

January 7, 2013

The minutes of the organization meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on January 7, 2013 at Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Mr. Sternberg 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, the oath of office was administered to Sandra J. Dodd and Kathleen Mullen. At the call of the roll the following members were present:

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 with no members of the staff and public.

The Secretary called for nominations for the office of President for the ensuing year. Mr. Branan nominated, seconded by Mr. Allen, Linda Bond-Nelson for President. A call for a vote for President had Mrs. Bond-Nelson elected by a unanimous vote.

The meeting was turned over to Mrs. Bond-Nelson by the Secretary.

The President called for nominations for the office of Vice-President for the ensuing year. Mr. Allen nominated, seconded by Ms. Mullen, David Branan for Vice President. A call for a vote for Vice-President had Mr. Branan elected by a unanimous vote.

Organization Meeting Recommendations:

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

RESOLVED, that the following individuals be authorized on behalf of the Board of Education to sign checks issued on the General, Payroll Agency, Unemployment Trust, and Food Service accounts:

President – Linda L. Bond-Nelson
Secretary – Donald Sternberg
Treasurer of School Funds – Annette Wells

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Regular Meetings of the Board of Education be scheduled on the first and third Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July 2013, and January 2014; no meetings will be scheduled for August 2013 at this time; schedule of meetings will be confirmed by June 30, 2013 and held at Watchung School, beginning at 7:30 PM.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the COURIER NEWS and STAR LEDGER be named the official newspaper for the publication of legal notices and classified ads.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that meeting notices shall be submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, Comcast, and posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall, North Plainfield Public Library, and on the district website www.nplainfield.org.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the following banks be named approved depositories for Board of Education Investment Funds:

TD Bank
NJ/ARM

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 be it

RESOLVED, that TD Bank be named the depository for the following funds:

Payroll	General Account
Food Service	High School Student Account
Payroll Agency	Unemployment Insurance
Flexible Sending	Summer Pay

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the following banks be named as depositories for Bond and Interest Funds:

TD Bank
NJ ARM

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Bylaws and Policies of the Board of Education as amended be adopted and that all matters not contained therein be guided by existing practices.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the President make the following appointments:

Committees

Board/Staff:	Kathleen Mullen (Chair), Sandra Dodd
Communications:	Sandra Dodd (Chair), Linda Bond-Nelson, Thomas Kasper
Curriculum:	Thomas Allen (Chair), Thomas Kasper, Nancy Szaroleta
Finance & Facilities:	David Branan (Chair), Thomas Allen, Thomas Kasper
Negotiations:	Linda Bond-Nelson (Chair), Sandra Dodd, Nancy Szaroleta
Policy:	David Branan (Chair), Linda Bond-Nelson, Kathleen Mullen

Delegates

NJSBA:	Nancy Szaroleta		
Legislative:	Thomas Kasper		
SCSBA:	Thomas Kasper	Alt:	Sandra Dodd
SCESC:	Kathleen Mullen	Alt:	Sandra Dodd

Liaisons

AHS/Community School:	Kathleen Mullen		
Borough Council:	David Branan		
Education Foundation:	Thomas Allen	Alt:	Nancy Szaroleta
Youth Services	Thomas Allen	Alt:	Thomas Kasper

Parliamentarian

Donald Sternberg

Ad Hoc Committees

Evaluation	When Necessary
Personnel	When Necessary
Other	When Necessary

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to invest funds not immediately required for the payment of bills and payrolls on behalf of the school district.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint the firm of Suplee, Clooney and Company to audit the school district's financial records in accordance with statutory requirements at a fee not to exceed \$24,000.00 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013.#

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

January 7, 2013

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Capital Financial Advisors, Inc. to represent the school district in financial matters not to exceed \$7,500.00 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Edwards Engineering, Inc. to represent the school district in matters relating to construction and or maintenance projects not to exceed \$12,500.00 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Parette Somjen Architects to represent the school district as architect of record at a fee not to exceed \$125,000.00 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Greenberg, Traurig, LLP, Robert C. Epstein, Esq. as legal counsel on issues relating to construction not to exceed \$700,000.00 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013.#

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

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

January 7, 2013

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint McManimon & Scotland, LLC as bond counsel for the **2013-2014** year not to exceed \$25,000.00 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013.#

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

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

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Lindabury, McCormick & Estabrook, Anthony Sciarrillo, Esq. as legal counsel on all legal matters pertaining to the school district and as advisor on negotiations and labor relations not to exceed \$50,000.00 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013.#

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

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

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint AmeriFlex to provide services related to COBRA Administration services, not to exceed \$2,000 for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013.#

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

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

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Willis of NJ, Inc. to provide services related to property, causality, and liability insurance services for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013. Fees paid on a commission basis as per contract with provider. #

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

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

January 7, 2013

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education appoint Brown and Brown Benefit Advisors to provide services related to health insurance for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013. Fees paid on a commission basis as per contract with provider. #

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

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

The preceding appointments were made without competitive bidding as a "Professional Service" under the provisions of Local Public Contracts Law, because the services are to be rendered in each instance by persons who are authorized by law to practice a recognized profession and it is not feasible to obtain competitive bids.

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education in accordance with NJSA 18A:19-4.1 authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to make payment of bills and payrolls upon review of the Superintendent of Schools prior to presentation to the Board for approval.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the adopted schedule of Meetings Calendar for the 2013-2014 school year when regular meetings of the Board of Education will not be scheduled during the month of August 2013, the Board authorize the Superintendent of Schools to offer employment to potential candidates during this period.

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

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

January 7, 2013

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Superintendent of Schools and the School Business Administrator to develop and implement the 2013-2014 school district budget pursuant with local and State policies and regulations.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that for the period of January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013, the Board of Education employ Dr. Fernando R. Sitoy, as school physician at the rate of \$7,000 (1/2 annual salary).

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education name the Bank of New York as the paying agent for bonding.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the chart of accounts.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the awarding of contracts up to the bid threshold of \$36,000 and set the quote threshold of \$5,400.

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the following bank to act as depository for the student activity accounts for all schools funds. Elementary school accounts will be a subset of the main student account, managed within the high school account:

TD Bank

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the following tax shelter annuity companies/brokers to administer 403B and 457 plans as follows:

AIG, Valic
AXA, Equitable
Lincoln Financial Group
MetLife
LSW

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics, NJSA Title 18A:12-24.1, as attached.

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

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

Annual Travel Resolution

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

Whereas, the State of New Jersey has enacted P.L. 2007, an Act concerning school district accountability (A-5) requiring boards of education to annually approve the total amount of funds budgeted for travel and conferences for all faculty, staff, administration, and board members, and

Whereas, the Act became effective on March 15, 2007 and requires prior approval of all travel and conference costs before they are incurred, and

Whereas, there are three categories of travel and conferences that faculty, staff, administrators, and board members generally attend, including routine meetings held on annually scheduled dates, meetings of an emergent nature with little prior notice, and meetings/conferences that can be scheduled with at least several weeks notice, and

Whereas, it is practical to anticipate as many activities as possible, and receive annual approval for those and monthly approvals for unanticipated activities,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the following budget amounts, excluding federal funds, are acknowledged and costs of travel and conferences are approved for January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013:

Amount spent for travel and conferences as of June 30, 2013 - \$38,468.00
Amount established for travel and conferences, 2012-2013 - \$80,000.00
Amount established for travel and conferences, 2013-2014 - \$80,000.00

Intra-District business mileage for administrators and where required, for members of the faculty and staff, including but not limited to faculty who teach in more than one school, child study team members, secretaries, etc. at the BOE approved mileage reimbursement rate (.31) in effect at the time of travel at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 per person annually.

Out-of-District business travel for administrators to attend professional meetings and conferences affiliated with, but not limited to, the NJ Department of Education, the County Superintendent of Schools, the Somerset County Education Services Commission, professional organizations, etc. at the BOE approved mileage reimbursement rate of (.31) in effect at the time of travel at a cost not to exceed \$5,000 per person annually, and an individual conference expense not to exceed \$3,000.

Out-of-District business travel for faculty and staff to attend conferences and professional development opportunities as approved by the superintendent at the BOE approved mileage reimbursement rate (.31) in effect at the time of travel and an individual conference expense not to exceed \$1,500

Out-of-District business travel for members of the Board of Education to attend professional meetings and conferences affiliated with, but not limited to, the New

Jersey School Boards Association, the Somerset County School Boards Association, etc. at the BOE approved mileage reimbursement rate (.31) in effect at the time of travel and at the conference cost not to exceed \$2,000 per person annually.

Be It Further Resolved, that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

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

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

Companies providing maintenance services

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the following vendors for professional services related to the use of proprietary software and or authorized services related to the maintenance temperature controls and fire/security management systems of the facilities for January 1, 2013 to June 30, 2013. It is anticipated that each of their total expenditures will exceed the bid threshold for the year as follows:

- a. P.Q. Energy- Energy Management not to exceed an annual cost of \$35,000.00
- b. Fire and Securities Technologies – Alarm and Fire Protection, Simplex Systems not to exceed \$50,000.00

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorize the Board Secretary/School Business Administrator to procure goods and services utilizing state agencies (state contracts).

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 be it

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education reaffirm the Job Descriptions.

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 to adjourn the organization meeting 7:15 pm.

Mrs. Bond-Nelson called the regular meeting to order at 7:15 pm and 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

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 December 19, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of December 19, 2012.

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 in the amount of \$4,656,947.23.

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 November 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	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, there were none.

Student Representative Report

There was none.

Presentation

There was none.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Students

Andrea Wright, NPBS sophomore and honor roll student, will represent NPBS by her participation in the **Region II Chorus**. Featuring the finest high school singers in the region, the concert will be held on Sunday, January 27 at 2:00 p.m. in the Monroe Township Middle School Auditorium. Tickets are \$10.

Kendra Egbert, a senior at North Plainfield High School, has been selected by the coaching staff to represent NPBS as New Jersey joins the nation in celebrating the many achievements of girls and women in sports, particularly throughout our state. Kendra participates on the girls' girls' soccer and softball teams.

*The statewide celebration for the **National Girls and Women in Sports Day** will take place on January 27, 2013 at Seton Hall University in the Richie Regan Recreation Center. The program will include a state-wide awards luncheon, where outstanding high school and college/university female athletes will be presented with special awards from the National Association for Girls and Women in Sports. Immediately after the luncheon, all award winners and the adults accompanying them are invited to attend the women's basketball game between Seton Hall and Rutgers University. The governor is also expected to issue a proclamation identifying January 27, 2013 as the Girls and Women in Sports Day in the State of New Jersey.*

December 21 was a very busy day at East End School. First, the Citizen of the Month assembly was held to recognize those students who demonstrate outstanding character.

Kindergarten: Melanie Cruz, Madison Lagola, Alejandro Dilone, Ronny Del Cid Lopez, Alexander Pozolante, Daniel Garcia, Lily Lozada, Alessia Capodiferro, Sruti Chaparala

First Grade: Analia Dilone, Tabitha Aldrich, Kyle Irving, Ivy Chen, Melanie Claros, Brandon Sailema, Mackenzie Hathaway, Ahmir Pierce

Second Grade: Julissa Ramos, Daisy Dong, Christian Fortunato, Madison Smith, Gabriela Montenegro, Dre'yan Robinson, Chelsey Ramkrith, Emanuel Figueroa

Third Grade: Betsy Murillo, Bryan Auccapina Aliaga, Cillaty Elias, Valeria Divas, Samantha Miranda, Milena Ramos, Alexa Lourenco, Alexa Villacreses

Fourth Grade: Isabel Chango, Jeremiah Jeffries, Bridget Thomas, Nolan Pieters, Madison Bush, Azael Hernandez, Madison Hall

Vocal Music: Sreya Chaparala/K, Madeline Bozack/1, Daisy Dong/2, Nala King/3, Jaiden Stowers/4

Instrumental Music: Elan Lakes

Art: Aaron Smith/K, Jenna Butler /1, Hannah Pilco /2, Ashlie Nunez/3, Alyssa Ehling/4

Physical Education: Daniel Garcia/K, Cristian Correa /K, Ivy Chen /1, Kyle Irving/1, Dominic Gabri /2, Yasmen Zafar/2, Habiba Khamis /3, Tatiana Sarmiento/3, Nolan Pieters/4, Jabin Contreras/4

Library: Kaithlyn Sanichar/K, Samantha Reyes/1, Yasmen Zafar /2, Emely Montesdeoca /3, Zy'kir Hopkins /4

ESL: Daniel Melendez/2, Seynaba Dia/2, Zoe Lopez/3

Immediately following the assembly, music teacher **Diana VanHise** led the school community in the singing of holiday songs. Third grade teacher **Leslie Hansen** played the piano and the words were enlarged using the LCD Projector. Finally, the tradition continued this year as the staff of East End School took the stage and entertained the

audience as they sang *Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree*, *Winter Wonderland* and *We Wish You a Merry Christmas*. "This is always such a great day and because the sing-a-long was held immediately after the Citizen of the Month Assembly, many parents remained and joined us. It is so much fun to join the staff on stage and sing to the audience. I know the students enjoy watching all of us and the staff enjoyed it, too!" stated Ms. Herrmann.

West End School's First Marking Period Honor Roll:

Third Grade High Honor Roll

Julia Gomes
Sean Rassa
Yonden Sawyers
Lily Spanton

Third Grade Honor Roll

Axel Acosta
Jordan Cheatham
Alicia Dey
Elizabeth Dustin
Bryant Fiallos
Alejandra Garcia
Zuri Felton
Asia Hargrove
Madison Kasper
Tyler Kasper
Raquel Kruszczyński
Melanie Martinez Santana
Jason Melendez
Carlos Menendez
Ruth Munoa
Carly Robertson
Toby Robinson
Gerardo Rodriguez
Andrew Scopel
Laiba Shahzad
Adam Stevens
Nathaniel Taylor
Alexander Thompson
Shaughn Williams

Fourth Grade Honor Roll

Christine Aguilar
Hannah Allphin
Tiffany Chacon Figueroa
Maldini Chavez
Cynthia Contreras
Ashley Dawsey
Doug DeSousa
John Donnelly
Adam Elsaïs
Amanda Gaetan
Dylan Galiszewski
Tatiana Gonzalez
Dajuan Gregory
Ava Hanlein
Valerie Havrilla
Bryanna Llerena
Alejandro Luque
Jason Mastroianni
Karen Melendez Alas
Liam Miller
Olafade Omole
Andres Oronoz
Adrian Otieno
Sukritio Srinivas
Justin Vargas

December PRIDE Awards: At the December **WE PRIDE** assembly, the following students were recognized: Second grade teacher **Patricia Russell** recognized **Giancarlo Chuquitarco** as a responsible student for being determined yet mannerly, made wise, responsible decisions and he consistently interacted with students and teachers in a positive way. Second grade teacher **Christine Birnbaum** nominated **Carly Coslit** for being a responsible second grader at West End School. Carly worked hard every day to follow all of the rules in the classroom and in the school; she completed all of her homework every night, and has been a wonderful friend. Third grade teacher **Brian Bigden** recognized **Sandra Alfaro** for always doing what was expected of her in class. She read while waiting for the next subject in class, she raised her hand when she wanted to

participate and she did all her work neatly and quietly. Sandra was constantly on “Outstanding” on the behavior chart. She has been a great role model for her peers. Third grade teacher **Debbie Lysicatos** nominated **Jovany Paredes**. Jovany is a responsible student who has been always kind and considerate to his classmates. He completed all of his homework each and every night and obeyed the school and classroom rules each and every day. **Band Awards: Dorian Parreott, instrumental teacher**, nominated **Dylan Galiszewski** and **Jasmin Guillr** for being organized and prepared for lessons each week.

Schools

Stony Brook School

Stony Brook’s Third Annual Talent Show: On December 20, 2012 the multi-purpose room at Stony Brook was the backdrop for Stony Brook’s third annual Talent Show. The Stony Brook students and teachers proved once again that tremendous talent fills the rooms of Stony Brook School. Directed by staff members **Leanne Borbely, Kelly Feeney, Andrew Taylor and Anne Corkery**, the show included seventeen different performances by students. The performances included songs, dance routines, small skits and Stony Brook’s very own comedian. The VIP/guest of honor was **Maria Araneo**, supervisor of special education. The Hosting/MC team for the show included fourth graders: **Bhavya Patel, Jasmine Solis and Joshua Njoku**. The “Who’s Who in the Cast” included grade three students: **Jamie Aguilar, Makiyah Edwards, Tania Molina-Ramos, Joshua Njoku,Scarlett Rojas, Antony Salazar, Sophia Sanchez, Ashley Reyes, Qwa'Lir Carter, Elizabeth Ellis, Joseline Garcia, Bhavya Patel, Natalia Valverde-Galarza, Mekhi Mays, Elsy Amaya, Viviana Blanco, Drew Evans, Karla Garcia, Diana Mendez, Rebekah Narine, Kenny Perez, Alriel Spurgeon, Jasmine Zaher, Lindsay Depaz, Henry Figueroa, Talitha Hubbard, Aaron Joye, Gabriella Navarrete, Ashley Ordonez, Jennifer Salazar, Olivia Sheridan, Alejandro Solis-Ramos and Jasmin Solis**. The closing and grand finale was the song “We Are the World” performed by the entire cast with audience participation. “There was not a dry eye in the house as we all realized how grateful we were for this special event. Special thanks to everyone for a great afternoon of fun and families as we joined together to celebrate the talent at Stony Brook School,” exclaimed **Cathy Kobylarz, principal**.

Morris Museum Visits Stony Brook School: On November 20, 2012, and then again on November 27, Stony Brook School’s students were treated to a visit from **Morris Museum's Outreach Educator, Michele Zarcone** for a glimpse of life in the past. Sponsored by **Stony Brook's PTA**, the Morris Museum's Outreach Program visits Stony Brook annually. The outreach programs have themes related to the arts, sciences and history, which work to support the classroom curriculum. Boxes of handling objects, working models, interpretive materials and educational games are all part of the outreach experience. This year, the kindergarten students worked with Ms. Zarcone in a dinosaur program titled, “The Prehistoric Earth.” Ms. Zarcone led the students through an imaginary journey back to prehistoric times when dinosaurs, mammals and reptiles ruled the world. The students viewed pictures and handled materials including fossils. Students also learned how scientists named the dinosaurs by using Latin and Greek root words. The first through fourth grade outreach program was titled, “American Indian Cultures.” In this program, Ms. Zarcone helped the students understand how the Iroquois, Sioux, Hopi, and Indians of the Northwest Coast Tribes lived their lives using natural resources to make tools, clothing and other objects to survive. Each of the tribes survived and built a culture

based on the geographical surroundings where they lived. The students also learned many different facts about natural resources and the Native American way of life.

West End School

Holiday Sing: All of West End School's students, staff, and parent visitors were led in song by choral director **Jon Scott** and the fourth grade chorus members at the annual Holiday Sing. Special guest performers appeared: Frosty the Snowman, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, the Elves, along with Santa and Mrs. Claus, too. "It was a great way to celebrate the holiday season," remarked **Beth Sobel, principal**. Many thanks to the following teachers for making this such an enjoyable event: **Suzanne Parmelee** and **Jonathan Scott** and the cast of characters: Frosty, **Wendy Alvarez**; Rudolph, **Lindsey Gall**; Elves, **Heather Morgan and Nicole Rivlin**; Mrs. Claus, **Madelaine Colas**; Santa Claus, **Chris Sepesi**; and reindeer: Emma & Wally

East End School

All fourth grade students and their teachers, **Kathy Porter, Katie Shuster, Nicole Rossi** and **Sue Dahlinger** gathered in the community room on December 14 to listen to **Kathleen Herrmann, principal**, read Patricia Polacco's *Pink n' Say*. The historical fiction story takes place during the Civil War and Ms. Herrmann provided some background knowledge and discussed vocabulary so that the students would be able to make better connections. "I always admired this author and she sends a powerful message in all of her stories. Everyone enjoyed listening and Ms. Shuster used the ELMO to enlarge the pictures as I read aloud. We are planning to come together more often as a grade level so they can listen to more authentic literature," remarked Ms. Herrmann

Somerset School/NPMS

Ninth Annual Student Council "Partnership" Food Drive: The Student Council "Partnership" just completed its ninth year with a very successful food drive campaign. The "Partnership" joined together the **Somerset School and North Plainfield Middle School (NPMS) Student Councils** as well as the **NPMS National Junior Honor Society** to collect a large bounty of food in their classrooms and homerooms since mid-October, which was earmarked for the **North Plainfield Food Pantry**. In addition, the middle school students and teachers organized a 7th grade vs. 8th grade kickball game that raised over \$200 through a bake sale and ticket sales for the event. The students from the North Plainfield Middle School Student Council and National Junior Honor Society joined the Somerset School Student Council to sort the donated food items. Students, parents and faculty volunteers worked together to sort, box, label, and load the food into cars and then transport the food to the local North Plainfield Food Pantry. Throughout the whole process, students were enthusiastic about helping their community and local families.

The Student Council "Partnership" was established in 2004 by **Donna Patton**, Somerset School physical education and health teacher. The mission of the "Partnership" has always been to re-stock the shelves of the North Plainfield Food Pantry for the winter holiday season. Students worked together in a collaborative effort on this fall project, and not even Hurricane Sandy could deter them from this endeavor. The priorities through this community-based project are to have middle school students provide mentorship and guidance to the grade 5 and 6 students resulting in a co-existence of teamwork, cooperation, leadership, respect and camaraderie. "The culmination of this food drive brought together faculty, staff, administrators, and students and we are all particularly proud of this community project and the 'Partnership,'" remarked Reginald Sainte-Rose, principal of

Somerset School. Special thanks to **Lindsey Mulry** and **Megan Farrell**, NPMS advisors for their tireless efforts and to **John Ferguson** and **Mr. Sainte-Rose** for their wonderful support.

NPMS

“The Giving Tree”: A study in Buddhism: As part of an interdisciplinary unit, students on Seventh Grade Team One, read Shel Silverstein’s famous book, *The Giving Tree*, to connect the theme of selflessness with the Buddhist tenet of suffering. Social studies teacher **Danielle Fauci** introduced the students to Buddhism during their discussion of Asian culture, while reading teacher **Pat Bailey** had students research the life of Siddhartha Gautama, a spiritual teacher from the Indian subcontinent on whose teachings Buddhism was founded. English teacher **Kate Friedman** assisted students in creating their own “giving tree” with written explanations on “when we give a gift, that sense of sharing stays with us and is always renewed with every remembrance.”

Medieval Learning Festival: Recently, Seventh Grade Team Three, held a day-long medieval festival in the library. Students participated in a variety of interdisciplinary activities to conclude their learning about the Middle Ages. Science teacher **Mike Nardi** and math teacher **Dawn Kleinfield** facilitated a series of experiments to show the exponential rate at which the bubonic plague quickly swept over the European continent. Social teacher **Kristen Didyoung** had students demonstrate their knowledge of the feudal system and medieval architecture by having students compete in a “castle building contest.” Working in teams, students used sugar cubes and icing to construct elaborate royal edifices. Lastly, reading teacher **Sue Sapega** and English teacher **Argie Kantilierakis** inspired the students to recall the poetic and historical meaning behind the artistic expressions of stained glass windows found in religious institutions throughout Europe. Working cooperatively, students created their own stained glass windows using tissue paper and transparencies. Twenty-six angels, each honoring one victim of the Sandy Hook Elementary School tragedy, were created, and will be displayed in the middle school showcase as a poignant memorial.

NPMS

On October 12, students of the creative writing class and the *Canuckling* Club attended the **Dodge Poetry Festival** at the NJ PAC in Newark, NJ. Accompanied by *Canuckling* Club advisors, **John DeLaurentis** and **Chelsea Howson**, as well as English teacher **Nicole DiTrani** and student teacher **Kailynn Barbour**, twenty students enjoyed poetry performances on the main stage, small poetry discussion sessions, and shopping in the book store tent. The students were enthusiastic in describing the event as meaningful and fun. “All in all, it was a very memorable day,” remarked Mr. DeLaurentis

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for December was confined space awareness. Related safety training was provided via our on-line employee training system and all employees completed their assigned training as scheduled. The safety topic for January is vehicle safety.

Safety Topic - Transportation. The safety topic for January is vehicle safety for school bus and van drivers.

Right To Know (RTK) – New Employees. As required, a mandatory training session was conducted with all new employees on December 11, 2012. This training session 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 received. A work order is currently pending.
- Harrison House – An internal work order has been generated to repair the rear entrance awning that was destroyed during the storm. Work order in process.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The following emergency preparedness improvements have been approved and action is pending at this time. See notes below for additional information.

- A direct fiber optic link to the Operations Office at 63 Greenbrook Road. A purchase order has been issued for this work and the line should be completed within thirty days.
- Electrical load evaluations of the stand-by generator at the Somerset School. This evaluation is pending.
- A stand-by generating system for the Operations Office at 63 Greenbrook Road. A purchase order has been issued for this work. Additionally, we are in the process of obtaining quotations for some minor roof reinforcement that must be completed prior to the generator installation.
- A wireless router back-up system for our network systems (Verizon). In progress.

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 was an onsite evacuation. The majority of our schools, including our Alternative High School Program at Somerset, completed their assigned drills. NOTE: Due to the tragedy that occurred in Newtown, CT, Fire & Security Drills that were scheduled for the end of the month were cancelled.

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.

- Minor boiler repairs at one location to comply with a recent state inspection.
- The installation of a radio *repeater was completed at NPHS/MS.

*All of our high & middle school radios have been reprogrammed to narrow band. All other district operated radios are in the process of being reprogrammed at this time.

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. This location is 90% complete.

West End School – All panel arrays have been completed and a system tie-in was completed on November 28, 2012. This location is 90% complete.

Somerset School – All panel arrays have been completed and a system tie-in was completed on November 30, 2012. This location is 90% complete.

High & Middle School – All associated equipment has been loaded to the roof(s) and installation is in progress. This location is 50% complete.

*The informational kiosks, for all of our schools, are on back order at this time.

WATCHUNG BUILDING

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close out documents.

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: Minor punch list items, associated with the additional heating loop in the gymnasium, are being corrected at this time. A close out meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

DISTRICT-WIDE RESTROOM PROJECT

Restroom Renovations. UPDATE: As-built drawings for this project are currently being reviewed by our architect. If approved, a close-out meeting will be scheduled.

DISTRICT-WIDE WIRELESS UPGRADE PROJECT

UPDATE: The majority of the work associated with this project was completed on December 26, 2012. We are currently awaiting the arrival of two switches for the high school. Once installed, the system(s) will be tested at all schools.

DISTRICT-WIDE LIGHTING UPGRADE 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: As scheduled, start-up for this project began on Friday, December 21, 2012 with the majority of materials and equipment being delivered to project locations. Please review the following information for locations and associated upgrades that were *completed over the holiday break.

- *NPHS/MS – The three gymnasiums, including the wrestling gym, received lighting upgrades to provide increased coverage and to reduce energy consumption.
- *Stony Brook School – The gymnasium, classrooms, hallways and offices received lighting upgrades to provide increased coverage and to reduce energy consumption. In addition, lighting motion sensors were installed that will automatically shut off lighting in areas when they are not in use.
- Harrison School - All classrooms, hallways and offices received lighting upgrades to provide increased coverage and to reduce energy consumption. In addition, lighting motion sensors were installed that will automatically shut off lighting in areas when they are not in use.
- *Watchung Building – The meeting room, hallways and offices received lighting upgrades to provide increased coverage and to reduce energy consumption. In addition, lighting motion sensors were installed that will automatically shut off lighting in areas when they are not in use.
- *East End School - The gymnasium, multi-purpose room, classrooms, hallways and offices received lighting upgrades to provide increased coverage and to reduce energy consumption. In addition, lighting motion sensors were installed that will automatically shut off lighting in areas when they are not in use. In an effort to further reduce energy consumption and to increase efficiency, one roof mounted air conditioning unit, including the condenser, was replaced as part of the scope of this project.

*These locations were not completed due to a lack of materials, manpower and/or due to time constraints. The remaining work is being scheduled at this time.

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: Due to the hurricane, information from our architect was delayed. 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 its 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. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that:

WHEREAS Mary Elizabeth Winsor, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire effective February 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. Winsor 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 January 7, 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. Winsor.

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 with Mr. Allen, Mr. Branan, and Mr. Kasper abstaining, that the Board of Education approve the salaries as indicated on the attached lists for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years as per the negotiated Agreement.

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

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 Alan Adams, ESL/bilingual teacher at West End School, 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	

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 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Alyson DiFiore as an elementary teacher at West End School at the BA/Step 3-4(3) annual salary rate of \$54,410, effective January 8, 2013. (Ms. DiFiore will replace Nicole Rivlin.)

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 employment of the following individuals as district substitute paraprofessionals, effective January 8, 2013:

Robert Foote	Shirley Santonastaso
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 employment of the following individuals as district K-12 substitute teachers:

Michael Bruner
Stephanie Falcone

Thea Strong

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 accept the resignation of Jacquelyn Spaventa as student council co-advisor and as testing coordinator at East End School, effective 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

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 appoint Nicole Rivlin to the following co-curricular positions at East End School, effective January 8, 2013. (Ms. Rivlin will replace Jacquelyn Spaventa.)

Testing Coordinator	\$250
Co-Advisor to Student Council	\$741 (to be prorated)

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 rescind the recommendation appointing Nicole DiTrani as co-advisor for the Canuck Mentors.

Further, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the appointment of Jennifer Sloan from that of Co-Advisor to Advisor of the Canuck Mentors at the stipend of \$1289.

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 Rafaela Burgos as a probationary custodian, effective January 8, 2013 through April 7, 2013, to be prorated at the Custodian/Step 1 rate of \$37,720.

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 Michael Mulry as a teacher of social studies at NPHS at the BA/Step 3-4(3) annual salary rate of \$54,410, to be prorated effective February 1, 2013. (Mr. Mulry will replace Mary Elizabeth Winsor.)

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 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 grant Michelle Sandoval, language arts teacher at Somerset School, an unpaid leave of absence effective March 26, 2013 through May 31, 2013. (Ms. Sandoval will be absent from March 11 through March 25, 2013 using accrued sick days.)

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 that the Board of Education approve home instruction for identified student HI-32-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff pending a child study team evaluation, effective January 2, 2013.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved 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, Inc. as indicated:

	<u>Effective Date</u>
HI-32-12-13	January 4, 2013
HI-33-12-13	January 3, 2013

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve classified student NEU-07-12-13 undergo a neurological evaluation to be provided by Dr. Kavita Sinha at the cost of \$325.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve classified student NEU-08-12-13 undergo a neurological evaluation to be provided by Dr. Kavita Sinha at the cost of \$325.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve classified student PSY-09-12-13 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Elisa Dulay at the cost of \$825.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve classified student PT-56-12-13 receive physical therapy to be provided by Midland School staff **from** two 20-minute sessions per week **to** one 20-minute session and one 40-minute session per week, an increase of \$38 per week for an additional 20 minutes.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve home instruction for the following classified students for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective January 4, 2013:

HI-31-12-13	HI-32-12-13
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Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-33-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective January 2, 2013.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve home instruction for the following classified students for up to ten hours per week to be provided by Education, Inc. at the cost of \$45.50 per hour, as indicated:

HI-34-12-13	December 21, 2012 through January 4, 2013
HI-35-12-13	December 19, 2012 through January 2, 2013

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of classified student UUUUU-12-13 at Montgomery Academy at the per diem cost of \$298.29, effective January 8, 2013.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-36-12-13 for up to ten hours per week for thirty days, to be provided by district staff, effective December 18, 2012.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the following classified students each undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$150 per hour for up to three hours:

PSY-10-12-13

PSY-11-12-13

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve a change in the out-of-district placement of classified student VVVVV-12-13 from Montgomery Academy to East Mountain School at the cost of \$308.37 per day, effective December 7, 2012.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-37-12-13 to be provided by Gen Psych through their educational service, Obanta Prep, for up to five hours a week, effective January 2, 2013.

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board approve line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated November 30, 2012.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated January 7, 2013.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept and file the Review of Chapter 192/193 Auxiliary Services to Nonpublic Students FY 2010-2011 Report, case #SAAU-14-9-12, completed by the State of New Jersey Department of Education Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education authorize the administration in conjunction with the Somerset County Educational Services Commission (SCESC) to enact the attached corrective action plan for the findings detailed in the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC) Report #SAAU-14-9-12 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 in accordance with the documentation provided to the Board:

Finding #1. The Local Educational Agency (LEA) approves every 407-1 application for students prior to authorizing services or payments to SCESC.

Corrective Action Plan:

The LEA authorizes in writing on an annual basis (per agreement) the SCESC to review 407-1 forms for eligibility and accuracy. The SCESC will forward all 407-1 forms after review to the LEA or their designee for signature prior to providing any services.

Continued.....

Continued

Finding #2. The LEA and the SCESC amend all applicable procedures for nonpublic student service reporting to ensure that only students that meet the eligibility requirements of the Department of Education prescribed by N.J.A.C. 6A:14-6.2(e) and the prescribed publication entitled **Chapter 192 and 193 for Nonpublic Schools** are reported on state aid applications.

Corrective Action Plan:

All 407-1 forms are verified for compliance with eligibility requirements based on supporting documentation, such as standardized test scores and/or ISP's for each student or service. The Nonpublic/Public Program Principal reviews a sampling of 407-1 forms quarterly to ensure compliance.

Finding #3. The LEA verifies all Chapter 192/193 services with the SCESC as part of the Project Completion Report process.

Corrective Action Plan:

The SCESC prepares monthly billing, attendance records, and roster information, verifies accuracy, and submits to the LEA for their review and verification.

Finding #4. The LEA will develop procedures to ensure that all students reported on the Project Completion Report have all necessary program information, such as 407-1 files, proof of service eligibility and provision of service records available for review.

Corrective Action Plan:

The SCESC provides the LEA with copies of all student files as documentation is completed. See #3, method of implementation above.

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Communications – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Finance & Facilities – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Policy Meeting – next meeting scheduled for January 14, 2013 at 5:00 pm.

Negotiations – no meeting scheduled at this time.

NJSBA – Mr. Kasper mentioned the next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2013.

SCSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCESC – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Old Business

There was none

New Business

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mrs. Mullen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve for second reading the following policies:

3600	Evaluation of Business and Non-instructional Operations
4118.3/4218.3	Staff Grievances
4215	Supervision

Discussion was held regarding professional service contracts for architects, auditor, board attorney/ construction attorney, financial consultants, and health benefits advisor.

Code of Ethics – Ms. Bond-Nelson discussed and reviewed with the Board the Code of Ethics for School Board members.

Mr. Sternberg reviewed and discussed the SCESC and OFAC Audit Review of Nonpublic Services for the 2010-2011 school year.

Current Events in Education

There were none.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

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 – TBD
- Mid-Year Violence and Vandalism report – Dr. Robert Rich

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on February 6, 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 to executive session 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. Upon return to public session, action may be taken.

January 7, 2013

The Board reconvened to public session at 9:30 pm.

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

BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education hereby approves the long term suspension of student #13214 through June 20, 2013. This Board shall review this matter on a bi-monthly basis.

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

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board of Education hereby approves the long term suspension of student #130113 through June 20, 2013. This Board shall review this matter on a bi-monthly basis.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Kasper and unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg