

June 4, 2013

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on June 4, 2013 at West End School, 447 Greenbrook Road, North Plainfield, NJ. Mrs. Bond-Nelson called the meeting to order and made the following announcement: In accordance with NJSA 10:4-10, required advance notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk; submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, AND Comcast; posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall and the North Plainfield Public Library and the school district website. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

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

A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Superintendent of Schools; Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; and Dr. Robert Rich, Assistant Superintendent, as well as, Amaree Gardner, Student Representative and approximately 12 members of the staff and public.

#### **Introduction of New Staff**

Dr. Birnbaum introduced Dawn Schultz who will be the new dance teacher.

#### **Minutes Approval**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the public session minutes of May 22, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved, with Mr. Kasper and Ms. Szaroleta abstaining, to accept the public session minutes of May 23, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of May 22, 2013.

#### **Comments from the Public**

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public –

Mary Elizabeth O’Conner positively commented on the re-introduction of a dance program in the district. She also mentioned two students who have achieved successful positions in education.

Mr. Ferguson mentioned the Holocaust Day of Remembrance exhibit will be open to the public on Wednesday, June 12, 2013 from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

#### **Student Representative Report**

The student report was presented by Amaree Gardner as follows:

After many rain delays the Senior Day of Community Service took place on Thursday, May 30. Seniors not only worked in the gardens surrounding NPHS, they also worked at Somerset, East End, West End, Stony Brook schools and the Board Office., They helped clean up the area on Somerset Street and the surrounding streets, Green Acres Park and Washington Park. Some seniors even had the opportunity to wash the fire trucks.

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After the Senior Awards Assembly on Monday, June 3, the seniors left for their annual picnic at Forest Lodge. Despite the visual signs of the saccades and their extremely loud noise, the seniors had a great time.

Even though this school year has not come to an end, the Canuck Mentors are already gearing up for their day of Freshman Orientation Training and for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation program in August.

The Rotary Club will hold their Scholarship Luncheon on Wednesday, June 12, at Giovanna's Restaurant. Eight seniors from NPHS will be receiving scholarship awards. The F.S. Mathewson Rotary Club Scholars are: Thomas Allen, David Havrilla, Karin Sajjad, Michael Sani, and the Leo Albet Friese Scholars are: Kaylen Chamorro, John Havrilla, Jennifer Nunez and Kevin Sani.

The Thespian Induction Ceremony will take place on Tuesday, June 11, at 6:00pm in the Auditorium followed by the Theatre Showcase at 7:30pm. All are welcome to attend.

On Wednesday, June 12, the National Junior Honor Society will hold their Induction Ceremony in the Auditorium at 6pm.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dinner-Dance will be held at the Scotch Plains Italian-American Club on Friday, June 14, from 7-10pm.

On Friday, June 14, rain date Saturday, June 15, at 8pm at Krausche Field the Second Annual Clash of North Plainfield will take place - North Plainfield Police Department vs North Plainfield High School Canucks soccer game. General admission is \$5.00. All proceeds will benefit NPHS Project Graduation.

Project Graduation will host their annual Ice Cream Social at 12 noon in the cafeteria and Lower Krausche Field on Monday, June 17, for all seniors.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Promotion Ceremony will take place on Tuesday, June 18, at 10:30am in the auditorium. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Awards Ceremony will also take place on Tuesday at 6pm in the auditorium.

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade awards assembly will take place on Wednesday, June 19, at 10:30am in the auditorium.

Senior Portraits will be taken from Monday, June 17 – Wednesday, June 19, from 2-8pm in the overflow room of the cafeteria.

The first final exam will be administered on Friday, June 14, followed by a full day of school.

Starting Monday, June 17-Thursday, June 20, there will be 2 final exams each day. The first exam will begin at 7:45am and the second exam will start at 9:55am. Students will be dismissed at the end of the second exam.

Graduation practice will be held on Thursday, June 20, at 10am in the high school gym. At this time seniors will receive their caps/gowns and tickets only if they have cleared all of their record stops. The graduation ceremony will take place on Thursday at 6:30pm on Krausche Field. In the event of rain the ceremony will be held in the high school gym.

Project Graduation will host Senior Smash 2013 after graduation on Thursday, June 20. All graduating seniors will board buses at NPHS at approx. 9:30 pm and be taken to Rutgers's Athletic Center (the RAC) for an all-night, activity-filled, food-filled night. Before leaving early Friday morning students will be treated to a Continental Breakfast and then the graduating seniors will once again board buses and be brought back to NPHS.

### Presentation

Ms. Priscila Weber presented an overview of the Bridge to Employment program.

### Superintendent's Report

## RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

### Students

**Chelsea Howson**, teacher of ninth grade honors English, reported the following wonderful news about two of her students: "After winning the North Plainfield Optimist Club Oratorical Contest, both **Brenda Okereke** and **Jason Le** attended the Atlantic Central District Oratorical contest in Reading, Pennsylvania today (Saturday, June 1, 2013). Both students made it to the finals, and Brenda won the entire contest in the girls' competition, which earned her a \$2,500 scholarship in addition to a plaque!

### Boys Track and Field Awards

#### Skyland Conference Relays – April 13, 2013

- Boys Track and Field Team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Conference
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – 4 x 200 (Keith Jeffries, Chris Smith, Omar Bailey, Brandon Selby)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place- 4 x 100
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place – 4 x 400
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Shuttle Hurdles
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place - 3 x 400 Hurdles
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place- Long Jump (Stefaun Harris, Chris Smith)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Triple Jump (Keith Jeffries, Stefaun Harris)

#### Blue Devil Classic, Westfield High School – April 20, 2013

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Triple Jump Team (Stefaun Harris, Keith Jeffries)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – 4 x 100 Relay (Brandon Selby, Omar Bailey, Chris Smith, Coty Mendez)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place – 4 x 200 Relay
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place – Shuttle Hurdle

#### Somerset County Track and Field Championships –May 7, 2013

- Boys Track and Field Team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Somerset County
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Keith Jeffries – Triple Jump
- 2<sup>ND</sup> Place – Stefaun Harris- Triple Jump
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Chris Smith – Triple Jump
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Chris Smith -Long Jump
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Stefaun Harris – Long Jump
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Izayah Williams – 110 HH
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place – Izayah Williams -400 Hurdles
- 6<sup>th</sup> Place - Matt Barbosa -400 Hurdles
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Omar Bailey – 400 Meter
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place - Keith Jeffries- 400 Meter
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place Brandon Selby- 100 and High Jump
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – 4 x 400 Relay – (Keith Jeffries, Cesar Roca, Matt Barbosa and Omar Bailey)

**Skyland Conference Track and Field Championships, May 15, 2013**

- Boys Track and Field Team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Skyland Conference
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Stefaun Harris - Triple Jump (45'5" new school record)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place - Brandan Selby - High Jump
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Izayah Williams - 400 Hurdles
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - Izayah Williams - 110 High Hurdles
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Omar Bailey - 400 Meter Dash (new school record of 50.33)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place - Omar Bailey - 200 Meter Dash

**NJSIAA Central Jersey Group 2, Sectionals-May 24, 25, 2013**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Izayah Williams - 110 High Hurdles
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Keith Jeffries – Triple Jump
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Stefaun Harris – Triple Jump
- 5<sup>th</sup> Place – 4 x 100 Relay (Omar Bailey, Chris Smith, Cody Mendez, Brandan Selby)

**NJSIAA Group 2 Championships – May 31, 2013, June 1, 2013**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Izayah Williams - 110 Meter Hurdles
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Stefaun Harris – Triple Jump

**East End School, Citizens of the Month, May 2013**

**Kindergarten**

Yareliz Minaya-Fernandez  
Michelle Salinas-Torres  
Naomy Fiallos  
Jazmin Guzman  
Julian Okolo  
Jack McDermott  
Billy Palush  
Cristian Correa

**First Grade**

Branon Cruz  
Samantha Conroy  
Samantha Reyes  
Rueben Ratliff  
James Lopez  
Mackenzie Hathaway  
Alondra DeLeon

**Second Grade**

Julissa Ramos  
Juleanna Santos  
Jennifer Van Buren  
Janaa Smallwood  
Darrell Cogdell  
Jordan Okolo  
Seynabou Dia  
Hayley LaPlaca  
Naomi Pieters  
Desirae Acevedo  
Luis Monterroso

**Third Grade**

Jordan DaBreo-Bird  
Daniel Pozolante  
Hope Kaiser  
Andrea Espana  
Bruce Palush  
Michelle Claros  
Anthony Solis  
Liam Alvarado  
Nala King

**Fourth Grade**

Jabin Contreras  
Elan Lakes  
Sebastian O'Donnell  
Kyla Walker  
Jayla Blaine  
Joyce Indrawis  
Damani Nieves  
Saharra Modeste  
Daniel Molina  
Bryan Peraza

**Vocal Music**

Nadia Buck/K  
Daniel Garcia/K  
Avani Jones/1  
Omari Brown/2  
Tatiana Sarmiento/3  
Amelia Accardo/3  
Angelina Brito-Eusebio/3  
Ellen Munoz/4

**Instrumental Music**

Ryan Cook/4

**Art**

Melanie Cruz/K  
Samantha Reyes/1  
Karina Quinteros/2  
Kimberly Reyes/2  
Nala King/3  
Bridget Thomas/4

**Physical Education**

Melanie Cruz/K  
Keitha Barrera/K  
Helena deBang/1  
Madeline Bozack/1  
Nicole Torres/2  
Daniel Melendez-Saucedo/2  
Adonis Gomez/3  
Brianna Lourenco/3  
Jeremiah Jeffries/4  
Jehosafat Melendez-Saucedo/4

**Library**

Jada Pinzon/K  
Joel Pinzon/K  
Mickey Lin/1  
Joseph Ehling/1  
Christian Fortunato/2  
Farah Bajinath/3  
Bridget Thomas/4

**ESL**

Tenzin Chemey/K  
Jessy Dong/K  
Hillary Rodriguez-Villanueva/1  
Daisy Dong/2  
Adonis Gomez/3  
Bryan Bajana/4

**Principal**

Daniel Barriga/3  
Taylor Benjamin/3  
Noely Martinez/3  
Brandon Rosas/3  
Michael Knight/3  
Aliyah Walker/3  
Betsy Murillo/3  
Darla Serrano/3  
Bryan Valentin/3  
Cheyenne Hutchinson/4  
Nolan Pieters/4  
Kyla Walker/4

Ryan Cook/4  
Sebastian O'Donnell/4  
Bridget Thomas/4  
Justin Thomas/4  
Isabel Chango/4  
Ruben Ramirez/4  
Stephanie Herrera/4  
Bacil Elsheikh/4  
Ellen Munoz/4  
Douglas Mitchell/4  
Diane Guevara/4  
Jonathan Ayala/4

**Schools**

**NPMS**

***Coaches Corner***

**Middle School Baseball:** The middle school baseball team finished the season with a record of five wins and eight losses. However, the team goals were not just about winning baseball games. **Coach Andrew Taylor** stated, "As a team we set three goals for ourselves for the 2013 season. First, we wanted to learn to play the game of baseball the right way. Second, was to hustle every second we were on the field. And finally, we felt that if we accomplished our first two goals that it would ultimately lead us to our third team goal of winning baseball games. We met all of our team goals in the 2013 season and the student athletes walked away with a sense of pride, accomplishment, and love of baseball."

Throughout the season the student athletes learned countless baseball and life lessons. "The players learned fundamental baseball, sportsmanship, leadership, self pride, efficacy, confidence, discipline, the benefits of working hard, teamwork, determination, and so many other beneficial lessons. As a team we never focused on individuals accomplishments. We didn't give out game balls to MVPs after a win, and we never singled out players as the reason for our success or short comings; it was always a TEAM effort," reported Coach Taylor.

Coach Taylor did mention just a few of the North Plainfield Middle School outstanding athletes. "We had multiple scholar athletes on our team who were on the honor roll, and achieved and maintained high academic standards throughout the season. **Nick Cherasaro, J.P. Donatelli, Steven Merrill, Frank Pelligrino, Harley Riccardi, Christian Weiczork, and Josh Girardi** were all returning starters and assumed the role of team leaders. Finally Nick Cherasaro led our team in hits, RBI's, home runs, and grand slams with a total of three. Put that together with his stellar defense behind the plate, and shut down pitching, and he had a great 8<sup>th</sup> grade season. I am so proud of all my players and wish them nothing but the best of luck in future endeavors," he exclaimed.

**Coed Middle School Track & Field:** This middle school team had a successful spring 2013 season. Officially 3-6, they competed at various schools around the area. “The student-athletes on our team are all exceptional; each has a personality and style that makes every day at practice a day to remember!” remarked **Coaches Stefanie Myers and Erin McManus**.

Future leaders include **Abdelaziz Bahnasy, Brandon McDuffie, Amaina Sajjad, and Yangqing Liang**. Stand-out performances include a 17' long jump by **Brian Robinson** and 12 second 100M by **Nikita Forrester**. They are forces to be reckoned with on any day. The distance team has been carefully cultivated and grows stronger in strength and number every year. Sprinting is a favorite, especially the 4 x 100 relay. According to the coaches, “Our boys’ team of **Brian Robinson, Tyler Mixson, Justin Johnson, and Brian McDuffie** and our girls’ team of **Nikita Forrester, Sydney Patterson, Dilina Enwerkowe, and Kayla Adams** are a sight to behold. Penn Relays, here they come! In the throwing department, **Jeremiah Weaver** turns heads with his seemingly easy throws that sail across the grass. The high school coaches will be very excited to further train an enthusiastic group of throwers as well as hurdlers.”

“We have a very dedicated, hard-working group of athletes that never miss a practice. Among this group are three sets of twins: The Ballas (**Brooklyn and Zachery**), The Garcias (**Sindy and Ronaldo**) and The Forresters (**Nikita and Kevin**). Many of our student-athletes got out of their comfort zones to try physical activity for the first time, interact with and support each other in new ways, and enter an arena of competitiveness supported by camaraderie,” continued Ms. Myers and Ms. McManus.

**Middle School Softball:** **Coach Paul Kraucheunas** reported that the NPMS softball team wrapped up an exciting season with two wins in a row to finish with a record of eight wins and seven losses. It was a solid overall team effort with the team captains leading the way. **Victoria Kisling** started as pitcher every game of the season and finished with an 8-5 record. **Lauren Lattimore** played solid defense at first base and had the most RBI’s, including several home runs. Catcher **Emily McGrath** provided leadership behind the plate and contributed many key hits throughout the season. “The team had great spirit, which was evident every time they took the field. The future looks bright with eleven seventh graders returning. Way to go Lady Canucks!!” exclaimed Mr. Kraucheunas

**Words of Wisdom:** On Wednesday, May 29, an assembly was held for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade, featuring West Point graduate and NFL player **Caleb Campbell**. His presentation, entitled, “Beat the Odds,” addressed the themes of uniqueness, goal setting, and persistence. Born in a small town in Texas, Mr. Campbell came from humble beginnings but always had big dreams. As a natural athlete, he dreamed of playing professional football and began to pursue his dream at a young age. Speaking to the students, Mr. Campbell shared the story of his early life and how he was bullied during his school years. Never forgetting his dreams, he became a cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point, playing Division I football and becoming team captain his senior year. Graduating in 2008 as a commissioned officer, he was drafted by the NFL. He played for the Detroit Lions and later with the Kansas City Chiefs. Mr. Campbell’s story resonated with the students as he told them to believe in themselves and “unleash your inner dreams.” He added, “You will fulfill your dreams, when you develop patience and perseverance.” At the conclusion of the ceremony, student **Trevor Sullivan** presented Mr. Campbell with a framed certificate on behalf of the entire student body.

**Middle School Swings with Spring Concert:** The middle school annual spring concert was held on May 21 under the direction of **choral instructor Ivan Izeppi** and **band instructor Kyle Skirvanek**. The students gathered in the auditorium to share a symphony of brass and wood harmonics. The show began with style as members of the jazz band played a number by Jeff Steinberg called *Gospel John*. *Birdland* brought cheers from the large crowd and a superb rendition of *The Great Steamboat Race* by the concert band culminated their excellent performance. Showcasing their powerful voices, the chorus performed such classics as *Don't Go Breaking My Heart* and *Circle of Life*. Students **Yanqing Liang** and **Jordan Sample** provided an inspirational tone with their solo performances of *I Believe I Can Fly* and *Lift Me Up*. "It was an enjoyable family evening with many talented students," exclaimed assistant principal **John Ferguson**.

### Somerset School

**Welcome to Somerset Intermediate School:** **Principal Reginald Sainte-Rose, physical education staff, and Sarah Cohen, school counselor** coordinated with many community resources to organize a **three-tier 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation**.

The **first tier** was a morning when the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students visited and became oriented to the new building and to some of the staff before the end of the year. On May 28, May 29 and May 31<sup>st</sup>, fourth grade classes from Stony Brook, East End and West End, respectively, visited Somerset Intermediate School. Mr. Sainte-Rose and Ms. Cohen organized some wonderful activities to help orient and welcome in the new class. Ms. Cohen worked with a group of twenty-five fifth grade students (class of 2020) who were nominated by their teachers to become peer leaders. The students worked with Ms. Cohen over the course of a month and learned important and positive leadership skills through lessons and games. The peer leaders were also trained in how to help facilitate the 5<sup>th</sup> grade orientation days. Orientation began with some enjoyable activities which the peer leaders led. They also provided a scavenger hunt tour around the building for the incoming class. Mr. Sainte-Rose provided information and tips to the students on how to become a successful member of the Somerset School community and beyond. This discussion included a brief overview of what they should expect to experience at Somerset including curriculum, after-school activities, arrival & dismissal procedures and the Somerset School Code of Conduct. "We are positive that this orientation served as a terrific way to help ease some of the anxiety and anticipation of entering a new school," stated Mr. Sainte-Rose.

The **second tier** to the orientation is a fun-filled event in which all three elementary schools come together to unite for the first time as North Plainfield's class of 2021. The students participated in an exciting and energetic field day at Green Acres Park! At the field day, students were split up into 12 teams to ensure an even mix of boys and girls from each of the three elementary schools. Exciting activities were planned including various competitive games, cooperative games, puzzles and ice breaker "getting-to-know-you" activities. Maschio's Food Service provided pizza at the park, where students ate lunch with their new classmates and friends. The **PTO's/PTA's** from each of the three elementary schools provided water and snacks for the students. Another positive feature to this exciting event is the role that Somerset's students have played. A group of students in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade were chosen to mentor and assist in facilitating the activities at the park (class of 2019). This unique group of students was picked because of the leadership qualities they possess. "Over the course of two school years at Somerset School, they have proven to be role models and leaders in our school and our community. We are excited that this event has provided them the opportunity to be positive role models to their younger

peers. We are confident that this was a rewarding experience for all of the students and staff who participated,” remarked Ms. Cohen.

The **third tier** to Somerset’s orientation will be held on Thursday, June 6, in which Somerset will host a 5<sup>th</sup> grade parent orientation. Mr. Sainte-Rose will speak in more detail regarding various topics including: curriculum, how to be successful at Somerset, how to best become involved in the school, rules and policies in the Somerset School Code of Conduct, after-school activities, class schedules, arrival & dismissal and more. Key staff will be introduced and questions from parents will be answered. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade peer leaders will also be present to give the parents a tour of the building. “The 5<sup>th</sup> grade orientation will foster a sense of community and it is in large part due to the classes of 2019, 2020 and 2021 working together. We know that the orientation will be a success in acclimating our students, parents and families to their new home, Somerset School,” continued Principal Sainte-Rose.

### **Stony Brook School**

**Writers in Bloom:** Every spring for the past ten years, Stony Brook School has hosted a May tradition entitled, “Writers in Bloom.” This festive event has been a celebration of Stony Brook’s young writers and future authors who have been given the opportunity to showcase their work for viewers to see. The Stony Brook multi-purpose room was magically transformed into a museum of children’s writings and illustrations complete with classical music playing in the background. Parents and friends were invited on Tuesday, May 28 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and all day Wednesday, May 29. Each class selected a theme and decorated their table with a unique display. Among the selections, parents and friends were able to read included: research reports, haikus, short stories, poems, self portraits, how to books, allusions from Greek mythology, short persuasive pieces, student essays, and small moments’ selections. Organized by **Kim Gargiule** and **Kelly Feeney**, this great event has become an annual favorite for teachers, students, and families. “Parents have been proud to delight in their child’s accomplishments. Teachers and students enjoyed visiting and reading displays of older and younger classes. For all of us, it was a celebration of student’s creative talents. Great job to all our writers!” stated **Cathy Kobylarz, principal**.

**Stony Brook’s Family Field Day:** Field Day has always been another great tradition at Stony Brook School. This year it rained so all activities were moved indoors. It did not matter to the field day enthusiasts of the blue and white teams on May 23, 2013. Organized by **Ryan Shapiro** and **Andrew Taylor**, the students were able to complete six different activities, some of which included a jump rope contest, long jumps, the 40-yard dash and relay races. The finale was the “all school tug of war.” Parents visited throughout the day, stayed for an indoor picnic lunch and cheered their way through the tug of war. It was a day to remember. As we always say, “It may be rainy outside, but it’s always sunny inside Stony Brook School. Congratulations to both teams!” exclaimed Principal Kobylarz.

### **West End School**

**Fourth Grade Service Learning Project:** West End School’s fourth grade class just completed their seventh year of participation in the St. Jude Mathathon to raise money for the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Many students worked on grade level math concepts and had sponsors who donated money to the hospital on behalf of each student’s hard work. This year they raised \$1,745.65 for the children at St. Jude. The money will go

to pay for the treatment of children who have cancer and other diseases. St. Jude does not charge the families anything for their children's treatment. It is paid for through donations like that of West End. Over the past seven years West End has raised \$12,678.69 for the children at St. Jude's Hospital.

**4-H Club Visits First Grade:** First graders became Bubbleologists during an exciting visit from the 4-H Club of Somerset County. During an interactive presentation all about bubbles, students learned about surface tension, adhesion, and how to make their own bubbles. First graders developed science skills as they made predictions and learned by observing and experimenting with different types of bubbles.

**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Assembly:** On May 23, the Grand Falloons performed at West End School. They are an ensemble of theater, circus, and design professionals who came together to create educational and thematic theatrics for museums, schools, and theaters across the United States. The Falloons started in the early 1990s with a series of works commissioned by the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia. They have taken 20 years of experience with the Big Apple Circus, all those circus skills, Vaudeville routines, song and dance numbers and sense of family entertainment and illustrated the K-6 Earth Science Curriculum Standards for NY and NJ Public Schools. Their focus is on litter abatement and recycling. The Falloons have performed over 500 shows in the past three years across New Jersey, New York and Connecticut. "Thank you to first grade teacher **Theresa Knauer** who made all the arrangements to get us this assembly on 'Reducing, Re-using, Recycling' and civic responsibility," remarked, Beth Sobel, principal. And to quote Mrs. Knauer, "We wish to thank the sponsors, The Clean Communities, for our free assembly. Free, funny, and curriculum based... it doesn't get better than this."

**Kindergarten Camp In:** On Friday, May 24, **Tara Venturino-Scott's** kindergarten had a "Camp-in." After reading *Curious George Goes Camping*, the class was very enthusiastic about the idea of camping, so it was decided to give them a fun experience. Students packed their backpacks with a blanket, a book, a flashlight, a stuffed friend, and a special snack, and went on a "hike" throughout the school. With a map in hand, special education teacher **Regina Silverii** led the way "up mountain" and through the "West End Forest" where students used their imaginations to spot all sorts of animals. Special thanks need to be given to the third and fourth graders who helped make the experience more exciting by acting out those animals as the kindergarten students came along the way. Their hike led them back to the classroom, a "campground" where students gathered around the "campfire" to tell the tale of their hike and to enjoy the trail mix they had made. The campers then snuggled in their "tents" with flashlights, blankets, and books for buddy reading. Later that afternoon, students made solid shapes with toothpicks and the leftover marshmallows.

### East End School

The **Young Orators'** performance was held on Friday, May 24 in the community room. Facilitators **Lynelle Thomas** and **Deborah Lockley Thompson** integrated the building's nature objective into the assembly. Third and fourth grade students took the stage and projected their voices with a sense of pride and accomplishment. Ms. Thomas provided a PowerPoint presentation which contained pictures related to nature and each child recited a poem or provided an interesting fact about the colorful photograph. "The audience learned so many new facts that truly were astonishing. Ms. Thomas and Ms. Lockley Thompson did an outstanding job preparing the students for the assembly. Young

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Orators empowers students with critical skills necessary for effective public speaking and they gain a great deal of confidence,” remarked Ms. Herrmann.

The end of the year is always busy at East End School!

- The cast and crew of ***Cinderella*** continue to practice for the upcoming performances on June 5 and 6 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the door or bought in advance. Proceeds from the play will be donated to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital and the Papermill Playhouse. Will the prince ever find the owner of the glass slipper?
- Kindergarten teachers **Melissa Field, Diane Forino, Melissa Saul and Diane Stanton** are busy preparing their students for the kindergarten celebration scheduled for June 7 at 9:30 a.m. It is always a packed house that day as the young children sing songs and receive their certificates.
- On June 12, PreK teachers **Ashley Gutowski and Allison Hessemer** will present the PreK celebration in the community room at 9:45 a.m., and after the performance the families will remain and enjoy delicious treats with the children.
- June 14 is the **Flag Day** assembly and the entire school community will gather on the front lawn to sing patriotic songs and learn interesting facts about the American flag.
- June 19 is the Fourth Grade celebration at 9:30 a.m. **Suzanne Dahlinger, Kathy Porter, Nicole Rossi and Katherine Shuster** have been busy practicing with the students. It is very touching to see the fourth graders say good-bye to East End. Also on June 19, the parents of students entering kindergarten in September are invited to the **Kindergarten Orientation** at 1:30 p.m. where they will learn a great deal about kindergarten expectations, medical requirements, attendance and so much more.

## **DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES**

### **EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING**

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for May was PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). The safety topic for June is a refresher covering proper lifting techniques and back safety.

Safety Topic - Transportation. No training is scheduled at this time.

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

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

The following emergency preparedness improvements were recently completed or are in progress at this time. See notes below for additional information.

- Emergency Phones. An emergency phone has now been installed in all key locations throughout the district. These phones are to be utilized in the event of a power failure and loss of our network phone system.
- Electrical load evaluations of the stand-by generator at Somerset School. A preliminary assessment of the current load on the stand-by generator indicates there is sufficient power generated by this unit to energize additional circuits. UPDATE: The reconfiguration of electrical circuits powered by the stand-by generator will be completed over the summer recess.
- A wireless router back-up for our network systems (Verizon) is in progress. UPDATE: We are currently exploring our options at this time to provide power for our phone system during a power failure.

### **FEMA MITIGATION GRANTS**

The North Plainfield Board of Education submitted three (3) LOI's (Letters of Intent) for submission to FEMA for the aforementioned mitigation projects. UPDATE: We have received notification that our applications have been approved. These projects will move forward when and if funding is provided.

### **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 May was an active shooter drill. All of our schools completed their assigned drills. The security drill for June is a Bomb Threat Drill.

### **SECURITY DRILLS – UNANNOUNCED**

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

### **SCHOOL SAFETY & SECURITY PLAN**

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

### **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

A second sub-committee meeting, to review and update our emergency flip chart, was held on May 28, 2013. Related topics were discussed and additional information is pending at this time. The next meeting will be scheduled when all participants have submitted their assigned information.

## **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.

- Exterior door replacement for the wrestling room at the high school (Completed).
- Exterior door replacements (2) at Stony Brook School (Completed).
- Upgrades to our door entrance system at Watchung Building (Scheduled).
- Replacement of the roof at 63 Greenbrook Road (Completed).
- Kitchen equipment repairs at the high school (Completed).
- Replacement of an a/c coil at the high school (Completed).

## **SENIOR DAY OF SERVICE**

On May 30, 2013, the district held its annual Senior Day of Service. Students from the high school, accompanied by staff members, performed community service related landscaping tasks at all of our schools and at a number of other borough locations. The Operations Department procured all of the necessary materials and supplies to complete these tasks.

## **GRADUATION 2013**

We are currently preparing Upper Krausche Field for our graduation exercises to be held on June 20, 2013. Additionally, we have ordered a larger stage and canopy for this year's event.

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS, STATUS REPORT (Current)**

### **DISTRICT-WIDE RESTROOM PROJECT**

Restroom Renovations. UPDATE: This project has now been closed out.

### **DISTRICT WIDE SOLAR ENERGY**

East, West, Somerset and North Plainfield High School. The owner of these systems has now completed final inspections and has submitted a request to the power authority for permission to operate. UPDATE: We anticipate this project to be complete and fully operational within the next thirty to sixty days.

### **HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY RENOVATIONS**

UPDATE: As of this date, we have held four construction meetings with the contractor and our architect. A schedule of values has been received and the project is currently scheduled for start-up on June 26, 2013. We anticipate reaching substantial completion by the second week of August.

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (2012/2013)**

### **HARRISON WINDOWS**

Bids for this project were received and opened on May 21, 2013 and an apparent "lowest responsible bidder" has been awarded a contract. A start-up meeting with the contractor and our architect was scheduled for May 30, 2013.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL FAÇADE**

This project is currently on hold pending further evaluation and investigation.

## **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (2013/2014)**

### **HIGH SCHOOL ROOFING**

This project was advertised on May 14, 2013 and plans and specifications are currently available for this project. A pre-bid meeting was held on May 21, 2013 and bids are scheduled to be opened on June 11, 2013.

### **HIGH SCHOOL GYM A/C**

This project was advertised on May 15, 2013 and plans and specifications are currently available for this project. A pre-bid meeting was held on May 21, 2013 and bids are scheduled to be opened on June 11, 2013.

### **HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

As required by FEMA, the North Plainfield Board of Education is currently preparing its portion of the new Five Year Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for subsequent submission to the Somerset County Engineering Office. All requested documentation has been submitted at this time. UPDATE: An update meeting was scheduled for May 30, 2013 at the County Office of Emergency Management.

### 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, with Ms. Szaroleta abstaining, that:

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

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

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

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on June 4, 2013, and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, signed by the President of the Board of Education and Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, be sent to Mr. Pocius.

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

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

June 4, 2013

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

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

WHEREAS she has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately thirty-two 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. Lendach 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 June 4, 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. Lendach.

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS she has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately twenty 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. Mallet 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 June 4, 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. Mallet.

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

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

June 4, 2013

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

WHEREAS Michael Cavadini, custodian in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that he wishes to retire on September 1, 2013, and

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

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

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on June 4, 2013, and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, signed by the President of the Board of Education and Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, be sent to Mr. Cavadini.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Ms. Szaroleta abstaining, that the Board of Education acknowledge its appreciation for the efforts of volunteers throughout the school system who have served so faithfully and graciously during the past year.

It is further recommended that the Board extend its best wishes for a happy and healthy summer to the entire group of volunteers and that a notice of adoption of this resolution be posted in each school building.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Ms. Szaroleta abstaining, that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following individuals as attendance officers in the district at the rate of \$19 per hour:

Carl Gaebel  
Carlos Rodriguez

E. Michael Sugalski  
Jonathan Shealy

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Ms. Szaroleta abstaining, that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Leah Glicksman as a translator for the district at the rate of \$26 per hour.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Ms. Szaroleta abstaining, that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following staff members as A-V coordinators in the schools and at the stipends indicated after their names:

Alexis Holbrook	East End School	\$2494
Wendy Alvarez	West End School	\$2494
Jennie Dzurilla	Stony Brook School	\$1872
Timothy Mentone	Somerset School	\$2494
Roseann Caruso	NPMS/HS	\$3117

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Ms. Szaroleta abstaining, that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following staff to work in the Special Education Extended School Year Program for a total of 24 days at the rate of \$52.24 an hour, to be funded through local summer school funds FY'14 as follows:

<u>General Fund District (11-422-100-101-00-00)</u>		
<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Hours per Day</u>	<u>Class/Grade</u>
Michelle Onofri	3.0	Autistic Class
Ashley Gutowski	3.0	Preschool Class
Allison Hessemer	3.0	Preschool Class
Nancy Schreck	3.0	Grades K-2
Sharon Egan	3.0	Grades K-2
Leanne Borbeley	3.0	Grades 2-3

Further, that Nicole Hawker-Daniel provide the Wilson Reading Program for up to 28 hours.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Allen abstaining, that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the paraprofessionals indicated on the attached list be employed to work in the Special Education Extended School Year Program at the hours indicated after their names at the rate of \$20.61 effective June 24 through June 28, 2013, and at the rate of \$21.14 per hour for the remaining 19 days, for a total of 24 days.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the staff members noted on the attached list to work in the North Plainfield Summer Academy for a total of 25 days at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, to be funded through local summer school funds FY'13 and NCLB Title I FY'12 funds.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the following staff members as facilitators for the Summer School Initiatives Program for up to 57 hours each (19 days) at the hourly rate of \$52.24:

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the 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 the Board of Education approve the certificated staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for courses taken between January and May 2013.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the attached **2013-2014** District Professional Development Plan as prepared by the Local Professional Development Committee.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Mario Della Fortuna as a teacher of biology at NPHS, at the BA/Step 4-5 (4-5/5) annual salary rate of \$55,890, and that a contract to employ be issued.

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 **summer** of **2013**, the Board of Education approve John DeLaurentis, teacher of English at NPHS, to conduct an inventory and organize the high school English bookroom for up to 40 hours, at the hourly rate of \$21.14.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the individuals noted on the attached list to work as mentor trainers and/or induction trainers in the **summer** mentoring program for the hours as indicated, at the hourly rate of \$49.74, to be funded with NCLB Title I FY'13 funds.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education grant Roseann Caruso, NJ Smart data analysis and assessment coordinator, a twelve-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective November 15, 2013 through February 7, 2014. (Ms. Caruso will begin her leave using accrued sick days effective October 15, 2013 through November 14, 2013 during her disability period.)

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 a temporary increase in hours for Brenda Eady, paraprofessional at Stony Brook School, from 3.0 hours per day to 3.5 hours per day, effective April 16, 2013.

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

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

Name	Course	School	Crd	Paid	Reimb.
Zoraida Otero (Sec/NPHS)	Intro to Cnslng & Human Serv.	Kean Univ.	3	\$2121.00	\$1060.50

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

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

Suzanne Dahlinger	East End School
Michele Motichka	Stony Brook School
Kourtney Karl	West End School
Mary Castro	Somerset School
Jennifer Riolo	NPMS
Teresa Thompson	NPHS

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the following teachers as presenters at the June Parent Academy Program, “The Kindergarten Experience,” for five hours each at the rate of \$35 per hour:

Nancy Lubreski	Keren Fonseca
Marilyn Pinto	Tara Venturino-Scott

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the following certificated staff transfers:

Leslie Hansen          Grade 3/East End School      Academic Support/East End School  
(Ms. Hansen will replace Mollie Mallett)

Miriam Andrews      Intn'l K/West End School      ESL Teacher/West End School  
(Ms. Andrews will replace Alan Adams)

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Erika Gambuti as an ESL teacher at West End School at the BA/Step 6-7 (6-7/7) annual salary rate of \$56,090, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. Gambuti will replace Mariluz Torres.)

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Lauren Laudino to teach the international kindergarten class at West End School at the BA/Step 4-5 (4-5/5) annual salary rate of \$55,890, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. Laudino will replace Miriam Andrews.)

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Alison Mac as a teacher of kindergarten at Stony Brook School at the MA/Step 1 annual salary rate of \$58,490, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. Mac will replace Deborah Lendach.)

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

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Ines Simoes as a kindergarten teacher at Stony Brook School at the BA/Step 2-3 (2-3/2) annual salary rate of \$55,690, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. Simoes will replace Lucille McCormick.)

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

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

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Andrea Grasso as a temporary school counselor at NPHS at the MA/Step 2-3 (2-3/2) annual salary rate of \$58,690, effective September 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, and that a contract to employ be issued. (Ms. Grasso will temporarily replace Christine Cascione.)

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

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

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Branán abstaining, that for the 2013-2014 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the paraprofessionals indicated on the attached list at the schools and for the hours indicated, to be paid at the rate of \$21.14 per hour, and that contracts to employ be issued.

Further, that the paraprofessionals on the attached list be appointed as substitute paraprofessionals in the district for the 2013-2014 school year.

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

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

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Madelaine Colas, secretary at West End School, effective June 24, 2013.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for the following non-classified student(s) for up to ten hours per week to be provided by Educere:

HI-76-12-13                      May 31, 2013

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-77-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by Education Inc. at Summit Oaks Hospital at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, effective May 17, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-78-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by UMDNJ at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, effective May 24, 2013.

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

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

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education adopt a program of studies and the corresponding textbooks for the **2013-2014** school year consisting of the following subject areas for implementation in the elementary and secondary schools of the district and make available such services and those provided in NJAC 6:28 and NJSA 18A: 46 (handicapped and child study teams) to support, supplement, and complement the program of studies herein adopted.

Further, that the Board of Education approve the alignment of district curricula with the State Board-Adopted Standards.

English	Art
Language Arts	Music
Mathematics	Library
Science	Computer Sciences
Social Studies	Special Education
World Languages (in applicable grades)	Gifted and Talented
Health & Physical Education	Bilingual and English as a Second Language
Ind. Arts/Applied Technology (in applicable grades)	Speech & Theater
Business Education (in applicable grades)	Family & Consumer Sciences (in applicable grades)
Basic Skills/Academic Support	School Counseling

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 make the following appointments for the **2013-2014** school year:

School Insurance Agents	Willis HRH (Property & Liability)
	Brown and Brown Advisors Inc. (Health)
COBRA Administration	AmeriFlex
Affirmative Action Officers	Dr. Robert H. Rich, Linda Remolino, Frank DaSilva
Gender Equity Officer	Dr. Robert H. Rich
Homeless Liaison	Dr. Robert H. Rich
504 Officer	Jane Delaney
AHERA Representative	Edward Ostroff
Safety and Health Designee	Edward Ostroff
Asbestos Management Officer	Edward Ostroff
Right to Know Contact	Edward Ostroff
Integrated Pest Mgmt Coordinator	Edward Ostroff
Lead Paint Removal and Restoration	Edward Ostroff

EPA Designated Point of Contact	Edward Ostroff
Indoor Air Quality Point of Contact	Edward Ostroff
Public Agency Compliance Officer	Donald Sternberg
Qualified Purchasing Agent	Donald Sternberg
Custodian of Records	Donald Sternberg
Architect of Record	Parette Somjen Architects
Legal Counsel/Labor Negotiator	Lindabury, McCormick & Estabrook, A. Sciarrillo, Esq.
Bonding Attorney	McManimon & Scotland
Financial Consultants	Phoenix Advisors, Inc.
Engineer of Record	Edwards Engineering (Civil)
Construction Attorney	Greenberg, Traurig, LLP, Robert C. Epstein, Esq.
Substance Awareness Coord.	Frank DaSilva

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education appoint Dr. Robert H. Rich, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, as the authorized representative of the North Plainfield School District for Title I and NCLB program applications.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education authorize the establishment of petty cash funds as follows:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Administrator</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Office of the Superintendent	Dr. Marilyn E. Birnbaum	\$100
Office of the Asst. Superintendent	Dr. Robert H. Rich	100
Office of the School Bus. Admin.	Donald Sternberg	100
Office of Director of Operations	Edward Ostroff	100
East End School	Kathleen Herrmann	100
West End School	Beth Sobel	100
Stony Brook School	Catherine Kobylarz	100
Somerset School	Reginald Sainte-Rose	100
High School	Jerard Stephenson	100
Middle School	John Ferguson	100
Pupil Services	Jane Delaney	100
Alternative High School Program	John Tarnofsky	100

With the exception of expenditures for postage, single expenditures are limited to \$25.00 per fund.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education adopt the following resolution for the **2013-2014** school year limiting the total number of its students participating in the school choice program to:

- a) a maximum of seven percent (7%) or greater of the total number of students enrolled in the sending district; and/or
- b) a maximum of two percent (2%) or greater of the total number of students per grade per year in the sending district [N.J.A.C. 6A:12-3.1(a)].

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 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 \$25,000.00, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. #

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 Phoenix Advisors, LLC to represent the school district in financial matters not to exceed \$7,500.00, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.#

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, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.#

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 \$50,000.00, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. #

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 \$1,700,000.00, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.#

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 McManimon & Scotland, LLC as bond counsel not to exceed \$25,000.00, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.#

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 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 \$75,000.00, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.#

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 AmeriFlex to provide services related to COBRA Administration services, not to exceed \$5,000, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014.#

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 Willis of NJ, Inc. to provide services related to property, causality, and liability insurance services effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. 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

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 effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. 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.

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 to provide 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, effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014. 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 \$55,000.00.
- b. Fire and Securities Technologies – Alarm and Fire Protection, Simplex Systems not to exceed \$60,000.00.

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 the Board of Education approve the following field trips:

School	Date	Purpose	Location	Cost	Transportation
NPHS E. Hansen	6/30/13- 7/12/13	ROTC Leadership Academy and Sail Training	Naval Station Newport, RI	\$1075	N/A

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve renewal of the food service management contract with Maschio’s Food Services, Inc. located at 191 Route 206 North in Flanders, New Jersey. Maschio’s Food Service guarantees a minimum profit of \$80,000.00 and will charge a management fee of \$23,141.00 for the **2013-2014** school year.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the **2013-2014** school year, the Board of Education approve the alternate method of compliance in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:26-6.3 (h) 4ii and iii by providing toilet rooms adjacent to or outside the classroom in lieu of individual toilet rooms in Stony Brook School classroom # 8 and East End School classroom # 9.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve reimbursement to the following administrators for unused vacation days earned during the 2011-2012 school year in accordance with the negotiated Agreement:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Maria Araneo	5	\$2,449.35
Hope Blecher	5	\$2,328.25
Jane Delaney	5	\$2,956.25
John Ferguson	5	\$2,061.45
Kathleen Herrmann	5	\$2,678.75
Catherine Kobylarz	5	\$2,930.65
Patricia Marseglia	5	\$2,528.50
Thomas Mazur	4	\$1,850.52
Edward Ostroff	5	\$2,133.15
Linda Remolino	5	\$2,582.40
Reginald Sainte-Rose	5	\$2,784.90

Steven Schlosser	5	\$1,488.30
Diana Sefchik	5	\$2,849.60
Beth Sobel	5	\$2,880.65
Jerard Stephenson	5	\$2,937.00
John Tarnofsky	5	\$2,092.20
Edison Torres, Jr.	5	\$2,042.20
Thomas Allen – Aye		Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branan – Aye		Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye		Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye		

### **Correspondence**

Letters were received as follows from:

- ❖ Thank you note from Denise VanHorn
- ❖ Thank you note from Mary Elizabeth Winsor
- ❖ Thank you note from Dorothy Carro
- ❖ Thank you note from Alan Adams

### **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 – next meeting is TBD.

Policy Meeting – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Negotiations – no meeting scheduled at this time.

NJSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCSBA – Mr. Kasper was elected as Vice President.

SCESC – next meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2013.

### **Old Business**

Board Self Evaluation/Board Retreat – Online Forms & Tentative Date, July 24, 2013

### **New Business**

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

### **Current Events in Education**

There was none.

### **Comments from the Public**

Councilman LaRonde mentioned the Street Fair on Saturday, June 8, 2013 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

### **Future Agenda Items**

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

Quilts for Somerset Medical Center – June 19, 2013, Mary Castro

HIB Self-Evaluation Report – June 19, 2013, Dr. Robert H. Rich

June 4, 2013

**Adjournment**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on June 19, 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 9:10 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 reconvene to public session at 10:09 pm.

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

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg