upgrades for the High School Auditorium (Scheduled).
- Repairs to Auditorium seating at the High School (Completed).
- Upgrades to our door entrance systems at Somerset and Watchung (Scheduled).
- System maintenance to the fire pump at the High School (Completed).
- Tennis court repairs at the East End School (Completed).
- Minor field improvements at East End and West End Schools (Completed).

CAPITAL PROJECTS, STATUS REPORT (Current)

DISTRICT-WIDE RESTROOM PROJECT

Restroom Renovations. UPDATE: A final payment request has been received and is being processed at this time.

DISTRICT WIDE SOLAR ENERGY

East End School – *Major construction completed. Kiosk's being installed on 3/25/2013.

West End School – *Major construction completed. Kiosk's being installed on 3/25/2013.

Somerset School – *Major construction completed. Kiosk's being installed on 3/25/2013.

H.S. & M.S. – *Major construction completed. Kiosk's being installed on 3/25/2013.

*The owner of these systems must perform final inspections, and if approved, submit to the power authority for permission to operate. This process could take up to six weeks. We anticipate this project to be complete and fully operational within the next sixty to ninety days.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

This project includes a redesign and renovation of the existing space with an emphasis on technology and media. UPDATE: Sealed bids for this project were opened on April 2, 2013. Additionally, a Board Resolution awarding the project to the lowest responsible bidder was approved on April 3, 2013. The construction portion of this project is currently scheduled for start-up on June 26, 2013 and we anticipate reaching substantial completion by the second week of August.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (NEW) (2012/2013)

The following two new capital improvement projects have been proposed and approved for completion this school year.

- Harrison School. Replacement of all existing windows (Planning Stage).
- Middle School. Façade repairs to the main office exterior walls (Under Evaluation).

***Please review the attached Project Register for additional project information.**

PENDING GRANTS

Safe Routes NJDOT Grant. UPDATE: A number of improvements outlined within our grant request will be completed over the summer utilizing maintenance funds as no grants were approved for any community in Somerset County.

Safe Routes Mini Grant. UPDATE: These grants are currently being reconsidered due in part to a number of complaints regarding the funding process. We have been advised that a notice of grant awards will be issued in the near future.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

As required by FEMA, the North Plainfield Board of Education is currently preparing its portion of the new Five Year Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for subsequent submission to the Somerset County Engineering Office. All requested documentation has been submitted at this time.

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 Denise VanHorn, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2013, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Ms. VanHorn 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 April 17, 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. VanHorn.

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

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

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

WHEREAS JoAnn Myer, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2013, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Ms. Myer 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 April 17, 2013, and be it further

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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. Myer.

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

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

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

WHEREAS Janet Jones, learning disabled teacher consultant in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2013, and

WHEREAS she has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately twenty-three 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. Jones 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 April 17, 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. Jones.

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

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

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

WHEREAS Alan Adams, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that he wishes to retire on July 1, 2013, and

WHEREAS he has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately twenty-three 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. Adams its thanks for the service he has given and best wishes for his future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 17, 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 Mr. Adams.

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

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

April 17, 2013

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

WHEREAS Dorothy J. Carro, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2013, and

WHEREAS she has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately twenty-one 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. Carro 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 April 17, 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. Carro.

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

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

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

WHEREAS Lester T. Genung, custodian in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that he wishes to retire on December 1, 2012, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Mr. Genung its thanks for the service he has given and best wishes for his future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 17, 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 Mr. Genung.

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

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

April 17, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education continue the suspension of employee SU-1-12-13, with pay, through May 8, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 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	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

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

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>Class/Grade</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Brittany Nagel	ESL/grade 5	Somerset School	Karen Moore
Lori Caruso	Spanish/grade 6	Somerset School	Maura Harrington
Christopher Glass	Math/grades 9-12	NPHS	Ramon Rasaq

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Donna Tackach, ESL teacher at NPMS, an unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective April 8, 2013 through April 20, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education grant Mindy Durkin, elementary teacher at West End School, an unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective September 1, 2013 through November 24, 2013, for child care purposes. (Ms. Durkin will be out using accrued sick days from April 22, 2013 through June 21, 2013.)

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

April 17, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Alison Mac as a temporary replacement elementary teacher at West End School at the MA/Step 1-2(1) annual salary rate of \$57,210, effective April 18, 2013 through June 21, 2013. (Ms. Mac will temporarily replace Mindy Durkin.)

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Mariluz Torres, ESL teacher at West End School, effective July 1, 2013.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Maryann Benko as a substitute paraprofessional to be called on an as-needed basis at the hourly rate of \$20.96, effective April 22, 2013.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the teachers indicated on the attached list as mentors for first year teachers, to be paid \$550 at the conclusion of the 30-week program or pro-rated accordingly, to be partially funded with NCLB Title I FY'13 or local funds.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the unpaid leave of absence granted to Denise Cruz, paraprofessional at West End School, **from** March 25, 2013 through April 5, 2013 **to** March 25, 2013 through April 12, 2013.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education grant NancyAnne Schreck, special education teacher at West End School, a six-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act effective October 21, 2013 through December 1, 2013. (Ms. Schreck will begin her disability period effective September 1, 2013 through October 20, 2013.)

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the following individuals as K-12 substitute teachers in the district:

Amanda Retenberg	Ryan Lubreski
Kevin Baker	
Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve Priscila Weber as a College of Saint Elizabeth administrative intern at NPHS with Dr. Hope Blecher and Jerard Stephenson serving as on-site supervisors.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education accept with regret the resignation of Jerome Pocius, teacher of English at NPMS, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2013.

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

April 17, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education grant Kelli Dunston, elementary teacher at West End School, an unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective September 1, 2013 through November 20, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education suspend employee SU-2-12-13 with pay, effective April 17, 2013, pending further investigation.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the temporary employment of Claire Lerner, school psychologist, **from** effective February 12, 2013 through April 18, 2013, **to** effective February 12, 2013 through April 19, 2013. (Ms. Lerner is temporarily replacing Catherine Pate.)

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

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

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

Title:	<i>Unstoppable</i>
Author:	Tim Green
Publisher:	Harper
Copyright:	2012
Course/Levels:	Elementary/Grades 5-6

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

April 17, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for identified student HI-54-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, pending a child study team evaluation, effective April 5, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-55-12-13 to be provided by district staff for up to ten hours per week, to include one hour of OT and one hour of speech per week within the ten hours, effective April 5, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-56-12-13 to be provided by district staff for up to ten hours per week, effective April 4, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve classified student PSY-16-12-13 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$375.00.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-57-12-13 to be provided by district staff for up to ten hours per week, effective April 16, 2013,

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

April 17, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-45-12-13 to be provided by GenPsych Educational Company, Silvergate Prep for up to ten hours per week at the cost of \$52.26 per hour, effective April 1, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve an out-of-district placement for classified student ZZZZZ-12-13 at the Adolescent Therapeutic Day School-UMDNJ at the cost of \$13,200 for the remainder of the school year, effective April 18, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-58-12-13 to be provided by district staff for up to ten hours per week, effective April 12, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for the following non-classified students to be provided by Educere, Inc. for up to ten hours per week, effective April 22, 2013:

HI-59-12-13	HI-60-12-13
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Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of classified student AAAAAA-12-13 at NuView Academy, at the rate of \$49,500 per year, to be prorated, effective date pending transportation arrangements.

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

April 17, 2013

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board approves line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated February 28, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approves payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated April 17, 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education authorize Nancy Rodino, educational media specialist at Somerset School, to apply for a grant from Target Education in the amount of \$2,000.00 for the purpose of providing funding for two assemblies at Somerset School on topics relating to character building.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve and accept the donation of a set of books titled *Unstoppable* by author Tim Green for use in Somerset School.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the disposal of broken and irreparable AV equipment as follows:

Items to be discarded from Somerset School:		
VCR	S#311-04-107 JVC	not functional
TV	S#95-04-3 Sharp	not functional
TV	S#11-04-45 Sanyo	not functional
DVD	S#11-04-068 Haier	not functional
DVD	S#11-04-042 Coby	not functional
DVD	S#11-04-093 Memorex	not functional

Items to be discarded from NPHS:

Overhead Projector S#507050E080902144 Buhl badly damaged

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve field trips per the attached list.

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

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

The Board is approving the change of use submission for conversion of the North Plainfield High School (middle school section) woodshop, into a dance studio:

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the need for a woodshop program, currently being housed in room 119 in the middle school section of the high school, and additionally in room 127 in the high school, can both be satisfied with the use of only one area in the high school; and,

WHEREAS, combining the programs/spaces would thereby allow the space in the middle school to be utilized for a new dance program; and,

WHEREAS, the curriculum committee has approved the implementation of a new dance program; now,

THEREFORE, the Board of Education does hereby authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary Donald Sternberg, along with Parette Somjen Architects to submit and take all necessary action to obtain approvals for proceeding with the project, including the submittal of an application for renovation and change of use, including all updates required for the Long Range Facilities Plan; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education is providing approval to change room 119 in the middle school from its current use as a woodshop to its new use as a dance studio, and further;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

April 17, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve a resolution authorizing the Business Administrator and Parette Somjen to accomplish all necessary steps to proceed with approval and submission as follows:

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) has determined that, several roof sections of North Plainfield High School need to be replaced and that this project is necessary for health and safety in the building (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, this project has been identified in the Long Range Facilities Plan as several projects for the purpose of improving and/or replacement of issues related to the structural condition of the school buildings; and

WHEREAS, the district intends to fund this project as “Other Capital Project” through the district Capital Project Fund in the 2013-2014 school budget; and

WHEREAS, the Board must now take all actions as directed by the Department of Education and any other authority in order to receive a determination and approval to proceed; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary Donald Sternberg, along with Parette Somjen Architects is hereby authorized to submit and take all necessary action to obtain approvals for proceeding with the project, including the submittal of an application and related schematic drawing; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that upon approval for the project from the Department of Education, the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary Donald Sternberg, along with Parette Somjen Architects is hereby authorized to advertise and solicit bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et. seq. in order to award the project to the lowest responsible bidder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be effective immediately.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve a resolution authorizing the Business Administrator and Parette Somjen to accomplish all necessary steps to proceed with approval and submission as follows:

WHEREAS, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) has determined that, the North Plainfield High School Gymnasium HVAC needs to be installed and that this project is necessary for health and safety in the building (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, this project has been identified in the Long Range Facilities Plan as several projects for the purpose of improving and/or replacement of issues related to the structural condition of the school buildings; and

April 17, 2013

WHEREAS, the district intends to fund this project as “Other Capital Project” through the district Capital Project Fund established in the 2013-2014 school budget; and

WHEREAS, the Board must now take all actions as directed by the Department of Education and any other authority in order to receive a determination and approval to proceed; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary Donald Sternberg, along with Parette Somjen Architects is hereby authorized to submit and take all necessary action to obtain approvals for proceeding with the project, including the submittal of an application and related schematic drawing; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that upon approval for the project from the Department of Education, the Business Administrator/ Board Secretary Donald Sternberg, along with Parette Somjen Architects is hereby authorized to advertise and solicit bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et. seq. in order to award the project to the lowest responsible bidder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be effective immediately.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education authorize and accept a grant received by Kathleen Fry, art teacher at Somerset School, from The Printmaking Center of NJ, Artist in Residence Program for the purpose of providing a practicing artist for various printmaking applications that will highlight creativity, imagination, tools, and technology used in printing.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education authorize Dr. Hope Blecher, supervisor of social studies and library media services, to apply for a grant from The For Action Teacher Fellow Program, to provide \$4,000.00 for the purpose of providing supplies necessary for various recognition ceremonies and programs throughout the year.

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

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

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from:

- ❖ Thank you letter from JoAnn Myer

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – next meeting scheduled for April 25, 2013. The Board would like a report on the dress code.

Communications – discussion was held regarding the scholarship presentations.

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 reported on various issues related to students at school

Old Business

Strategic Planning Conference, April 26, and 27, 2013

Joint Meeting: NP Borough and Board of Education – possible dates were discussed and it was decided that May 2, 2013 would not work. Suggestion was made for May 23, 2013.

Somerset County Scholar Athlete Dinner, May 15, 2013 at 6:45 p.m.

Doubletree Hotel, Somerset, NJ

New Business

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

Mr. Branan discussed the new school report card and expressed positive comments on the format.

Dr. Birnbaum mentioned concerns relative to state reporting of student test data.

Dr. Birnbaum reviewed the proposed district school calendar for 13-14 and asked for feedback. After a short discussion the Board approved the calendar as presented.

Ms. Dodd asked about lost and found in the locker rooms and throwing away of items.

Board Self Evaluation/Board Retreat – Mr. Sternberg asked the Board to consider dates for the Board Retreat and mentioned the online evaluation forms.

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

- 9111 Qualifications of Board Member
- 9125 Appointment of Treasurer of School Monies
- 9200 Orientation and Training of Board Members
- 9250 Expenses/Travel/Reimbursement
- 9270 Conflict of Interest
- 9322 Public and Executive Sessions

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

- 7010 Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness (covered in 7110)
- 7114.1 Ceremonies and Observances (covered in 3510)

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

April 17, 2013

Current Events in Education

There were none.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

Future Agenda Items

Rutgers Grant – May 8, 2013, Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Dr. Robert Rich, and Dr. Linda Reddy, Rutgers University

Technology Plan – May 22, 2013, Ron Fisher

Teacher Recognition Ceremony – TUESDAY, June 4, 2013

MALES & Sixth Grade Advisory Program – June 19, 2013, Reginald Sainte-Rose

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on May 8, 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. Allen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 10:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg