

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on December 19, 2012 at Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Mrs. Bond-Nelson called the meeting to order and made the following announcement: In accordance with NJSA 10:4-10, required advance notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk; submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, AND Comcast; posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall and the North Plainfield Public Library and the school district website. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

Thomas Allen
David Branan
Sandra Dodd
Thomas Kasper

Kathleen Mullen
Nancy Szaroleta
Linda Bond-Nelson

A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Superintendent of Schools; Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; and Dr. Robert Rich, Assistant Superintendent, as well as, Jihad Womack, Student Representative and approximately 30 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, with Mr. Allen abstaining, to accept the public session minutes of December 5, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved, with Mr. Allen abstaining, to accept the executive session minutes of December 5, 2012.

Financial Report

Mr. Allen 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 November 30, 2012 in the amount of \$5,261,977.23.

Mr. Allen 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 October 2012 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
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 Jihad Womack as follows:

The art club students have been working in clay. Most have created objects that will be given as gifts or some type of ornament. The club will be meeting today and will begin the process of painting those items so they may be taken with them before the winter break. Others will be learning how to create friendship bracelets.

The Drama Club began December with its first ever Wild and Out improvisation competition. Two teams competed on stage to see who had the best improv. skills. The night was a success and the BLUE TEAM won!

Immediately after the Improv. night, the Drama Club began auditions for the Spring Production of Hairspray. Dec. 11-13th students came out and showed their best and on Friday Dec. 14th the cast list was posted. Rehearsals will begin in the new year.

Finally, the drama club has been using December to begin preparations for the January STANJ Theatre Competition. Students have selected their scenes, monologues and scholarship pieces and will memorize, block and rehearse until the Jan. 26th competition date. A wonderful month and a fabulous way for the Drama Club to end 2012 and ring in 2013.

The Canuckling Club continues to vote on student submissions, including art and poetry, to enter into this year's issue, which will have the theme "Juxtapositions." The students have also decided on the subcategories for the theme. We are discussing options for a club T-shirt to promote the publication. The club voted on editors for this year, and Elizabeth Okereke was voted editor-in-chief. Jason Le and Caitlin Rink were voted literary editors, and Veronia Attis and Milena Contreras were voted art editors. This year we have many new members, including some from the freshmen class, and we are excited to see what this year's issue will bring.

The month of December continues to bring planning and preparation for the NPHS Winterguards. We continue this year with our two team approach as we had such success with it last year. The B team will have a Spin Clinic and informational meeting on Tuesday December 18th at 7pm in the MS Gym for any first year member who would like to come try it out. The A team has started and will continue practices through the month of December leading up to their competition debut at West Orange High School in late January, with the highlight of their season being their return to national competition in the WGI circuit. The B team starts rehearsal in January after break for the debut of their competition season in early February.

Dr. O'Donnell and Mr. Nardi attended Ocean Days training at Rutgers in early December. Rutgers has provided several fun activities for members of HOPE Club to perform during the Winter months. We will also analyze real fish migration data to determine effects of climate change. And then participate in Ocean Days in two separate field trips (one for Middle School and the other for High School) in April.

On December 14th, HOPE Club raised \$80 in a holiday cookie/bake sale to donate to help save endangered animals. On January 18, HOPE Club will participate in a winter field trip at Duke Farms.

Currently, Interact is working on our annual Candy Cane fundraiser. We have a lot of competition from other clubs this year. On December 6th fifteen Interact students attended our third Rutgers game. It was a fun game; we worked with Dr. Birnbaum and other Rotary members.

The middle school 8th grade counselor contacted the Interact club for help for some middle school students struggling with math class. Interact members will start a tutoring program January 2013.

We received two thank you letters from the NP Food Bank and the American Red Cross. Both organizations mentioned how much they appreciate Interact's continuous support.

Upcoming Activities

More Rutgers games

Bake sale

Pizza sale

Tutoring Program for MS

Dance Club meetings are held every Wednesday and Thursday after school from 2:40 to 4:00 pm in the overflow room of the cafeteria. So far the sections of bachata and salsa are actively open. We are planning to start up the salsa dance in a couple of weeks.

Canuck mentor club highlights for DECEMBER

Charity initiative of the month – “Jeans for teens “

- 1.7 million teens are homeless and their #1 requested item is jeans. Please help the mentors collect jeans for the month of January and promote awareness about DOsomething.org. This organization has given us a school banner and has acknowledged our participation on a national level.

Mentor training

- Last month's camp training activities will be facilitated at mentor meeting this month to promote cohesive student interaction.

New program launch

- Students (mentors) will now be mentoring several 10th graders who have been chosen by the counselor based on various “at risk” factors. It is the hope that students who are either new to the school or were unable to connect with their mentor last year will now be given additional guidance throughout the duration of the school year.

With the combined effort of the mentors we were able to adopt 5 kids from the salvation army tree!

December 6th was the end of the 9th Annual Middle School Student Council "Partnership" Food Drive! On December 7th middle school student council members helped load the donations in the band truck, then walked over to Somerset School where the food was sorted. Students, faculty, and parents volunteered to help at this event. We loaded the sorted food into cars and drove it over to the North Plainfield Food Bank.

One 7th grade student proposed that we decorate one of the middle school hallways and turn it into a "Winter Wonderland." On Wednesday December 19th, in lieu of a formal meeting, we will be decorating the hallway. We will also have a brief discussion about our January activity.

The Freshman Class held a December Bake Sale. Meetings are held on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month. We are currently planning our Spring Jelly Belly sale and working to find a Canning Fundraiser location.

Presentation

The Annual Financial Audit was presented to the Board by Wayne Miller of Suplee Clooney & Company.

Thomas Mazur presented marching band and color guard recognition of a National Award they won at a recent competition held at MetLife Stadium.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Staff

Lights, Action, Camera: Approximately two weeks ago, **Robert Lake, NPHS social studies teacher**, was contacted by a marketing team from Google, regarding their launching of a new service in January 2013 called ***GoogleTourBuilder***. Given that the team is working on developing tutorials for use on their site, Mr. Lake was asked to view the application, see how it could be applied to a classroom, and, if possible, design a lesson. After spending some time "playing around" and speaking with the tech people from Google, Mr. Lake completed the tour for use in his classroom. "It really is a fascinating tool that brings lessons to life," remarked Mr. Lake. Subsequently, Google asked for permission to bring a production crew to NPHS to film as Mr. Lake taught a lesson using ***GoogleTourBuilder***. This will be developed into a tutorial for teachers and will live on the site forever. After the attorney reviewed all of the appropriate paperwork and permissions, Mr. Lake moved forward. On December 10, the director of the shoot and the production crew toured the school and determined the best setting for filming. On December 14, they filmed the tutorial during Mr. Lake's first period ninth grade history class. In addition the team interviewed Mr. Lake along with various other staff members. We are awaiting the reviews!! It should be noted that for the right to do this, Google and Missing Pieces, Inc. agreed to make a donation in the amount of **\$7,000** to the school for "technology upgrades/supplies for the social studies department."

Students

Congratulations to the following players earning All-Conference honors for the 2012 season:

Chris Smith - 1st Team All-Conference Linebacker

Omar Bailey - 2nd Team All-Conference Running back

Kyle Grant - 2nd Team All-Conference Quarterback

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 September, October and November 2012. 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:

September 2012

Fine /Performing Arts	Victoria Stevens
Practical Arts	Christian Obando
Academic Achievement grades 11-12	Elizabeth Okereke
Academic Achievement grades 9-10	Paul Benson
Academic Excellence grades 11-12	Nicholas Mercuri
Academic Excellence grades 9-10	Ashley Marshall
"The Canuck" (steadfast support of school)	FlorLedezma
School Spirit (outward display)	Giovanna Rodriguez

October 2012

Fine /Performing Arts	Lisa Pennington
Practical Arts	ZaharaTasawar
Academic Achievement grades 11-12	Jermaine Mitchell
Academic Achievement grades 9-10	Bengi Solis
Academic Excellence grades 11-12	Jihad Womack
Academic Excellence grades 9-10	John Hatala
"The Canuck" (steadfast support of school)	Keith Jeffries
School Spirit (outward display)	Kyla Parker

November 2012

Fine /Performing Arts	Genesis Rondon
Practical Arts	Tahir Ahmad
Academic Achievement grades 11-12	KamiinValree
Academic Achievement grades 9-10	WaleedGhanim
Academic Excellence grades 11-12	Cinly Tang
Academic Excellence grades 9-10	Samantha Jeannot
"The Canuck" (steadfast support of school)	Chante Stewart-Wallace
School Spirit (outward display)	Shyla Nakshband Shulca

Patriot's Pen: Congratulations to middle school students **Antoine Izaquirre, Karen Gordon, and Nikita Forrester**, for their award-winning essay submissions to the annual VFW's Patriot's Pen writing contest. Conducted nationwide, this youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy. Their essays entitled "What I would tell America's Founding Fathers" garnered the top three positions in the tri-county area. Along with receiving a cash prize of \$100.00, the students' essays will now be entered into the state competition.

Character Education Assembly: On December 6, 2012 teachers **David Hooker** and **Danielle Fauci** announced this month's *Students of the Month*:

<u>7th Grade</u>	<u>8th Grade</u>
Jenna Guevara	Kylah Williams
Christian Melendez	Nicholas cherasaro
Trevor Sullivan	Yanquing Liang
Cristabel Leiva	Frank Pellegrino
Menat Bahnasy	Sydney Patterson
Zachary Conroy	Karen Dock

Seventh and eighth grade students receiving an *Awesome Act* recognition for demonstrating a "caring" attitude toward their classmates and teachers included the following:

<u>7th Grade</u>	<u>8th Grade</u>
Steven Belyo	Raimundo Barrios
Shanya Cross	Marquise Cotto
Jordan Grundy	Jennifer Hercules
Khyshawn Spann	Yanqing Liang
Daniel Villeda	Ryan Peg

Stony Brook School's Honor Roll Students: On November 30, report cards were distributed at Stony Brook School. On December 11, thirteen students in grades three and four received honor roll awards to recognize their academic achievements -- **Grade Three: Ivan Mangui, Tania Molina-Ramos, Joshua Njoku, Kristobal Olivares, Antony Salazar, and Jenny Sanon; Grade Four: Isabella Carroll, Lindsey DePaz, Drew Evans, Karla Garcia, Ashley Ordonez, Henry Ruiz, and Jasmine Zaher were recognized.**

Stony Brook's Writing Wall Writers: Students at Stony Brook School continued to focus on their writing ability, while participating in the "Writing Wall" project. Based on the book, "The Writing Wall" by Margy Burns Knight, a Writing Wall has been created at Stony Brook with the purpose of displaying monthly student work selected by classroom teachers. Certificates and free dessert awards are given to selected writers. Their writing piece is proudly displayed on the writing wall for all to view and share. In November, the following kindergarten through fourth grade students were awarded recognition: **Kindergarten – Ian Dinesh, Jessica Labeeb, Maya Mayers; Grade One – Jason Brito, Karlita Cadena, Jonathan Collado, Destiny Rodriguez; Grade Two – Layevska Corado-DelCid, Robert Hernandez, Anthony Manzano; Grade Three – Kristobal Olivares, Antony Salazar, Amaya Shallo; Grade Four – Isabella Carroll, and Olivia Sheridan.**
Schools

East End School

On December 3 the East End PTO sponsored an assembly for the students which focused on the character traits of honesty, responsibility and trustworthiness. **Sadecky's Puppet Show** mesmerized the audience with a tale about a young boy who finds one of the hottest toys that everyone wants for the holiday. He is faced with the decision whether or not to give it back to the rightful owner or keep it for himself. "What is so wonderful about Sadecky's Puppet Show is that there is always a lesson learned and students leave the

show understanding the importance of having good character. It supports the character education program at East End. We are extremely grateful to have such a supportive and generous PTO," remarked **Kathleen Herrmann, principal**.

On Friday evening, December 5, the PTO hosted the **Holiday Gift Store**, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. The event was well-advertised and members of the PTO volunteered throughout the evening. All visitors were also afforded the opportunity to purchase a spaghetti dinner and enjoy some food before or after shopping. The evening provided families time to shop for interesting items and spend time enjoying a delicious meal together.

Principal Herrmann has been busy reading to classes and shared the **Chinese folktale *Two of Everything*** by Lily Toy Hong with Kitty Jedra's first grade class. "Although I love my job and enjoy being a principal, I remember how rewarding it was to read to children when I was a library media specialist. The story teaches so many lessons and promotes a great deal of opportunities to predict and think critically. The children had so much fun, but not as much as I did!" stated Ms. Herrmann.

NPMS

Winter Concert: North Plainfield Middle School and the Department of Fine, Practical & Performing Arts, presented its annual Winter Concert on December 13, 2012 in the school's auditorium. The evening featured the concert band and wind ensemble, under the direction of **Kyle Skrivanek**, and the chorus, under the direction of **Ivan Izeppi**, performing various classical selections and holiday favorites.

West End School

Penny Wars for Hats Off For Cancer: The purpose of Hats Off For Cancer (HOC) is to provide children fighting cancer with something to make it more bearable by distributing hats donated via generous individuals, corporations, sport teams and celebrities. HOC has distributed more than 1,500,000 hats to date in an effort to provide some emotional relief to the pain and confusion caused by cancer. During each lunch period for a week, West End students donated spare change in the form of pennies, dimes, nickels, quarters, and even dollars for this great cause. They raised a total of \$566.58. The winner of Penny Wars was the second grade. They will be having "Tea Parties" in their classrooms. Because there was such a large sum of money raised, it was decided that the money would be split between the Hats Off for Cancer Foundation and Hurricane Sandy victims in the North Plainfield community. **Principal Beth Sobel** stated that she would like to thank special education teachers **Regina Silverii** and **Erica Gara** for organizing and running Penny Wars. She would also like to thank fourth grade teacher **Alison Apisa** and special education teacher **Angela Roman** for kicking off this event with a special Hat Day event.

Operation Warmth: "Operation Warmth," part of the Partnership with Coats for Kids and International Association of Fire Fighters, and the North Plainfield Fire Department, generously donated to West End boxes of new winter coats. There were approximately ten boxes of new, wrapped, gender-neutral winter coats from sizes 3T-10/12. A letter was sent home to selected families to complete if they would like to accept a coat donation, including child's name, size, teacher, and sibling information. So far, fifteen West End families have been provided coats reaching over twenty-five children. Thank you to student liaison, **Marilyn Pinto** and school counselor, **Andrea Grasso** for their work with this project.

Mark Your Calendars for our Annual Smile Train Show: West End is starting to plan for their annual Smile Train Show. The theme this year is “America.” The show will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium on Thursday, April 25, 2013. “We look forward to having lots of fun while we raise money to buy smiles for children needing cleft lip or palate surgeries,” noted Beth Sobel, principal. At this point in time, West End School has been responsible for 205+ smiles, which puts a smile on all of our faces.

Third Grade Food Drive: Recognition needs to be given to the third grade classes for their Thanksgiving Food Drive, which was a service learning/character education project. The food was donated to **The St. Vincent de Paul Society** which is a non-profit, non-denominational organization dedicated to serving those in need. They operate a food pantry out of St. Joseph’s Parish Center, where approximately sixty bags of food each Saturday are given to those in need. As stated in a thank you letter from **Marilyn LaMarca**, a volunteer for St. Vincent’s, “We would like to thank you for helping us to restock our food bank. Hurricane Sandy took a toll on many families in our community. Thanks to your generous donations, we have enough food to give out to people for several weeks to come. It is reassuring to know that West End School is truly such a caring place and committed to supporting the North Plainfield Community.” Thanks go to the following classes: **Brian Bigden’s, Marianne Harris’, Debra Lysicatos’, and Nicole Rivlin’s** third grade classes and to **Marilyn Pinto**, student liaison.

Elementary Schools

On December 10, 2012, every **third grade student** in West End School, East End School, and Stony Brook School received the gift of a dictionary from the **Plainfield/North Plainfield Rotary Club**. Distributed by Rotarians **Mary Forbes, borough council member; Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, school superintendent; and Linda Persichino, officer, Valley National Bank, Rock Avenue** – the dictionaries were purchased by Rotary through The Dictionary Project, a South Carolina-based nonprofit organization. West End students also gave the Rotarians special blue “piggies” with over \$50 in them for Rotary’s international project to eradicate polio throughout the world.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for November was Confined Space Awareness. NOTE: Due to Hurricane Sandy, the training originally scheduled for November is now due by December 31, 2012. Related safety training is being provided via our new on-line employee training system and all employees are currently in compliance.

Safety Topic - Transportation. There are no current training assignments.

RTK (Right To Know) – Operations Staff. An RTK make-up and initial training session was held on November 29, 2012 for new substitute employees and for those who were absent for the summer training session.

RTK (Right To Know) – New Employees. As required, a mandatory training session was conducted with all new employees. This training session, held on December 11, 2012, covered a wide range of safety related topics, including RTK and accident and injury prevention.

HEALTH & SAFETY

HURRICANE SANDY

UPDATE: As of the date of this report, the following action has been taken to mitigate remaining hazards resulting from Hurricane Sandy.

- Harrison Greenhouse – The roof panel damaged by falling branches has now been shipped and will be installed once received.
- Harrison House – An internal work order has been generated to repair the rear entrance awning that was destroyed during the storm. A work order is in process.
- Harrison House – The contractor has now completed the repair of approximately two hundred square feet of siding damaged during the storm.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

At this time, the following emergency preparedness improvements are being evaluated for cost and implementation.

- A direct fiber optic link to the Operations Office at 63 Greenbrook Road.
- Electrical load evaluations of the stand-by generator at Somerset School.
- A stand-by generating system for the Operations Office at 63 Greenbrook Road.
- A wireless router back-up system for the district's network systems (Verizon).

INSURANCE CLAIM

An insurance claim has been submitted through our Joint Insurance Fund for the damage incurred during Hurricane Sandy. As of this date, the underwriter, Taylor Darin Claims Services, has notified the district that the cost for the majority of the items claimed should be recoverable. It should be noted, however, that tree removal is not a covered item unless the falling tree caused damage to a structure. These expenses will be submitted to FEMA for reimbursement.

FEMA -4046-DR-NJ

UPDATE: An initial intake meeting was held on December 4, 2012. As per the guidelines established for this disaster, tree and debris removal will be the focus of our submission to FEMA for reimbursement.

SECURITY DRILLS

The Security Drill for December is an On Site Evacuation. All schools are in the process of completing their assigned drills.

SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY PLAN

UPDATE: A representative from the Office of School Safety and Security was in district on December 7, 2012 to observe two (2) of our security drills and to review our Safety and Security Plan progress to date. A full report is forthcoming from the Office of School Security and will be reviewed once received.

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.

- Repair of the clock tower lights at the Somerset School.
- Mounting of a new projection board at the NPHS library.
- Minor boiler repairs at three locations to comply with recent state inspections.
- The installation of a radio *repeater at the high and middle school.

*We are in the process of upgrading our radio system, district-wide, to provide increased coverage and to eliminate “dead spots” in the High and Middle School.

CAPITAL PROJECTS STATUS REPORT (Current)

HARRISON BUILDING

Chiller Installation. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close out documents and system training

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

Multi-Purpose Room Air Conditioning. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close out documents and system training.

DISTRICT WIDE SOLAR ENERGY

East End School – All associated equipment has been loaded to the roof(s) and installation is in progress. An RFI has been approved regarding the installation and location of the electrical inverter.

West End School – All panel arrays have been completed and a system tie-in was completed on November 28, 2012. The informational kiosk is on back order at this time.

Somerset School – All panel arrays have been completed and a system tie-in was completed on November 30, 2012. The informational kiosk is on back order at this time.

High & Middle School – All associated equipment has been loaded to the roof(s) and installation is in progress. Several RFI's are still outstanding for this location.

WATCHUNG BUILDING

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: The installation of the new heating system is now complete and we are currently waiting for close-out documents.

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: All punch list items have now been corrected. The installation of the additional heating loop for the gymnasium is in progress and all work should be completed by December 14, 2012.

DISTRICT-WIDE RESTROOM PROJECT

Restroom Renovations. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close out documents from the contractor. A conference with the contractor was scheduled for December 14, 2012.

DISTRICT-WIDE WIRELESS UPGRADE PROJECT

UPDATE: NPHS and Somerset School were completed on Friday, November 30, 2012. The remaining work is in progress and should be completed prior to the holiday break.

DISTRICT-WIDE ENERGY REDUCTION PROJECT

This project consists of lighting sensors for classrooms, restrooms, hallways and offices. Additionally, the project includes the replacement of gym lighting fixtures and energy controls for a number of our heating and air conditioning units. The first year savings are projected to be approximately \$38,000 district-wide. UPDATE: This project is now scheduled for start-up and completion over the December break.

HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY RENOVATIONS

This project includes a redesign and renovation of the existing space with an emphasis on technology and media. A steering committee has been established to ensure the new design will meet our current and future needs. The planning stage of this project has begun with a projected completion over next summer. UPDATE: A second meeting of the committee was held on Wednesday, November 28, 2012. We are currently waiting for information from our architect. Our next meeting will be scheduled in the near future. More information to follow as we move forward with this project.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS (NON CAPITAL) (2012/2013)

PENDING GRANTS

Safe Routes NJDOT Grant. UPDATE: These grants are now being reconsidered due in part to a number of complaints regarding the funding process.

Safe Routes Mini Grant. UPDATE: These grants are now being reconsidered due in part to a number of complaints regarding the funding process.

ENERGY REDUCTION

Demand Response. The district is now participating in a Demand Response Program through Constellation Energy Services. UPDATE: The district has received its first quarterly payment of \$2,449.82 for participating in the program. That translates into roughly ten-thousand dollars annual revenue for the district.

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

As required by FEMA, the North Plainfield Board of Education is currently preparing their portion of the new Five Year Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for subsequent submission to the Somerset County Engineering Office.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools Personnel

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

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved 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.

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Kelley Albanese as an instructional paraprofessional in the kindergarten class at East End School for 3.75 hours per day at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated agreement, effective January 2, 2013. (Ms. Albanese will replace Lucy Pimpinella.)

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the following student teacher placement(s) from New Jersey City University, from January 28, 2013 through May 20, 2013:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>School/Class</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Phyllicia Polite	West End School/Art	Lisa Cerulo

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Patricia Russell, elementary teacher at West End School, an eight-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective May 3, 2013 through June 30, 2013, for child care purposes. (Ms. Russell will begin her disability period effective March 4, 2013 through May 2, 2013.)

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Lauren Paczkowski, speech language specialist, a twelve-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective March 14, 2013 through June 6, 2013, for child care purposes. (Ms. Paczkowski will begin her disability period effective February 20, 2013 through March 13, 2013.)

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve an increase in hours for the following paraprofessionals for bus duty:

<u>Paraprofessional</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Fom</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>Effective</u>
Marvine Warren	NPHS	3.75 to 4.00 hours per day		12/6/12
Harry Hooker	West End	4.00 to 4.25 hours per day		12/11/12

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Donna Patton as a substitute physical education/health teacher for the Alternative High School Program at the rate of \$32 per hour.

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following staff members to serve in the positions indicated as required through the Empower Somerset Coordinated School Health Grant, at the stipends indicated, to be funded by the grant allocation:

Renee LaGala	Program Team Leader	\$1,000
Renee LaGala	Program Instructor	\$ 600
Stefanie Myers	Program Instructor	\$1,000

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Branen abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Rose Landis, paraprofessional at NPHS, an unpaid leave of absence effective February 13, 2013 through February 22, 2013, for medical reasons.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branen – Abstain	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, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Nicole Rivlin as a school counselor at East End School at the 2010-2011 6YR/Step 7 (7-8/8) salary of 58,815, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective January 7, 2013. (Ms. Rivlin will replace Jacquelyn Spaventa.)

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

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 following recommendation be tabled:

That the Board of Education terminate the employment of employee #Term-1-12-13 immediately for abandonment of position and other just cause.

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 effective date for Jacqueline Spaventa, student liaison coordinator at NPMS, from January 2, 2013 to January 7, 2013.

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

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

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

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

Title: *The Western Heritage Since 1300*
Author: Donald Kagan
Publisher: Prentice Hall
Copyright: 2011
Course/Levels: AP European History (Grades 11-12)

Title: *World Civilizations: The Global Experience, AP Edition***
Author: Peter Stearns et al.
Publisher: Pearson
Copyright: 2011
Course/Levels: AP World History

**** Pending approval of new curriculum**

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

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

Mr. Branen 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 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Educere, effective December 17, 2012.

HI-24-12-13

HI-25-12-13

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

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

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-26-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective December 5, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-27-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective November 28, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-28-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective December 12, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-29-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective December 3, 2012.

Thomas Allen – Aye
David Branen – 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 classified student PSY-07-12-13 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be performed by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$150 per hour for up to three hours.

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 classified student PSY-08-12-13 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be performed by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$150 per hour for up to three hours.

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 classified student PSY-09-12-13 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be performed by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$150 per hour for up to three hours.

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 classified student NEU-06-12-13 undergo a neurological evaluation to be performed by Dr. Kavita Sinha at the cost of \$325.

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 home instruction for non-classified student HI-30-12-13 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective December 20, 2012.

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

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

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board approve line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated October 31, 2012.

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 payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated December 19, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education accept and file the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the Auditor's Management Report of Administrative Findings-Financial and Compliance with no corrective actions noted for the year ended June 30, 2012.

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 and accept additional funds provided by the Federal Supplemental Education Jobs Fund in the amount of \$25,754.00. Funds will be used to support additional supplemental programming during the extended school year utilizing account 18-422-100-101-00-00 in the 2012-2013 school year.

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 and accept a donation from Google and Missing Pieces, Inc. in the amount of \$7,000.00 for the purpose of purchasing technology equipment to be used in social studies classes in NPHS. Missing Pieces, Inc. will be filming students in Robert Lake's class for a documentary demonstrating the use of "Google Tour Builder" as part of a history lesson.

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 acknowledge the results of the annual school election held on **November 6, 2012** as outlined on the attached **Certificate of Election**.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the following carry-overs for the 2011-2012 IDEA Grant:

Non Public	\$23,991.00
PreSchool	\$ 740.00

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 the submission of the IDEA application for the fiscal year 2013, and that upon final Department of Education approval of the application, the Board of Education accept the grant award as outlined below:

Basic Grant	\$836,746.00
Non-Public	\$ 45,582.00
PreSchool Grant	\$ 19,840.00

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the settlement agreement regarding student #NS-01-12-13 for the terms and conditions specified.

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 – 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 – Mr. Branen updated the Board on recent policy revisions.

Negotiations – Ms. Bond-Nelson discussed the NPAEAs met and plans to continue discussions.

NJSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCSBA – next meeting scheduled for January 16, 2012.

SCESC – Ms. Mullen discussed new special education vocational programs being developed.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

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

Breakfast After the Bell – Mr. Sternberg explained to the Board the new program and discussed the results of the expanded program currently being offered at Stony Brook School.

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve for first and second reading the following revised policies:

1100	Communicating with the Public
1110	Media
1120	Board of Education Meetings
1140	Distribution of Materials by Pupils and Staff
1220	Ad Hoc Advisory Committees
1312	Community Complaints and Inquires
1330	Use of School Facilities
1410	Local Units
2130.1	Compensation and Related Benefits
2131	Superintendent
2240	Research, Evaluation and Planning
2255	Action Planning for NJQSAC
3000/3010	Concepts and Roles in Business and Non-instructional Operations; Goals and Objectives
3100	Budget Planning, Preparation and Adoption
3220/3230	State Funds; Federal Funds
3280	Gifts, Grants and Bequests
3326	Payment for Goods and Services
3327	Relations with Vendors
3451	Petty Cash Funds
3510	Operation and Maintenance of Plant
3515.1	Telephone/Portable Electronic Communication Devices
3516	Safety
3541.1	Transportation Routes and Services

3541.32	District-owned Vehicles
3542	Food Service
3542.1	Local Wellness/Nutrition
3570	District Records and Reports
4111	Recruitment, Selection and Hiring
4112.2	Certification
4112.8/4212.8	Nepotism
4115	Supervision
4116	Evaluation
4119.21/4219.21	Conflict of Interest
4131/4131.1	Staff Development; In-service Education/Visitations/Conferences
4151.2/4251.2	Family and Medical Leave
4211	Recruitment, Selection and Hiring

Current Events in Education

There were none.

Comments from the Public

Tracy Peters complemented the Board on the handling of security in our schools and the letter received from the Superintendent of Schools.

Future Agenda Items

Summer Programs – To Be Determined – John Ferguson, Diana Sefchik, John Tarnofsky, Reginald Sainte-Rose
Gettysburg Project – February 2013
Bridge Program – Jane Delaney
MALES Program – June 5, 2013 – Reginald Sainte-Rose
Rutgers Grant – Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Dr. Robert Rich
Technology Plan – May 15, 2013 – Ron Fisher
Security Review

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on January 7, 2013 at 7:30 pm for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold a Reorganization meeting on January 7, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED: Donald Sternberg