

February 6, 2013

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on February 6, 2013 at Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Mrs. Bond-Nelson called the meeting to order and made the following announcement: In accordance with NJSA 10:4-10, required advance notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk; submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, AND Comcast; posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall and the North Plainfield Public Library and the school district website. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

Thomas Allen
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 3 members of the staff and public.

Introduction of New Staff

There was none.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the public session minutes of January 7, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of January 7, 2013.

Comments from the Public

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

Student Representative Report

Dr. Birnbaum mentioned that Jihad is the recipient of the Comcast Award.

The student report was presented by Jihad Womack as follows:

Drama Club

The Drama Club put on the first ever NPHS Mystery Dinner on January 18th @ 7pm. The drama club decorated the cafeteria and hosted approximately 35 guests who all played characters in this 80s themed mystery. Food was donated from various restaurants in the area and the guests enjoyed the food and fun of solving which one of them "did it." At the end of the evening the drama club members awarded: Best Dressed, Best Actor, and Mr. Moneybags (the guest who bribed their way into riches). It was an enjoyable evening.

The Drama Club has begun rehearsals for the Spring Musical: Hairspray. They have learned several musical numbers, choreographed several numbers and have blocked out the first half of the production. The Drama Club also competed in the annual Governor's

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Award STANJ theatre competition on Saturday, January 26th. Although the Drama Club was balancing many items on their plates (school, midterms, musical, mystery dinner, etc), the students worked hard, competed well, received great feedback and four students placed 7th in their respective categories: Alex Carrillo placed for Comedy Monologue, Sam Mauro and Joanne Vega for Comedy Pairs, and Kai Hawkins and Joanne Vega for Improvisational Pairs. Overall, a great month for the Drama Club.

Finally, the weekly mandated Drama Club meetings have switched to Tuesdays due to Musical rehearsals on Monday. These meetings are well used to inform and keep members up-to-date. The executives have several incentives to do with fundraising, philanthropy and events; they have purchased Drama Club Breast Cancer awareness t-shirts, and also purchased a "REGULAR" Drama shirt for STANJ.

Interact Club

The Interact Club students have been working as tutors for a month now. I'm pleased to inform you that our club has helped many 7th and 8th grade students who are struggling in math. Mr. Ferguson along with other teachers has expressed their gratitude and happiness with our tutoring program.

On January 16th we went to our 4th Rutgers basketball game. Sixteen Interact students attended.

On January 17th we attended the incoming 9th Grade Parent Orientation. Four Interact students (Nicole Pazmino, John Havrilla, Jairo Acosta, & Khamayah McClain) were present with me. We had a table with the Interact banner and pictures from our activities.

On January 18th we had a bake sale and raised \$62.75.

On January 23rd we had our 5th Rutgers game. It was a fun but busy night. Sixteen Interact students were able to come to the game.

Upcoming Activities: More Rutgers games, bake sales, pizza sales, order Interact t-shirts, blood drive on April 12th.

Canuckling

The Canuckling Club has continued to have productive meetings, as the members have been reviewing poetry submissions and art work for this year's theme, Juxtapositions. We have also discussed the possibility of having a club T-shirt, which has brought forth a fruitful discussion and excitement among the members. As advisors, we are confident that this year's issue will strive to reach the Gold status, as was won for Canuckling 2012. Our editor-in-chief, Elizabeth Okereke, has shown her leadership skills and is helping guide the club in the direction of much success.

H.O.P.E.

Hope Club is preparing for Ocean Days at Rutgers in April. There will be two teams, Middle School and High School, who will participate. Currently, we are studying migration and depth changes in demersal (bottom dwelling) fish that are found off the Jersey Shore or in its bays. The theme of Ocean Days is Climate Change.

In January, HOPE Club went on its first winter ecosystem field trip, specifically to Duke Farms. Despite the cold, we observed several plant and animal species and how they adapt to survive winter. There are some birds that winter here in New Jersey and migrate north in the spring!

Tunlaw

Students were excited to sell Valentine messages that will be published in the February issue of the school newspaper. Editors are currently working to complete this month's edition. Interest in Tunlaw remains strong, and new members continue to join.

National Honor Society

Held NHS meeting to assess tutoring program established
Members of the National Honor Society have provided additional support to students in Math PASS.

Threes special tutoring sessions were scheduled and held for Physics, Michael Sani and Kevin Sani, provided weekly tutoring for those students requiring additional help. Weekly tutoring is scheduled for February 4th for additional physics sessions.

Steppers

Currently the Steppers are performing for boys' or girls' varsity basketball games each week. Although numbers are down, we still maintain a high spirit during the performance. Holding practice two time a week for 1.5 to 2 hours each practice to perfect performances.

Winter Guard

The NPHS Winterguards will be hosting their first ever home show in the NPHS Gym this Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 4 pm. We are hosting 15 units including 9 local Winterguards, 4 Percussion lines and our two teams.

Freshman Class

Freshman Class is planning an Empanada Sale on February 22nd and are working on their spring fundraiser – Jelly Belly sale.

Art Club

The art club has been working on a variety of projects. Last week some of the students were creating lanyards, while others worked on small heart boxes that will be given as gifts for Valentine's Day. Many of the HS members prefer to work on creating larger scaled paintings.

French Honor Society

The French Honor Society held its third crepe sale. We sold out so we'll be back by popular demand in March. They are also busy preparing for the induction of new members in March.

NJ Science League

First test was on Thursday, January 10, 2013 at Scotch Plains/Fanwood High School. Full teams attended for NPHS for Bio 1 & 2 plus Chem 1 & Physics 1. Competition was fierce between Watchung Hills, NPHS, Scotch Plains, & Governor Livingston attending. For example, for the first time in Mr. Kammerer's 13 year memory for being part of NPHS, Watchung Hills achieved 2 x 1005 on Physics 1 test --- an unheard of event!!

Next event is test on Thursday, February 14, 2013 @ Watchung Hills. In March we'll be at Gov. Livingston and in April at NPHS. Tests are always 2nd Thursday of January, February, March, & April.

Senior Class

In January we held weekly meetings to discuss further prom planning and fundraisers. In January the seniors went canning at QuickChek in North Plainfield, held a fundraiser at Buffalo Wild Wings, held another Wendy's night and also had a bake sale.

During the month of February, the senior class is planning to have the prom invitations selected, printed, and ready for distribution in March. As for fundraisers, the seniors will be holding a Valentine Day fundraiser, sponsoring a faculty vs senior class basketball game on February 28th at 3:30 pm in the HS gym, and another Wendy's night. The advisor will also be organizing the annual "Teacher for a Day" which will take place on March 15th.

Canuck Mentor

The Canuck Mentors collected over 400 pairs of jeans from students for homeless teenagers around the United States.

The Canuck Mentors launched a 7th and 8th grade mentoring program and inducted 6 new members for the expansion.

Presentations

There were none.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Staff

Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Superintendent of North Plainfield Public Schools, received the **2013 Educational Leadership Award** for her support of the arts and for her understanding of the importance of the arts in a student's education. Dr. Birnbaum was honored at a ceremony at Kean University on Sunday, February 3, 2013 by the Arts Administrators of New Jersey (AANJ). The ceremony also honored high school students from across the state, who submitted artwork to the AANJ's "Emerging Artists" competition.

Students

We are pleased to announce that **Jihad Womack** has been selected as a recipient of the **2013-2014 Comcast Leaders and Achievers@Scholarship**. This award, funded through the Comcast Foundation, recognizes high school seniors from Comcast communities for commitment to community service, academic achievement and demonstrated leadership. To acknowledge these accomplishments, scholarship recipients receive a one-time grant of \$1,000. Comcast is committed to recognizing the efforts of young people who are making a difference in their communities, and preparing them to become future leaders.

Congratulations to the **Winter Track Team** for their performance at the **State Sectional Indoor Track Championships** yesterday in Toms River, New Jersey. **Brandon Selby** claimed **1st place** in the 55 meter dash and became **North Plainfield's 1st Sectional State Champion**; he also took **5th place** in high jump. **Omar Bailey** took **6th place** in the 400 meter dash and **Matt Barbosa** took **6th place** in the 55 meter high hurdles. The boys' 1600 meter relay team of **Keith Jeffries, Matt Barbosa, Jamar Harris, and Omar Baily** placed **4th**. These boys will compete in the **Group 2 State Indoor Track Championships** on Saturday, February 16 at 3:00 p.m.

Stony Brook's Students Featured in an Art Show: Somerset County Park Commission's **Environmental Education Center** presented its 21st Annual Children's Show featuring the work of 26 Stony Brook Students. Located in Bridgewater Township on a 185 acre park along the North Branch of the Raritan River, the center is an 18,000 square foot building housing classrooms, an auditorium, a nature art gallery with temporary exhibits, an environmental book and gift shop, as well as a natural history and environmental library. This art show was titled, "*Nature through a Child's Eye.*" Stony Brook School's **art teacher, Sonya Larado**, used her finest artistic abilities to organize and create the displays for the show and inspired the students' work. The following students' work was proudly displayed: **Kindergarten** – "**Sponge Bob Jellyfish**" by **David Caiza**, "**The Red spotted Owl**" by **Ryan Cardenas-Colis**, "**Owl Beast**" by **Lauren Duncan**, "**Owls**" by **Keyla Matamoros**, "**Jellyfish**" by **David McMillan**, "**Jellyfish Car**" by **Tony Perez** and "**Sam**" by **Angel Rafael**; **Grade One** – "**In the Garden**" by **Gabrielle Aguirre**, "**Fanny the Flower**" by **Mariam Malik**, "**On the Farm**" by **Jan Paucar**, "**The Bright Sunflowers**" by **Sarah Zaher**; **Grade Two** – "**Apples**" by **Jaylen Bligen**, "**The Little Chicken That Looks Like A Butterfly**" by **Samaria Loeza-DeJesus**, "**Corn**" by **Hamza Malik**, "**Pirate Corn**" by **Anthony Manzano**, "**A Rooster that Looks at the Sun**" by **Uriel Palacios**; **Grade Three** – "**Fall**" by **Karinet Castro Ramos**, "**Leaves Are falling Out of a Tree**" by **Joel Guevara**, "**Frosty and Rudolph**" by **Mekhi Mays**, "**Colorful Leaves**" by **Kristobal Olivares**, "**The Beautiful Leaves**" by **Nathalia Padilla**, "**Winter Bird**" by **Kevin Portillo**, "**Tweety Bird**" by **Amaya Shallo**; **Fourth Grade** – "**The Blue Jay**" by **Drew Evans**, "**Angry Birds**" by **AhsleyJara** and "**Blue Jay 2**" by **Ariela Romero**. **Character Education** advisors **Danielle Fauci** and **David Hooker** proudly announced last month's middle school recipients of the "Students of the Month" and "Awesome Acts" at the January Character Education assembly. The following students were recognized for their outstanding academic performance and their demonstration of December's trait of "caring for others":

Students of the Month

Team 7-1: Teresita Lozada
Radha Patel

7th Grade Awesome Acts

David Michael Kenny
Jasmine Lattimore

Team 7-2:	Allison Gamez Adam Globis	Sheila Nunez Jason Plietez
Team 7-3:	Denilson Saavedra Kalin Barrett	Aisha Shahzad
Team 8-1:	Jeremiah Weaver Savina Lepak	<u>8th Grade Awesome Acts</u> Brendan Cheung
Team 8-2:	Daniela Barriga Raymundo Barrios	Aldana Espinoza Kristen Ordonez
Team 8-3:	Aldana Espinosa Jesse Barros	Eric Torres Dennise Valencia

NPMS High Honor Roll – Marking Period 1

Grade Seven

Daniela Abrantes
Menatallah Bahnasy
Jessica Cerdena
Fiona Ting Chen
Jessica Dardignac
Ayah Elsais
Victoria Fellin
Estefany Giron
Jenna Jean Guevara
Anne-Gaelle Joseph
Crispreet Kaur
Jared Lesaca
Julia Recinos Peres
Arelis Romero
Isha Shahid
Nabil Twyman, Jr.

Grade Eight

Jenely Amaya	Dexter Jackson, Jr.
Kevin Andrade	Victoria Kisling
Abdelaziz Bahnasy	Yanqing Liang
Adrianna Baker	Emily McGrath
Charles Cardena	Cierra Mendez
Joselynnne Castellanos	Kenny Navas
Brendan Cheung	Sigrid Soto
John Donatelli	Ross St. Cerny
Amina Elsais	Jonnelle Steward
Nikita Forrester	Grace Tapia-Alvarado
Aniyha Gaddis	Emely Velastegui
Karen Gordon	Lauren Ventriglia
	Christopher Warren

Seventh Grade Honor Roll

Kayla Adams	Lance Evans	Jefferson Matos
Adeshola Adedeji	Abigail Funelas	Olga Metz
Emely Alphonse	Mikaela Given	Olivia Molenaar
Joseph Andrade	Tony Godwin	Tamira Muthoni
Reilly Appezzato	Humberto Grisales	Sheila Nunez
Ashley Atubi	Jordan Grundy	Shaniyah O'Neil
Kiora Aurelien	Abraham Guillen	Lyle Lovette Pacla
Erika Barbosa	Elizabeth Hernandez	Radha Patel
Kalin Barrett	Brittany Herring	Evelyn Perez Moreno
David Barriga Yumiguano	Mohamed Hosny	Kimberly Perz
Rose Batario	Nadia Hussein	Alyssa Pompey
Darian Belle	Walter Jackson	Kelly Reyes
Matthew Carranza	Benjamin Joback	Tyler Rodriguez
Yesli Claros Garcia	Taqveem Kausar	Naica Sanon
Zachary Conroy	Kate Kelly	Jaclyn Scopel
Francisco Corral	David Kenny	Aisha Shahzad
Jackson Coslit	Alexander Kushnir	Jacy Silva
Jane Crowther	Jasmine Lattimore	Seneda Sloan
Rikka Del Rosario	Jada Lawson	Brandon Smith
Cristina Dulche	Janis Lima	Tyler Smith
Joseph Duncan	Teresita Lozada	Daniel Spontak
Andre Eason	Salma Mady-Abraham	Trevor Sullivan
Floyd Ebanks	Stephanie Martinez Ramos	Selena Turcios Reyes
Jimmy Urquiza	Bruce Weyand	Alejandro Yumiguano

Eighth Grade Honor Roll

Giancarlo Acevedo	Mikayla Duncan	Zoya Mobeen
Eric Acosta-Castro	Alexandria Dustin	Joshua Mooney
Johan Agudelo	Fares Elkhoul	Daniel Mora
Raja Ahmed	Kevin Forrester	Valentina Orejarena
Andrew Amato	Mirian Fuentes	Matthew Orellana
Carolina Andrade Collao	Sindy Garcia	Aracely Pacheco
Kimberly Angulo Orozco	James Gardner	Laurina Palin-Thomas
Sebastian Aviles-Carmona	Allen Gavilanes	Frank Pellegrino
Daniela Barriga	Nermeen Girgis	Michael Pena
Jesse Barros	Christina Guerra	Christian Perez
Katrina Bavosa	Brandon Haley	Mohammad Rana
Vanessa Borja	Jennifer Hercules Canales	Bianca Rodriguez
Dayana Calderon	Heather Hernandez	Oscar Romero Figueroa
Kaitlyn Carreras	Karin Hernandez	Juan Rosa Batista
Jacqueline Chic	Matthew Hernandez	Luis Ruis
Emely Chicaiza	Antoine Izaguirre	Amaiana Sajiad
Jared Cook	Rosario Jordan Freire	Joseph Salguero
Jessie Corchado	Ricky Kelly	Sidney Sevilla Torres
Samuel Cosby	Sefa Kolubah	Mayra Silva
Mildre Cruz	Lauren Lattimore	Luhana Souza
Zimirah Debarros	Kevin Lozada	Noah Suris
Emily Desotelle	Alexander Marquez	Christina Truong
Ka-ron Dock	Stephanie Mauro	Chris Urbano-Gomez
Khalil Dock	Brandon McDuffie	Andy Wagnac
	Kanira White	Kylah Williams

Schools

Stony Brook School

Stony Brook's Winter Concert: The all-school winter concert assembly took place in the Stony Brook multi-purpose room on January 17, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. as **Lucas Miller, new choral director**, accompanied all songs on the keyboard, while **Kyle Skrivanek** directed the **instrumental band**. The second grade students opened the show with two songs, one being in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King. The third and fourth grade chorus performed four songs, "All That I Can Be," "Let It Shine," "One Word," and "America, A Sight for All." The band performed four songs as well: "Go Tell Aunt Rhodie," "Mary Had a Little Lamb," "Hot Cross Buns" and "Lightly Row." The evening performance was held in front of a standing room only crowd of proud parents and friends of Stony Brook School. The special guest of honor, on hand for the evening performance, was **Tom Mazur, supervisor of fine, practical, and performing arts** for the district. "Special thanks to Mr. Miller and Mr. Skrivanek for sharing their talents and love of music with all of us. Additional thanks to Stony Brook's PTA for the continued support and hospitality table. The winter concert was exceptionally special this year as Stony Brook School showcased the talents of the chorus and band as well as the talents of new choral music teacher, **Mr. Miller**. We all decided that Mr. Miller and Mr. Skrivanek, Stony Brook's band director, are truly miracle workers as they were able to transform a small group of beginners into a fully functional chorus and band in a very short amount of time," remarked **Principal Cathy Kobylarz**.

East End School

No Name-Calling Week was held January 21 through 25 in schools and communities across the country and the objective of this event was to present creative and educational

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activities that are aimed at ending name-calling of all kinds and eliminating bullying. Members of East End School's student council made posters and displayed them throughout the school to remind everyone that name-calling must be ended. Classroom lessons were taught in grades 2-4 by the school counselor, **Nicole Rivlin**. The second grade class lesson focused on the effect of name calling utilizing the book *Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes. Students were introduced to SAFE (Say what you feel, Ask for help, Find a friend, Exit the area) strategies that students are encouraged to use if someone is name-calling. The third grade class lesson went deeper into the effects of name calling and focused on taking action in a bullying situation. Students were introduced to the SAFE strategies, and then chose one and created a comic strip. The fourth grade class lesson focused on empowering the bystander. Students learned that bystanders have the ability to put a stop to bullying by either personally taking a stand or asking for help. Students were given scenarios and they decided if the bystander should take a stand or ask for help and why.

The **winter concert** was held on January 16 under the direction of music teacher, **Diana VanHise**. Students in both band and chorus performed for the students and staff in the morning. **Tom Mazur**, supervisor of fine, practical, and performing arts, attended the performance and congratulated everyone. An evening performance was held at 7:00 p.m. and the community room was packed with family and friends. "Both the band and chorus did an outstanding job and they received a standing ovation. If you shut your eyes as you listened, it was hard to believe that the students were only in third and fourth grades. As always, I emphasized that I am an arts advocate and how fortunate we are in North Plainfield to have art and music for the students," stated **Kathleen Herrmann, principal**.

On the evening of January 17, physical education teachers **Todd Vanderputten** and **Corrine Cecala** held the annual **Gym Night** for fourth grade students and their families. Students and parents formed individual teams and throughout the evening challenges were presented and each team was required to work collaboratively and use critical thinking to solve each problem and task. "I was amazed at the different strategies that were used by each team to solve the same problem. Parents and children were collaborating throughout the evening and the cheering that filled the gymnasium made everyone feel a sense of accomplishment as each team achieved success," commented Ms. Herrmann. When the event came to an end, the PTO provided refreshments for all to enjoy.

Maschio's Food Service held a **food advisory** event in the community room on January 18 at 10:00 a.m. Invited parents, staff and selected students were afforded the opportunity to taste and rate new foods, as well as review existing foods on the menu. Manager Joan Marcuzzi explained the importance of reading and understanding food labels and provided information on nutrition and health. "Maschio's continues to work collaboratively with the school and they do an excellent job as our food service provider," said Ms. Herrmann.

On January 29, East End School was fortunate to have the "**Lincoln Lazers**," a **Jump Rope for Heart Demonstration Team** from Hasbrouck Heights, perform and motivate the students to raise money for a good cause as students teamed up with the American Heart Association. This demonstration team is only permitted to travel and perform for ten schools per year and the selected school is usually in their own area and district. East End was excited when the Hasbrouck Heights Board of Education approved them to travel 45 minutes to East End. This was a first! The assembly was more than expected as the team performed jump rope exercises for the school community. Last year, East End School broke its own record and raised over \$3000, which was the largest amount in the district. "The

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assembly was unbelievable and you could certainly see how motivated everyone was as they watched the performance. We are confident that the students will strive to break last year's record during Jump Rope for Heart which will be held February 11 and 12 at East End School.

On January 30, through the generosity of the **Borough of North Plainfield** and the **Clean Communities Grant**, the school community welcomed the *Illusion Maker*. The performance focused on fifty different ways to reduce, reuse and recycle in order to protect the environment. Throughout the show, everyone enjoyed listening to music from the 1950's. Students were selected to participate in the performance and the *Illusion Maker* delighted the audience with his magic. "The show was so exciting and entertaining, but at the same time, he sent a strong message to everyone that together we can help and protect the earth. We are very grateful to the Borough of North Plainfield," remarked Ms. Herrmann. To access more information you can visit www.illusionmaker.net and learn about all the different ways to protect the environment.

West End School

No Name-Calling Week: No Name-Calling Week, an annual week of educational activities aimed at ending name-calling of all kinds and providing schools with the tools and inspiration to launch an ongoing dialogue about ways to eliminate bullying in their communities, was observed January 22-25, 2013, with the following activities: **Andrea Grasso, school counselor**, delivered classroom grade-appropriate counseling lessons for grades 2-4; kindergarten and first grade teachers incorporated read-alouds and mini lessons regarding bullying, respect, or no name calling during this week; Student council sponsored a Sports Gear Day on January 25 to illustrate that West End students are all a part of the no-name calling team; and quotes pertaining to anti-bullying were read over the morning announcements during this week.

Fantastic Winter Concert: "Congratulations to **choral director Jon Scott** and **band director Dorian Parriott** for a fabulous winter concert. Both the band and chorus sounded great," remarked **Beth Sobel, principal**. One of the selections sung by the chorus was a Russian folk song brought to West End by a student who came to West End School last year from Russia. "Many thanks to staff members who helped the day of the concert: Wendy Alvarez, Chris Sepesi, Tara Venturino, Theresa Knauer, and Marilyn Pinto and to the custodial staff, Angel Lopez and John Vaughan, who always have everything ready and looking so nice for all our events. Thanks to the third and fourth grade teachers who remain flexible when additional rehearsals are needed," continued Ms. Sobel.

Somerset School

*On January 23, Somerset School students enjoyed a very entertaining musical theater social studies lesson about the life, struggles and heroic actions of **Rosa Parks**, American icon and civil rights activist. **Rosa's Ride**, an original production by Jonathan Luks, owner of Flying Ship Productions, featured four actors/singers/dancers portraying the life of Ms. Parks, from childhood to age 42, when she was arrested for refusing to obey the Jim Crow laws of Alabama by refusing to give up her bus seat to a white person. The original musical score, also by Jonathan Luks, incorporated jazz, blues and gospel styles, providing a powerful theater experience, as well as a well-received music lesson for our students.*

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*Without a doubt, the audience left with a new appreciation for the incredible amount of courage it took African Americans in the south to stand up to unfair laws and unjust legal actions. Although the play ended with Rosa's arrest, the actors took turns coming out and, in brief, epilogue format, detailed the events following this historical event and continuing throughout her life. "The Flying Ship Players were true professionals. The feedback from administrators, teachers and students has been extremely positive," remarked **Reginald Sainte-Rose, principal**. In a note to **Nancy Rodino, Somerset School's media specialist and coordinator of the event, Tom Mazur, supervisor of fine, practical, and performing arts**, added, "I commend you for bringing such a wonderful drama about Rosa Parks to the students at Somerset School. The actors were top notch, the music engaging and the storyline moved along at a nice pace, with three of the actors ably handling several different roles. This "review" is corroborated by the rapt attention of all the 5th and 6th graders in the audience. That alone speaks volumes to the success of the program. Thank you for all that you do for the students at Somerset."*

NPMS

"Look Who's Coming to Dinner": On January 10, 2013, teacher **Kimberly Annette** and her **grade eight social studies students** hosted a historical "dinner party" with noted philosophers and political thinkers of the **Enlightenment Period**. "Attendees" included such noteworthy individuals as Thomas Hobbes, John Locke, Jean-Jacque Rousseau, Voltaire, Mary Wollstonecraft, and Machiavelli. Students transformed themselves into character and sought out others to "dine" with and provide meaningful conversation. Ms. Annette stated, "The goal of this activity is to help students develop a deep understanding and appreciation of the importance of various historical figures and their continuing impact on today's political and social landscape." Students conducted research online and in the library and found other resources about each character. In addition to practicing verbal skills, students had to provide a written summary and analysis comparing and contrasting the significance of the Enlightenment in terms of natural rights, governmental structure and purpose, and the rise of women's rights. As one student expressed, "This was really fun; usually I get to argue with only my little brother at dinner time, but today I debated with Leonardo Da Vinci and Adam Smith."

NPHS

NPHS PTO Talent Show: The NPHS PTO will be hosting the 2013 Talent Show this Thursday, February 7, 2013 and Friday, February 8, 2013 at 7:00pm in the auditorium. The programs for both evenings differ in student performers with 36 acts divided into two separate offerings --18 acts each night. The programs listing the performers will be posted Wednesday morning. Tickets are \$5.00.

The first annual **NPHS Winter Guard/Percussion Show/Competition**, sponsored by the **Music Parents Association**, will be held on Saturday, February 9, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in the NPHS gym. Tournament Indoor Association will be judging the competition. Fifteen area high schools will be participating plus our two guard teams will perform. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for students and senior citizens.

District

The Music Faculty Scholarship Concert, featuring music teachers throughout the district, will be held on February 21, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the NPHS auditorium. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and senior citizens.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for January was vehicle safety and awareness. Related safety training was provided via our on-line employee training system and all employees completed their assigned training as scheduled. The topic for February is proper lifting techniques and back safety.

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

HEALTH & SAFETY

HURRICANE SANDY

UPDATE: The following work-related to damages caused by Hurricane Sandy will be scheduled for completion in the spring.

- Harrison Greenhouse – The roof panel damaged by falling branches has now been received. A work order is pending.
- 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 pending.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

The following emergency preparedness improvements are in progress and/or have been completed at this time. See notes below for additional information.

- A direct fiber optic link to the Operations Office at 63 Greenbrook Road has now been completed.
- 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. The generator has been received by the contractor and we are in the process of obtaining quotations for some minor roof reinforcement that must be completed prior to the generator installation.
- Jetpack “Hot Spots” have been obtained from Verizon Wireless and have been strategically placed in the event of an emergency.
- A wireless router back-up for our network systems (Verizon) is in progress.

INSURANCE CLAIM

An insurance claim was submitted through our Joint Insurance Fund for the damage incurred during Hurricane Sandy. UPDATE: As of this date, the district has received approximately \$25,000.00 reimbursement for damages related to Hurricane Sandy. An explanation of benefits, and a total amount of expenses that will be covered, is currently pending.

FEMA -4046-DR-NJ

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

SECURITY DRILLS

The security drill for January was a lock down drill. All of our schools completed their assigned drills.

SECURITY DRILLS – UNANNOUNCED

All school districts throughout the state have been notified that the Office of School Safety and Security, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security, will be conducting unannounced security drills beginning this month. The purpose of these exercises is to reveal areas that may need additional attention in the event of an actual emergency.

SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY PLAN

UPDATE: 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. To date, we have not received any information regarding the drill observations.

HIDDEN CAMERA SURVEYS

Hidden Camera Surveys were recently completed at the NPHS/MS and Somerset School. These surveys, conducted to detect the presence of hidden cameras, were performed by our service provider. These surveys did not reveal the presence of any hidden cameras. A complete listing of the areas that were surveyed is on file at the Operations Office.

RECENT HEATING ISSUES

During the recent cold snap, the district experienced heating related issues at a number of locations. Please review the following response actions for more information.

- NPHS/MS – Four of seven boilers were off line for miscellaneous mechanical issues. These four units have now been repaired.
- West End – One classroom unit coil froze and one unit-ventilator required minor circuit repairs.
- Harrison School – The boiler system was unable to maintain an acceptable heating level during the extreme temperatures encountered over the week of January 21, 2013. Our energy management provider believes this was due to the amount of heat loss at this building and has recommended a higher water temperature within the boiler system. We have contacted a factory representative and adjustments are pending at this time.
- Watchung Building – Our boiler system was off line due to the failure of a header temperature sensor. The sensor was replaced and we are looking into installing a second sensor to avoid a similar failure in the future.

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.

- Security related upgrades for the high school auditorium (In progress).
- Abatement of a number of minor fire sub-code violations.
- Repairs to a broken water line at Stony Brook. Temporary repairs have been completed and a permanent repair will be scheduled in the near future.
- Masonry repairs in the lower gym shower area to eliminate water infiltration to the locker room area.

CAPITAL PROJECTS, STATUS REPORT (Current)

HARRISON SCHOOL

Chiller Installation. UPDATE: A system training session was held on January 30, 2013. We are currently waiting for close-out documents and final payment requests.

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

Multi-Purpose Room Air Conditioning. UPDATE: A system training session was held on January 30, 2013. We are currently waiting for close-out documents and final payment requests.

WATCHUNG BUILDING

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close-out documents and final payment requests.

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close-out documents and final payment requests.

DISTRICT-WIDE RESTROOM PROJECT

Restroom Renovations. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close-out documents and final payment requests.

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 95% complete.

Somerset School – All panel arrays have been completed and a system tie-in was completed on November 30, 2012. This location is 95% complete.

High & Middle School – All associated equipment has been loaded to the roof(s) and installation is in progress. This location is 80% complete.

DISTRICT-WIDE WIRELESS UPGRADE PROJECT

UPDATE: This project has now been completed. We are currently waiting for as-built drawings, close out documents and final payment requests.

DISTRICT-WIDE LIGHTING UPGRADE PROJECT

UPDATE: This project has now been completed. As proposed, this project included the installation of lighting sensors, lighting fixtures, energy reduction controls and one new heating and air conditioning unit. The aforementioned upgrades were completed at East End School, Stony Brook School and Harrison School. Additionally, the project included the replacement of gym lighting fixtures at the high and middle school including the wrestling gym. It should be noted that the remaining work to complete this project was performed on 3rd shift in order to expedite completion and so as to not interfere with the educational process.

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. This project is slated for completion over this coming summer.

UPDATE: Preliminary plans for this project have now been approved by the superintendent and bid documents are currently being prepared. We anticipate advertising this project in late February and will receive bids in March. The committee will continue to meet on an as needed basis throughout the construction phase to address any unforeseen conditions and/or programming needs.

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.

PHYSICAL PLANT & CAPITAL BUDGET (2013/2014)

PHYSICAL PLANT BUDGET

The physical plant *budget for 2013/2014 has been prepared, submitted and reviewed by the business administrator and superintendent. This budget will also be reviewed by the Board's Facilities and Finance Committee at their next scheduled meeting.

CAPITAL BUDGET

The capital *budget for 2013/2014 has been prepared, submitted and reviewed by the business administrator and superintendent. This budget reflects over two and a half million dollars in capital improvements and will also be reviewed by the Facilities and Finance Committee.

*The final budgets will depend upon state aid funding.

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 that the Board of Education accept with regret the resignation of Denise VanHorn, special projects coordinator in the district, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2013.

Mr. Branán 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. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Anne Corkery, library media specialist at Stony Brook School, a four-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act for child care purposes, effective June 2, 2013 through June 30, 2013. (Ms. Corkery will begin her disability period effective April 1, 2013 through June 1, 2013.)

Further, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education grant Ms. Corkery an eight-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act effective September 1, 2013 through October 27, 2013.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Richard Ryllun as a substitute transportation driver, at the hourly rate of \$30.28, effective date pending his obtaining a CDL and completion of the employment process.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Cathy Cascione, part time teacher in the Alternative High School Program, effective January 14, 2013.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the certificated staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for courses taken between September and December 2012.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Jemmie Sewell as a substitute custodian at the hourly rate of \$18.07, to be called on an as-needed basis, pending completion of the employment process.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Delores Galimore as a substitute custodian at the hourly rate of \$18.07, to be called on an as-needed basis, effective February 7, 2013.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the following spring student teacher and/or internship placement(s) from William Paterson University:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>Grade/School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Carolina Lopez	Elem & Special Educ./WE	Veronica Quick

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the unpaid leave granted to Catherine Pate, school psychologist, under the Federal Family Leave Act, **from** January 20, 2013 through April 13, 2013 **to** January 24, 2013 through April 18, 2013.

Mr. Branan 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 teachers to tutor students before and/or after school for up to 1.5 hours and Saturday mornings for up to three hours in the P.A.S.S./Extended Day Program, at the rate of \$35 per hour:

Cheryl Lechtanski Debbie Ledger

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the unpaid leave of absence granted to Francesca Petrucci-Cardona, ESL teacher at East End School, as follows:

Disability period using accrued sick and personal days:

From: 1/28/13 – 3/7/13 **To:** 1/22/13 – 2/27/13

Unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act:

From: 3/8/13 – 6/5/13 **To:** 2/28/13 – 5/23/13

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Lauren Laudino as a temporary elementary ESL teacher at East End School at the BA/Step 3-4(4) annual salary rate of \$54,410, to be prorated effective February 7, 2013 through May 24, 2013. (Ms. Laudino will temporarily replace Francesca Cardona.)

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve Charles Rowan, teacher of social studies at NPHS, as a Seton Hall University administrative intern for a total of 600 hours at NPHS with Jerard Stephenson serving as the on-site supervisor.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the staff members indicated on the attached list to teach after-school professional development courses at a rate of \$30 per hour to be funded with NCLB FY'13 and/or local funds, to be paid at the conclusion of each course.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Eileen DeMeo as a temporary elementary school teacher at Somerset School at the MA/Step 5-6/6 annual salary rate of \$57,610, to be prorated effective February 6, 2013 through May 10, 2013. (Ms. DeMeo will temporarily replace Laura Dixon.)

Mr. Branan 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 individuals to the co-curricular coaching positions and rates indicated after their name(s):

Christopher Tyler	Assistant Girls' Track Coach	\$5941
Matthew Giannacio	Assistant Baseball Coach	\$5941

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the guide and salary of Lisa Marie Gabriel, elementary teacher at East End School, from the BA to the MA Guide/ Step 5-6/6 at the annual salary rate of \$57,610, to be prorated effective January 1, 2013.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Heather Morgan to teach in the West End School Extended Day Mentoring Program at the rate of \$35 per hour for up to 55 hours, to be funded with NCLB Title I FY'13 monies.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Ted Amo to serve as a volunteer assistant to the girls' track coach at NPHS.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Dina Aquino as a paraprofessional at Somerset School at the rate of \$20.96 per hour for 3.5 hours per day, effective date pending completion of the employment requirements.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve Amanda Hempel as a William Paterson University learning disabilities teacher-consultant intern for a total of 90 hours at Harrison School, with Janet Jones serving as the on-site mentor.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the following paraprofessional transfers, effective January 14, 2013:

Pamela Jackson	NPHS/Student	NPHS Bridge	3.50/day
Brenda Eady	NPHS Bridge	SB/Student	3.00/day

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Kimberly Carter as a temporary paraprofessional for a classified student at Stony Brook School for 3.50 hours per day at the rate of \$20.96/hour, effective January 28, 2013.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept with regret the resignation of Rosalie Gargano, paraprofessional in the district, for reasons of retirement, effective February 1, 2013.

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

Antoinette Burns	Maria Lopez
Catherine Grundman	Meghan McCartney

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the unpaid leave of absence granted to Marie Annette Bicksler, teacher of biological science at NPHS, under the Federal Family Leave Act, **from** January 1, 2013 through January 13, 2013 **to** January 1, 2013 through February 17, 2013.

February 6, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the temporary employment of Judith Levine, temporary teacher of biological science at NPHS, **from** November 29, 2012 through January 31, 2013 **to** November 29, 2012 through February 15, 2013. (Ms. Levine is temporarily replacing Marie Annette Bicksler.)

Further, that Ms. Levine be appointed as a district substitute teacher for the 2012-2013 school year.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Miriam West as a school nurse to work during spring central registration, for up to 150 hours at the rate of \$49.74 per hour.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as part-time hourly security officers in the Alternative High School Program, Monday through Thursday from 4:00 PM until 8:00 PM for a total of 16 hours at the rate of \$22 per hour, to be shared equally, effective February 7, 2013:

Jonathan Shealy

Edward Michael Sugalski

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Claire Lerner as a temporary school psychologist at the MA/Step 7(7) annual salary rate of \$58,090, to be prorated effective February 12, 2013 through April 18, 2013. (Ms. Lerner will temporarily replace Catherine Pate.)

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Stephanie Falcone as a temporary teacher of English at Somerset School at the BA/Step 1-2(1) annual salary rate of \$54,210, to be prorated effective March 8, 2013 through May 31, 2013. (Ms. Falcone will temporarily replace Michelle Sandoval.)

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve John Vogel as a Kean University administrative intern for a total of 300 hours with Reginald Sainte-Rose serving as the on-site supervisor.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Alison Mac as a temporary kindergarten teacher at West End School at the MA/Step 1-2(1) annual salary rate of \$57,210, effective February 11, 2013 through March 28, 2013. (Ms. Mac will temporarily replace Mary Louise Durkin.)

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-03-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by UMDNJ at the cost of \$55 per hour, effective December 16, 2012.

February 6, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-35-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective January 28, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-38-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective January 14, 2013 through January 25, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-39-12-13 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective January 28, 2013.

Mr. Branan 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 OOOOO-12-13 at NuView Academy in Piscataway, NJ, at the yearly rate of \$49,500, to be prorated effective January 28, 2013.

Mr. Branan 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 VVVVV-12-13 at NuView Academy in Piscataway, NJ, at the yearly rate of \$49,500, to be prorated effective February 15, 2013.

Mr. Branan 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 WWWW-12-13 at Somerset Academy in Bridgewater, NJ, at the yearly rate of \$42,300, to be prorated - effective date to be determined.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve classified student PSY-12-12-13 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$350.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approved classified student PSY-13-12-13 undergo a neuropsychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Elisa Dulay at the cost of \$850.

Mr. Branan 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 a week each to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective as indicated:

HI-13-12-13	January 31, 2013
HI-41-12-13	January 31, 2013

Further, that identified student HI-40-12-13 be approved for home instruction for up to ten hours per week to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective January 29, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-42-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective January 31, 2013.

February 6, 2013

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved tplacement of classified student XXXXX-12-13 at Westbridge Academy at the cost of \$358.42 per day effective February 11, 2013 through June 20, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve out-of-district classified student BBB-12-13 attending Ridge High School receive the services of a paraprofessional employed through Ridge High School for 5.5 hours per day at the cost of \$24.20 per hour, effective February 13, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve out-of-district classified student NNNN-12-13 attending Westlake School receive the services of a paraprofessional employed through Union County Educational Services Commission for 6.0 hours per day at the cost of \$29.33 per hour, effective January 15, 2013 through August 2, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-43-12-13 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective January 29, 2013.

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education reaffirm the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials, 2011 Revisions, approved by the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety and the New Jersey Department of Education and between the North Plainfield Public School District and the North Plainfield Police Department.

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. Branan, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Kasper abstaining, that the Board of Education accept and approve the agreement between the North Plainfield Board of Education and the North Plainfield Association of Educational Administrators and Supervisors for the years covering July1, 2012 through June 30, 2015.

Thomas Allen – Abstain
David Branan – Abstain
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 that the Board of Education authorize the sale/disposal of two vehicles and various obsolete and irreparable equipment as follows:

Make: 2000 Dodge	Make: 1989 GMC
Model: Ram Cargo Van	Model: Mason Dump
VIN: #2B7HB11Z1YK122973	VIN: #1GDJR34K6KF704755

All equipment has either reached the operating age limitations as defined in NJSA 6A:27-7.3 or its useful life (obsolete/irreparable). The public bidding services will be provided by the County of Somerset On Line Public Auction System.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the disposal of outdated math and science textbooks as follows:

Title	Copyright Date	Manner of Disposal
Discover the Wonder, Grade 3	1996	Discard
Integrated Mathematics 1	2002	Discard
Integrated Mathematics 2	2002	Discard
Integrated Mathematics 3	2002	Discard
Passport to Algebra and Geometry	1996	Discard

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board authorize Katherine Shuster to apply for “Pets in the Classroom Grant” which will supply a Gecko and associated supplies valued at approximately \$300.00 for use in her 4th grade classroom at East End School.

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Communications – Ms. Dodd updated the Board on suggestions for annual award night ceremony.

Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Finance & Facilities – Mr. Branan mentioned the next meeting scheduled for Monday, February 11th at 6:30pm.

Policy Meeting – Mr. Branan discussed status of policies under review. Mr. Branan also discussed Policy 4119.26 and mentioned 2nd reading will be at the February 20th meeting with suggested revisions. Dr. Birnbaum said some additional changes maybe necessary to this policy and will determine prior to the meeting.

Negotiations – Ms. Bond-Nelson mentioned the settlement with administrators.

NJSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCSBA – Mr. Kasper mentioned attending a security meeting held in Trenton.

SCESC – next meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 7, 2013.

Old Business

Ms. Bond-Nelson mentioned the Ethics forms which are now completed online.

Ms. Bond-Nelson mentioned the recognition plaque for Fine Arts and asked about mounting it outside the auditorium.

New Business

Mr. Allen inquired about posting petition for board member elections on the website. He also discussed teacher website being updated and mentioned security of our websites.

Dr. Birnbaum discussed due dates and time lines regarding the 2013-2014 budget. The public hearing on budget needs to be between March 21 and 28, 2013.

Ms. Bond-Nelson discussed with the Board options for moving the May 15th meeting due to scheduling conflicts. Suggestions were made for May 8th and 22nd and dates would be confirmed at a later date.

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

Current Events in Education

Ms. Dodd mentioned a student from Delaware Valley who passed away of flu related illness and our protections and awareness.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Brian Christian voiced concerns regarding scheduling of academics and arts programs for his student.

Mrs. Elizabeth Havrilla suggested how to restrict cell phone calls and thanked the Board for the Gettysburg trip. She also thanked Mr. Sainte-Rose for his efforts with students in the M.A.L.E.S. program.

Mr. Branan, Mr. Kasper, and Ms. Bond-Nelson discussed the Gettysburg trip and all were impressed with the activities and experiences on the trip.

Future Agenda Items

Gettysburg Project/Materials – February 20, 2013

Summer Programs – To Be Determined – John Ferguson, Diana Sefchik, John Tarnofsky,
Reginald Sainte-Rose

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

V&V/HIB Mid-Year report – TBD – Dr. Robert Rich

February 6, 2013

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on February 20, 2013 at 6:00 pm for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg