

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on October 17, 2012 at Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Mrs. Bond-Nelson called the meeting to order and made the following announcement: In accordance with NJSA 10:4-10, required advance notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk; submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, AND Comcast; posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall and the North Plainfield Public Library and the school district website. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

Thomas Allen	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, Jihad Womack, Student Representative and approximately 10 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 October 3, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of October 3, 2012.

#### **Financial Report**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated September 30, 2012 in the amount of \$4,804,992.32.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education accept the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Funds, for the month of August 2012 and further recommends in compliance with NJAC 6:23-2.11(B), that the Board of Education certify that to the best of their knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended and that as of this report sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of this fiscal year.

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

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

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

### **Student Representative Report**

The student report was presented by Jihad Womack as follows:

Wednesday, Oct. 17 PSAT administered to all students in grades 9-11 Seniors reported to the auditorium where a representative from Berkeley College spoke to the students about Senioritis, Texting while driving, and a little about Berkeley College. Priscila Weber spoke about interviews and dressing for success. Ellen Brain and Mr. Torres served as motivational speakers. Jihad Womack and Flor Ledezma presented a PPT on the College Admissions process to their peers as well.

Thursday, Oct. 18 Junior/Senior Parents' Night 7:00 PM Cafeteria

Friday, Oct. 19 Senior Breakfast – Periods 1 & 2 Cafeteria

High School Spirit Week Oct. 22-26

Monday, Oct. 22 Dress-Up Day

Tuesday, Oct. 23 Mismatch Day

Wed, Oct. 24 Pajama Day

Thursday, Oct. 25 Hat Day Decorating Class Hallways after school

Friday, Oct. 26 Spirit Day Judging of hallways will take place before homeroom  
Period 9 Pep Rally – Upper Krausche Field, rain location – HS Gym

Oct. 19 Freshman & Sophomore Halloween Dance 7-10pm cafeteria

Oct. 30 National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 7pm Auditorium

### **Canuckling Club:**

At last week's meeting, we came up with some great ideas for this year's theme. One of the ideas for theme was "Juxtapositions." We will continue to accept ideas for themes and discuss them at the next meeting. Elizabeth Okereke came up with an idea for a club T-shirt that she shared with everyone.

Another highlight of the club was that many students were able to attend the Dodge Poetry Festival in Newark, NJ last Friday. At the festival, held at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center, students visited many different sessions with various contemporary American poets. The sessions varied in topic: some were readings, and others were discussions about poetry and authorship. There were over forty published poets at the festival, including Nikki Finney, Henri Cole, and Amiri Barack, among many others. The students thoroughly enjoyed being exposed to various forms of poetry, and they hope to attend again in two more years.

### **Senior Class**

- Meetings are still held every Monday morning 7am-7:35am
- On-going fundraiser: Eco-Scents Candles sale is on from now until Nov. 15
- Homecoming Dance is scheduled for Nov. 16 from 7-10:30 at NPHS
- In November we will be canning again at Quick Chek
- Halloween Candy Gram sale - Oct. 24-26
- Planning for hallway decorating, which is next Thursday

### **Yearbook:**

Layouts and digital design work is continuing and staff is gearing up for their first major deadline. Yearbooks can be ordered online for \$85 at [www.balfour.com](http://www.balfour.com)

**Junior Class:**

Bake sales have been a success and upcoming fundraisers are projected to be a lot of fun - we are planning an upcoming multicultural food "cook-off"! Hall decorating themes have been selected.

**Page to Stage Elective:**

Students went on a field trip to see "Oliver Twist" and will see a matinee performance of "Man of La Mancha" at the Shakespeare Theatre of NJ. Students are also working on short independent films for an in-class film festival at the end of October.

**Drama Club**

The Drama Club has spent the month of September and the first few weeks of October working on a couple of pieces for Anti-Bullying Prevention Month

- The first project, in collaboration with Frank DaSilva, has the Drama Club and Advanced Acting class working on vignettes about Bullying (violent and non-violent) designed to initiate discussion about bullying, the bystanders guilt by association, and the victims. These vignettes were performed over the course of four days to all the Freshman homerooms.
- On Wednesday, October 17th, the Drama Club will then go into the cafeteria and run an anti- cyber bullying presentation wherein the link between rumor spreading and the internet as a weapon is made.
- The Drama Club is also working on a violence prevention production that will be performed on Oct. 24th in and out of school.
- The Drama club has begun to discuss the upcoming one-act play festival that will be presented in December.

**American Sign Language Honor Society**

In October we wrapped up our fundraiser for the Garden State Walk4Hearing. Students set a goal to raise \$750. By holding a bake sale, staff dress down day, and collecting donations, the honor society was able to raise \$1,175. We participated in the 5K Walk4Hearing on Saturday, October 13th. It was a wonderful experience for the group, providing them with exposure to not only ASL, but the other "world" of cochlear implants and hearing aids. The students had an opportunity to speak with representatives from caption phone companies along with two large cochlear implant companies and ask questions about the equipment and procedure.

**French Honor Society**

We have held three meetings on 9/14 and 9/19, and 10/3 as well as elections for club officers on 9/21.

- This year's newly elected officers are: Dayana Ledezma, President, Kaylen Chamarro, Vice-President, Daniela Lopez, Secretary, Juliana Villegas, Treasurer.
- Next meeting is scheduled for 10/25

- Current business includes: preparing for school displays for National French Week in November and our first fundraising "crêpe" sale prior to the teachers' convention break.

### **Sophomore Class.**

Sophomore class has been busy planning fundraisers for the year. Game and movie nights are a high priority for us this year and we are excited to see them happen. We are also eagerly planning our hallway design for the Spirit week hallway decoration contest. We took second place last year as Freshman and we feel we have a good shot at first this year!

### **Italian Honor Society Club**

Celebrations of Italian American Heritage month and 31 days of Italians. Leading about different famous ItaloAmericani. We are also still in the process of planning our "notte fuori" Night out in Italia. (Oct. 25)

### **National Honor Society**

Induction Ceremony will be Oct 30, 7pm

### **Steppers**

The Step Team presents a half time show at the Boys and Girls Basketball games. They also hold fundraising sales during the year, and will be participating in Community Service Projects this year. They also Step at the Somerset Multicultural Fair in the spring.

### **NJ Science League**

NJ Science league does not start until Jan. 2013. In the meantime I am recruiting, doing paperwork, informing students & gathering teams from our relevant classes.

### **Interact Club**

- The bake sale we had on October 10th was a success! We raised a total of \$75.55!!
- On October 19<sup>th</sup> we will meet to deliver boxes to all high school homerooms for our annual food drive. The contributions will be donated to the North Plainfield Food Bank.
- On October 22<sup>nd</sup> the interact students involved with the upcoming blood drive on November 16<sup>th</sup> will be trained (procedures, safety tips) by the Regional Coordinator, Youth, Volunteer & Blood Services after school.

### **Tunlaw**

The *Tunlaw* editors successfully participated in the first "Layout Lockdown." Students remained for a significant amount of time after school to select the format for this year's paper, learn the basics of editing and layout, and begin creating the October issue.

Additionally, students decided to keep the design for the *Tunlaw* T-shirt that they will wear the day that the first edition of the newspaper is distributed. Students are excited to spread the word about *Tunlaw*.

### **Dance Club**

Dance club are held every Wednesday and Thursday under my supervision. The meetings are after school at 2:40 to 3:40 pm. on overflow room. The Dance Club is flowing at in impeccable manner. So far only the section of bachata and salsa are actively open. We are planning that in a matter of a couple weeks we will start up bachata dance

### **HOPE Club**

Is planning a field trip this Friday to Sandy Hook to investigate an estuary. I hope the weather cooperates!

We have also been doing a great deal of garden work, including removal of the invasive burning bush that was in front of the Middle School entrance. In north jersey, this bush has taken over the park/forest areas. But we will not have that problem here!

### **Middle School Student Council**

I am the middle school student council advisor. So far we have had a back to school night pizza party fundraiser and our t-shirt sale (which just ended on Friday 10/12.) Last week was Campaign Week where the students running in the election made posters to hang throughout the middle school. Those students who were running for president gave a speech to the student body about why they should be elected. We also started the 9th annual food drive. This week at our meeting we will be discussing the upcoming Halloween dance, incentives and activities to bring in items for the food drive, as well as coming up with a community service project to hopefully start in the new year.

### **Spanish Honor Society**

This year in the Spanish Honors Society the activities we have started are

Election of officers: President- Keith Jeffries  
Co-President- Daisy Cardona  
Vice President-Jihad Womack  
Coordinator-Gladys Hernandez  
Secretary- Jennifer Marmalejos  
Treasurer-Jon Eugnio

The Showcase to celebrate Spanish Heritage month where we decorated the halls and the showcase with beautiful Spanish decorations and information with Spanish countries and people.

Meetings: September 19, 2012

September 26, 2012

Our president made a speech on the morning announcements for the Spanish Honors Society

On October 19, 2012 we will participate in the Multicultural Day Dress Up

We are planning to go on a trip to New York (Repertorio Espanol)

### **Presentation**

Dr. Rich and Ms. Remolino reviewed and discussed with the Board, the Violence and Vandalism report for the 2011-2012 school years.

Mr. Stephenson and Ms. Weber discussed and reviewed with the Board, two programs promoting improving student achievements: Performance and Achieving System for Success (PASS) and Inspired by Lead (IBL).

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to adjourn to executive session for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law at 9:20 pm.

## Superintendent's Report

### RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

#### District

**The following is a summary of the district's partnership with Rutgers University regarding the School System Improvement Project (SSI):**

**SCHOOL SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, U.S. Department of Education Teacher Incentive Fund Program CFDA 84.374A, Project Director: Linda A. Reddy**

Partnering with four high poverty school districts in New Jersey, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, applied for and has received a grant from the federal government under the **General Teacher Incentive Fund (TIF) Competition** to improve student achievement. The grant project, funded from the U.S. Department of Education TIF, aims to support the Asbury Park, Hillside, Lakewood, and North Plainfield Public Schools in facing high poverty challenges and meeting the educational needs of their students. These four districts serve over 10,000 students across 22 schools, 73 percent of which face the challenges of high poverty rates and student learning needs. To meet these challenges and promote positive student outcomes, the supportive federal funding is intended to help these four districts over the next five years invest in their talented educators, teachers and principals alike.

The SSI Project and partner districts will collaboratively implement a comprehensive human capital management system (HCMS) that includes strategies to recruit, develop, and retain effective educators. As part of the HCMS, the SSI Project will include a fair and balanced educator evaluation system (EES), one for teachers and one for principals. The EES is aligned with the New Jersey Educator Effectiveness Task Force (2011) recommendations and the Excellent Educators for New Jersey (EE4NJ) requirements. The EES uses classroom observation data (e.g., the Danielson Framework for Teaching) in conjunction with teacher input and student data measured by standardized testing and district level assessments. The EES generates scores that inform four performance levels of effectiveness as recommended by the EE4NJ program. These performance levels, in turn, will inform empirically supported professional development systems and programs for teachers and principals. The SSI Project intends to link the EES scores to the specific professional development needs of individual educators. Most notably, through TIF funding, the SSI Project seeks to build each district's capacity for providing one-on-one coaches for teachers and principals as a part of their professional development systems.

Consistent with TIF program requirements, the school districts of the SSI Project will reward teacher and principal effectiveness (as indicated by the applicable EES) through performance based compensation (PBCS) in the form of stipends. The SSI Project does *not* include merit pay systems or changes in salary structures for teachers or principals based on effectiveness. The funds for the PBCS come directly from the U.S. Department of Education TIF program and will not alter school districts' budgets or educator base salaries.

Through implementation of the proposed HCMS, the SSI Project will accomplish and measure progress on the TIF program's Absolute Priorities 1 and 2 through the following **eight objectives** nested within **three goals**. Goal 1 is to **Increase the percent of effective teachers**, and includes the following three objectives: (a) Increase the effectiveness of current teachers, (b) Increase the recruitment of teachers who are effective or likely to be effective, and (c) Increase the percent of effective teachers retained. Goal 2 is to **Increase the percent of effective principals**, and includes the following three objectives (a) Increase the effectiveness of current principals, (b) Increase the recruitment of principals who are effective or likely to be effective, and (c) Increase the percent of effective principals retained. Goal 3 is to **Increase student growth in achievement**, and includes the following two objectives: (a) Increase student growth in achievement at the classroom and school level, and (b) Increase student growth in achievement across schools.

In sum, the SSI Project will help high poverty schools attract, develop, motivate, and retain effective teachers and principals. Together, the components of the SSI Project will build school district capacity for long term sustainability of improved educator effectiveness and student achievement.

### **Staff**

**Jerry Pocius, Veteran English Teacher, continues Study of Holocaust:** From July 8 to July 21, 2012, Jerome Pocius participated in the **2012 European Study Program sponsored by the Jewish Foundation for the Righteous**. He had the privilege of joining twelve other **Lerner Fellows** on this trip. The two-week program included visits to concentration camps, ghetto sites, documentation centers, and museums. They also met with Holocaust rescuers, local historians, and educators. **Professor Robert Jan van Pelt, one of the world's most respected authorities on the Holocaust**, was the accompanying scholar for the program.

Over the course of two weeks, they traveled to Munich, Nuremberg, Weimar, Berlin, Warsaw, Krakow, and Oswiecim (Auschwitz). Through lectures and visits to authentic Holocaust sites, they gained additional insights on the Holocaust. "In addition, it was fulfilling to bond and share with twelve other teachers from around the country who share my passion and commitment to Holocaust/Genocide education," remarked Mr. Pocius.

While there were many "highlights" to this experience, Mr. Pocius discussed two. First, on July 15, he attended the Rescuers Luncheon in Warsaw. This annual event, sponsored by the JFR, pays tribute to those who risked their lives during World War Two to save Jews from the Holocaust. "Over forty rescuers attended along with family members. Meeting these 'righteous gentiles' was a moving and humbling experience for me," commented Mr. Pocius. Second, at Auschwitz, they were fortunate to be given a "behind the scenes" tour of the camp. For example, Dr. van Pelt showed them some of the original blueprints of the camp. In addition, they viewed the restoration laboratories and Barrack 28, the "medical experimentation" site.

"Participation in this program has provided me with incredible new information and insight to include in my teaching at North Plainfield Middle School," the veteran teacher concluded.

### **Schools**

#### **Somerset School**

**Colonial Williamsburg Electronic Field Trip Activity 2012, Somerset School Media Center:** *On October 11, students from three fifth grade classes in Somerset School had a unique opportunity to interact, via telephone, with a live television production entitled, “The Will of the People,” the first in an annual series of electronic field trips, written and produced by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. This was a timely show, as Americans are presently counting down the last few weeks before imposing their will by voting in the upcoming presidential election.*

*Classes gathered in the media center at 10 a.m. and, again, at 1 p.m. to view the productions. The virtual trips were facilitated by the **media specialist, Nancy Rodino**, who screened students’ questions and helped them call in to the show.*

*Although Somerset students participated in this activity last year, this was the first time the call screeners chose one of them to voice her question on live TV. Madison Meza, from James McCloskey’s class, asked about the Alien and Sedition Acts and was rewarded with a rather detailed explanation, by “Thomas Jefferson,” a member of the panel of historians that answers the callers during certain segments of the production. It is possible this question will appear on the final copy of the DVD of the show.*

*In addition, approximately twelve other students were able to call in and chat with the historians about their specific inquiries. The prospect of making a call provoked much enthusiasm in the class.*

*Aside from the interactive aspect of the lesson, the show was replete with information about the construction of our electoral process, delivered with a superb script created by the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, and presented by a group of skilled actors.*

*Ms. Rodino was fortunate to receive a phone call from one of the foundation members the same day. Dale Van Eck was very informative, explaining many ways to use these field trips in classrooms, how to access the core curriculum standards for each film, and ways to allow the students to use the interactive links from school or home computers. This is the second year she has received a scholarship for this program, and she and other teachers are very pleased with the quality of the videos as well as the supplementary links and materials included. The support and information proffered by the foundation to facilitate fusing the trips into lesson plans is commendable.*

*The field trips are also being used as a PLC tool by Ms. Rodino, Kathleen Fry, Dorian Parreott and Lucas Miller to intertwine the lessons of music, art and library rotation classes.*

**Somerset School Violence Prevention Week 2012:** Under the leadership of **Sarah Tanne, school counselor**, Somerset School organized a variety of activities for Violence Prevention week. Each day will include a trivia question presented during morning announcements regarding violence awareness. The students will discuss the question in their homerooms after announcements. Students also made peace posters that have been hung throughout the school; these posters incorporate anti-violence messages. In addition, students will see an anti-violence video presentation during advisory period for the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and during opportunity period for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. After the presentation teachers will give community awards to students who have been nominated for either good character or excellence in academics. There will also be a theme for each day of the week: Monday – Nerd Day – dress up as a nerd because you are “Too Smart for Violence”; Tuesday - Pajama Day – “Dream Away Drugs”; Wednesday – Crazy Day “Too Crazy to do Drugs”; Thursday – Red Day “Anti-Violence”; and Friday – Sports Jersey Day “Violence will Bench You”

## NPMS

**Character Education Assembly:** The year's first Character Education Assembly was held on October 9. After welcoming remarks by **Assistant Principal John Ferguson**, social studies teachers **Danielle Fauci** and **David Hooker** introduced to the students the purpose of the year-wide program when they stated, "Your character is defined by what you do, not what you say or believe. It is not how you look. It's not who or what you know that matters most. What decides the path of your life, and the quality of our communities, is what kind of person you are." NPMS will recognize students who demonstrate the qualities of someone with good character throughout the school year. The six qualities of good character are: responsibility, trustworthiness, citizenship, respect, caring, and fairness. Each month, teachers will select two students who demonstrate the character trait for the month. In addition, teachers will look out for students who show the character trait and award them with an "Awesome Act." The students with the most awesome acts at the end of the month will be awarded a certificate of "Good Character" and invited to the year-end pizza party. To coincide with the upcoming presidential election, "citizenship" was chosen to be this year's first character trait.

**NPMS Canuck Pride:** NPMS student council, under the advisor ship of **Lindsey Mulry**, **school counselor**, is currently conducting its annual "NPMS Canuck Pride" T-shirt fundraiser. This fundraiser is a student favorite because the students look forward to wearing their colorful shirts on special occasions. This year's shirt displays the word P.R.I.D.E. for "perseverance," "respect," "integrity," "determination" and "enthusiasm" which is proudly written across the back of the shirt.

**Back-To-School Night:** On October 4, the middle school held its annual Back-to-School Night, beginning at 6:30 p.m., with welcoming remarks and introductions by **John Ferguson**, **assistant principal**. During the introduction, Mr. Ferguson shared his vision of the middle school as "a place where students would be successfully transitioned from the intermediate setting to the secondary school environment, while developing their academic, emotional, moral, and social potential." The program was extremely well attended, as the auditorium was filled to capacity. Parents had the opportunity to meet their child's teachers and learn about the exciting activities that will take place throughout the year. To help parents with their busy schedule, the middle school student council hosted a pizza diner before the night's events.

**Anti-Bullying Night:** Anti-bullying specialist **Dana Smith** hosted a "NPMS Pasta Dinner and Information Night" on Monday, October 8. The purpose of this affair was to inform parents of the HIB procedures and provide general information about bullying and its effects. Ms. Smith stressed the importance of proper decision-making in adolescents and offered parents invaluable tools for parents to help eliminate bullying.

## NPMS

**Week of Respect and School Violence Awareness Week:** During the week of October 8-12, the drama club performed skits in homerooms throughout the high school. The skits dramatized different scenarios that can occur in students' lives and what tools they can use to recognize any potential violent occurrences. The goal is to bring awareness to situations that may seem harmless, but can escalate and put students in harm's way.

Students will also be putting purple and orange ribbons on lockers throughout the high school and middle school to represent people who have been victims of violence. There will be three purple lockers followed by one orange to represent the statistic of one in every four students that will be affected by violence this year. The statistics will be announced during morning announcements.

### East End School

*Whenever anyone sees **music teacher Diana VanHise** in school, she is sporting an adorable figure on her shoulder. At first, one wonders how it stays there without falling off, but that is Ms. VanHise's secret! She then answers the question of just who this adorable character is by responding, "This is my shoulder buddy and her name is Flutter. She comes from the planet Land of Understand. In order to grow her hair and come to earth she had to study hard and pass a test. Then, she could become someone's shoulder buddy. My shoulder buddy is about good character and her message is to go with the flow. I explain to the children that go with the flow means following directions and obeying rules. Then you can be happy and learn more easily. We then talk a little about what happens when someone breaks a school rule, such as not walking through the hallways properly. I ultimately ask if breaking the rules and accepting a consequence makes one happy. They say 'no' all of the time. So, walking down the hall frees you to get somewhere else safely AND you can learn from the displays on the walls, which you can see when you walk instead of talking or running!" Ms. VanHise also uses the analogy of being in a row boat on a river, and asks students if it is easier to float with the river's current or paddle against it? She explains to the students that when you go with the river, you have time to be happy and see the scenery. When you paddle against it, you work hard, are unhappy and get nowhere. It's the same idea as obeying the rules and following directions.*

*Ms. VanHise has introduced additional shoulder buddies. One is named Peace, and she sits on her shoulder next to Flutter. Ms. VanHise tells the children, "She is there to remind us that when you 'Go With the Flow' you have Peace, which allows you to be a buddy, not a bully. I start every class with a short reminder of what my two little friends mean and this positive behavior plan is working."*

*Mrs. VanHise also has an Ocean shoulder buddy and Rain shoulder buddy which she uses to share facts with the children about those topics when they sing a song about water, rain or traveling on a ship. "I even had a parent at back to school night ask me about my shoulder buddy and my puppets because her child never stopped talking about them," stated Mrs. VanHise.*

*Mrs. VanHise is in the process of making a wall display with a big row boat on a river entitled GO WITH THE FLOW – follow the rules of the school. Hanging over the river will be a rainbow labeled peace. "Raising student awareness about the rules and character education traits continues to have a positive impact on the students as they enjoy visiting with the shoulder buddies during music class or seeing them as Ms. VanHise walks through the school. As a matter of fact, the entire school community awaits the arrival of new should buddies," remarked Ms. Herrmann.*

The week of October 1 was the **Week of Respect** at East End School. All classes created collages with pictures of ways to show respect. The hallway leading to the cafeteria was designated "The Hallway of Respect." All classes hung their collages in the hallway, as well as quotes and poems about respect. The Hallway of Respect has a "Respect Hall of Fame"

that displays respectful people in history such as Abe Lincoln, Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi. Morning announcements focused on respect and age-appropriate class lessons were done in all grades. Third and fourth graders had an essay contest on respect and the winning essay will be read at East End's first citizenship assembly. The Hallway of Respect has become so popular that it will remain throughout the year and continue to grow.

**International Walk to School Day** was held on Wednesday, October 3. **Physical education teachers Corrine Cecala and Todd Vanderputten** sent home notices encouraging children to walk to school safely. As the children arrived that morning, there was a slight drizzle, but that didn't stop them from participating in this event. Approximately 120 students walked to school that day and for their efforts the PTO provided delicious fresh fruit, granola bars and a sticker. International Walk to School Day promotes good health and nutrition.

East End School held its second **PTO meeting** on October 9. Ms. Herrmann presented the annual testing report to the audience and answered questions and concerns. Lynnelle Thomas, PTO Recording Secretary and third grade teacher also provided a great deal of information to the parents during the presentation. "The meeting was very productive and once again parents stepped up to the plate to volunteer for committees and support teachers in the classrooms. East End School is fortunate to have such supportive parents who are willing to go that extra mile for the children and for the school," stated Ms. Herrmann.

East End School is ready to recognize **Violence Prevention Week** beginning October 15. Staff members have collaborated so that a sense of kindness threads through the disciplines. Library media specialist **Allison Longley** will be doing lessons throughout the week using read-alouds and discussions. Music teacher **Diana VanHise** will be teaching her classes a song about kindness and she will select a class to sing it to the audience during East End's first citizenship assembly. **Art teacher Joanne Wendt** will be working with her classes on creating a blue chain that signifies unity and it will be displayed in the building. Also, all students and staff will be asked to wear blue on Friday, October 19 to show their support for unity. "At East End we continue to support and educate the students on the six pillars of character education. Each morning I remind the children that East End School is a no bully zone and that we should be a buddy and not a bully. Violence Prevention Week serves as another reminder to the students that everyone should be a good citizen and to be kind to one another," remarked Ms. Herrmann.

### **Stony Brook School**

**Project American Soldier:** **Leanne Borbely** and her students will be continuing their patriotic project entitled, "Project American Soldier." The students will be writing letters, sending letters, packing, sending care packages, counting money and collecting supplies in order to send "**We Care**" packages to those serving and protecting our country. The students will be placing a "**Penny for a Hero**" jar in each classroom at Stony Brook School in hopes to raise money to purchase items for the care packages.

As a school, Stony Brook's staff and students raised \$911.01 towards Project American soldier during the 2011-2012 school year. Stony Brook reached out to over 100 American soldiers, sending over 400 letters and 40 care packages. Last year the students received two very exciting pieces of mail. The first mail arrived from **First Lieutenant Alejandro Reyes** from the **361<sup>st</sup> Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron of the United States**

**Air Force.** First Lieutenant Reyes sent his United States Flag that flew in a combat mission aboard an MC-12W on April 8, 2012 over the skies of Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The second surprise was a letter from The White House in Washington D.C., signed by **President Obama**. In his letter, the President thanked the class for writing to him. It is with great hope that this year the project will exceed last year's numbers and reach many more American Heroes.

**Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Program:** Stony Brook School was the proud recipient of a U.S. Department of Agriculture's grant and has been among the 76,000 New Jersey students to participate in a state-wide Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Program. Every Thursday afternoon at 1:00 the students and staff receive their "snack of the week." The snacks have included pineapple slices, apple slices and this week was broccoli and ranch dip. The program is based on the theory that having students sample healthy foods on a regular basis will improve their health, leading to better life-long dietary habits and choices. The grant also supplies nutritional information about each product. "So far, so great! remarked **Cathy Kobylarz, principal**.

### West End School

#### **Respect Week Report:**

- On October 1, all students and staff were encouraged to wear blue for **World Day of Bullying Prevention** ([www.stompoutbullying.org](http://www.stompoutbullying.org)). Fliers were sent home and hung throughout the school to promote this event. Many students and staff wore blue in support of bullying prevention on this day.
- At the W.E. Pride Assembly on September 27, the school based planning committee spoke to the students and staff about West End's new slogan "**P.R.I.D.E**" (**Personal Responsibility in Daily Efforts**). Members of the committee held up letters spelling out P.R.I.D.E to teach the students what each letter stands for. Each grade level has been assigned a letter to sign their name on as a commitment to following our new slogan. Once all the letters are signed, a P.R.I.D.E banner will be hung in the community room.
- **Andrea Grasso, school counselor**, spoke to the students about Respect and the "Tokens of Respect" activity. Students were given three Popsicle sticks to decorate. During Respect Week, students handed sticks as "Tokens of Respect" to students they saw demonstrating respect. The goal was to raise awareness of respectful behavior. Ms. Grasso delivered these tokens of respect to each classroom and explained to the students what respect means and when it is appropriate to give a token of respect to another student.
- Also, at the assembly the school based planning committee introduced the song "What I Am" by Will.i.Am. During Respect Week, general music teacher **Jonathan Scott** taught the lyrics to the song and on Friday of Respect Week the students sang the song during their lunch periods in the community room.
- Teachers were asked to create a "**Wall of Respect**" outside of their classrooms by creating drawings or written assignments that illustrate acts of respectful behavior. This will serve as a reminder of appropriate behavior throughout the halls of our school.

**Unity Day - Unite Against Bullying:** On October 10, West End students and staff were encouraged to wear orange to school to unite against bullying. Sponsored by *PACER's*

*National Bullying Prevention Center*, wearing orange would show others who have been bullied that they are not alone, that you care, and lead the movement against bullying.

**West End's Author Visit:** On October 12, West End had a special visitor - **Marcie Aboff**, a children's author of over 50 published books and articles. During the K-4 assembly, she talked about her life as an author and the steps from where she has gotten ideas for books to how they get published. Grades 3 and 4 had writing workshops where they learned how to get ideas for stories and make their writings more interesting. The following students who represented each third and fourth grade class were selected to have a Q/A lunch with Ms. Aboff: **Bryant Fiallos, Alicia Dey, Jason Melendea, Raquel Kruszczyński, Liam Miller, Tamir Lewis, Ashley Dawsey, Cynthia Contrera, and Julian Mel'Tos.** **Dorothy Carro, academic support teacher** stated, " I would like to thank everyone who helped to make Friday's event possible and especially **W.E. PTA** for sponsoring the day; **Principal Beth Sobel** and **student liaison Marilyn Pinto** for their support in planning and organization; **physical education teacher Wendy Alvarez** for setting up the AV; Media Specialist **Lindsey Gall** for having the classes become familiar with the author and her books; **custodial staff Angel Lopez** and **John Vaughan** for setting up in the community room; and retired teacher **Marilou Barrett** for pictures."

## **DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES**

### **EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING**

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for October is electrical safety. Related safety training is being provided via our new on-line employee training system and all employees have or are currently completing their assigned training.

Safety Topic - Transportation. The current safety topic for van drivers and van paraprofessionals is special education lifts and transfers. Related safety training is being provided via our new on-line employee training system. All transportation employees have or are currently completing their assigned training.

Right To Know (RTK)– New Employees. A required, mandatory training session has been scheduled for all new employees. This training session, scheduled for December 11, will cover a range of safety related topics including RTK and accident and injury prevention.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

#### **SECURITY DRILLS**

The security drill for the October is an off-site evacuation drill. All schools are scheduled to complete their assigned drills before the end of the month. The security drill for November will be a lock down drill.

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

The Department of Homeland Security, working in conjunction with the New Jersey Department of Education's Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning has created mandatory guidelines for a new School Safety and Security Plan for all school districts. This new plan will require the creation of a district-wide committee and will take approximately one year to fully implement. UPDATE: As of this date, members of our administrative team have attended one training session and are currently scheduled to attend an additional training session on October 19, 2012. Additionally, we have

established a Safety Plan Sub Committee to continue working on the plan requirements and to conduct an annual review as per N.J.A.C. 6A: 16-5.1. To date, we are in compliance with all applicable requirements contained within the aforementioned statute(s).

### **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.

- Acquisition of one new maintenance van --Scheduled for delivery by 10/12/12.
- Minor repairs to the mason dump truck received from the Borough.
- Installation of lever function door lock assemblies for all of our new restrooms.
- Start-up of all boilers and heating system components, district wide.
- Moving and/or relocation of office furniture at Watchung School to accommodate the installation of new heating elements.
- Provide assistance to the contractor working on the Solar Project as requested.

An updated project register has been included with this report that details all of the in-progress or recently completed projects. Please review this register for additional information.

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

#### **HARRISON SCHOOL**

Chiller Installation. UPDATE: Minor punch list items were corrected on or about September 26, 2012 and the project will be closed out once we receive system training and close out documents.

#### **STONY BROOK SCHOOL**

Multi-Purpose Room Air Conditioning. UPDATE: Minor punch list items were corrected on or about September 26, 2012 and the project will be closed out once we receive system training and close out documents.

#### **DISTRICT WIDE SOLAR ENERGY**

Solar Energy. UPDATE: This project is now underway. Please review the information below for a current status of the project at each location.

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

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

Somerset School – All associated equipment has been loaded to the roof(s) and installation is in progress. There are no pending RFI's for this location.

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

#### **WATCHUNG BUILDING**

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: As the installation of heating system components continues, the contractor is providing temporary heat due to the dip in temperature.

#### **STONY BROOK SCHOOL**

Complete Heating System Replacement. UPDATE: A system start-up was conducted on September 26, 2012 and the system is now fully operational. The contractor is currently completing the installation of system controls.

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

Restroom Renovations. UPDATE: We are currently waiting for close-out documents from the contractor. A close out meeting will be scheduled in the near future. In all, twenty two restrooms were renovated in four buildings.

#### **DISTRICT-WIDE WIRELESS UPGRADE PROJECT**

UPDATE: This project was successfully bid on September 27, 2012 and contracts are being prepared at this time for the labor portion of this project. Additionally, we are in the process of placing orders for all of the required cable and equipment to complete this project. We anticipate a project start-up within the next two to three weeks and the contractor estimates \*completion will take approximately thirty days.

\*The timely completion of this project is dependent upon the availability and delivery of associated equipment.

#### **DISTRICT-WIDE ENERGY REDUCTION PROJECT**

The district has been approved for the Direct Install Program sponsored by PSE&G. This program provides partial funding for lighting upgrades that will reduce future energy costs. The project consists of lighting sensors for classrooms, restrooms, hallways and offices. Additionally, the project includes the replacement of gym lighting fixtures and energy controls for a number of our heating and air conditioning units. The first year savings are projected to be approximately \$38,000 district-wide. More information will follow as we move forward with this project.

#### **HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY RENOVATIONS**

This project includes a redesign and renovation of the existing space with an emphasis on technology and media. This project will require the creation of a steering committee to ensure the new design will meet our current and future needs. The planning stage of this project will begin in late September with a projected completion over next summer. UPDATE: A library steering committee has now been established for this project and a kick-off meeting has been scheduled for October 16, 2012.

#### **OTHER IMPROVEMENTS, NON CAPITAL (2012/2013)**

##### **PENDING GRANTS**

Safe Routes NJDOT Grant. On behalf of the school district and the borough, Ridewise has applied for a Safe Routes to Schools Grant sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Transportation. If approved, the grant will include concrete repairs to sidewalks, curb cut outs and miscellaneous improvements throughout the district and the borough. We anticipate the awarding of this grant in the near future.

Safe Routes Mini Grant. This grant will cover the cost to expand the existing playground and the installation of additional playground equipment. We anticipate the awarding of this grant in the near future.

**ENERGY REDUCTION**

Demand Response. UPDATE: The district is now participating in a Demand Response Program through Constellation Energy Services. As a condition of the program, the district is compensated for agreeing to reduce our utility load during a high-demand event. The district will also receive additional compensation for our participation during an actual event.

**HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

As required by FEMA, the North Plainfield Board of Education is currently preparing our 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 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. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the certified staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for courses taken from January 2012 through June 2012 at the 2010-2011 rates indicated, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the Spring 2013 semester, the Board of Education approve Shalice Toney from Seton Hall University as a student teacher in English at NPHS with Rita DaFonseca serving as her cooperating teacher.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept the resignation of Maria Duran, paraprofessional at West End School, effective October 3, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Branan abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the following adjustments to the hours and school(s) of the following paraprofessionals as indicated after their names:

	FROM	TO	
<u>Paraprofessional</u>	<u>School/Hours</u>	<u>School/Hours</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Allison Griffiths	Somerset School 3.50 hrs/day	West End School 3.25 hrs/day	10/3/12

October 17, 2012

Rose Landis	3.75/hrs day	4.00 hrs/day	10/4/12
Kim Holzer	3.50/hrs day	4.50 hrs/day* *Temporary	9/27/12

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Abstain  
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. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Diana Saez as a paraprofessional in the PM preschool disabled class at East End School for 2.50 hours per day at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process.

Further, that the Board of education approve Ms. Saez as a substitute paraprofessional in the district for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education appoint the staff 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 as indicated, to be paid at the conclusion of each course.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the guide and salary of Charles Rowan, teacher of social studies at NPHS, from the Master's guide to the Master's plus 30 guide at the 2010-2011 salary rate of \$56,865, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, to reflect his attainment of 30 credits beyond a Master's degree, effective September 1, 2012.

Thomas Allen – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye

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

Nancy Szaroleta – Aye  
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Catherine Pate, school psychologist, a twelve-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act effective January 20, 2013 through April 14, 2013, for the purpose of child care. (Ms. Pate plans to begin her disability period using accrued sick days on December 10, 2012.)

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Jennifer Zimmerman as a paraprofessional in the self-contained class at Stony Brook School for 3.25 hours per day at the 2010-2011 hourly salary rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective October 18, 2012.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Zimmerman as a substitute paraprofessional in the district for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that the Board of Education grant Taneesa Peters, secretary in the Department of Pupil Services, an **intermittent** unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective October 8, 2012 through October 8, 2013.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Megan Schutz to the following stipend positions at Somerset School:

Webmaster	\$1,200
Computer Facilitator	\$1,000

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

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

Thomas Kasper – Abstain

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve Angelina Lowder, confidential secretary to the assistant superintendent of schools, to update student data in Genesis at the hourly rate of \$20.61 for up to 50 hours.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Ann Ryan, special education teacher at NPHS, as a substitute CPR/AED instructor on an as-needed basis for the after-school staff Professional Development Program, at the rate of \$30 per hour.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Amanda Bajek as a paraprofessional assigned to a student at Somerset School for 3.50 hours per day at the 2010-2011 annual salary rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective October 10, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Deysi Aldas as a paraprofessional assigned to a student at Somerset School for 3.50 hours per day at the 2010-2011 annual salary rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Aldas as a substitute paraprofessional in the district for the 2012-2013 school year.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branan – Aye

Kathleen Mullen – Aye  
Nancy Szaroleta – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye  
Thomas Kasper – Abstain

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Aida Alape as a paraprofessional assigned to a student in the self-contained class at Stony Brook School for 3.00 hours per day at the 2010-2011 annual salary rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Alape as a substitute paraprofessional in the district for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Connie Baker as a paraprofessional assigned to a student at NPMS for 3.50 hours per day at the 2010-2011 annual salary rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Baker as a substitute paraprofessional in the district for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education appoint the following teachers to work on curriculum projects or school-based planning activities at the school/department as indicated at the 2010-2011 rate of \$49.74 per hour, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, to be paid at the conclusion of the project and funded with NCLB Title I FY'13 monies as follows:

<u>East End School</u>	
Kathleen Porter	\$995
Ridhima Bajaj	\$995
Rachel Padian	\$995
Allison Longley	\$995
Mollie Mallet	\$995

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education appoint the following certificated staff to teach in extended day mentoring programs at a rate of \$35 per hour to be funded as follows:

<u>East End School**</u>	<u>West End School**</u>	<u>Somerset School</u>
<b>81 hours each</b>	<b>54 hours each</b>	<b>64 hours each</b>
Kitty Jedra	Alison Apisa	Evin Aksay
Stefanie Martin	Erica Gara	Andrew Preble
Rhidima Bajaj	Kourtney Karl	Jeffrey Delese
Jill Fogarty	Wendy McClellan	Camille Ragin
	Nicole Rivlin <b>(55 hrs)</b>	
	Angela Roman	

**\*\*Funded with NCLB Title I FY'13 Monies**

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Colton Davis as an instructional paraprofessional assigned to a student at West End School for 3.25 hours per day at the 2010-2011 annual salary rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Mr. Davis as a substitute paraprofessional in the district for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education appoint Marie Annette Bicksler to work on an independent study curriculum in Earth Science for a total of seven hours at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$49.74, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, and to be paid at the conclusion of the project.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the individuals indicated on to attached list to the co-curricular advisory positions noted at the 2010-2011 stipends indicated, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the board of Education approve the appointment of the following staff members to assist at athletic events at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$28.35, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement:

Gordon Cain

James Fitzsimmons

Priscila Weber

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, 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 Monday through Thursday and for up to 3.0 hours on Saturday in the PASS/Extended Day Program, at the rate of \$35 per hour:

Kimberly Annette  
Lisa Keating

Lauren Meyer  
Aimee Pandya

Michelle Cruz

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the temporary employment of Melissa Balla as a **temporary** paraprofessional to assist a classified student with medical needs at Somerset School for 3.50 hours per day at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Balla as a substitute paraprofessional in the district for the 2012-2013 school year.

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

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

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Adriana Garcia as a paraprofessional working with a student at East End School for 3.25 hours per day at the 2010-2011 annual salary rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process.

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Garcia as a substitute paraprofessional in the district.

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

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

#### Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for identified student HI-07-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective October 4, 2012, pending child study evaluation.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-08-12-13 for up to five hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective October 1, 2012.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the establishment of an Extended School Year Program for the district's newly established Multiply Disabled Class that would begin at the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-09-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective October 11, 2012.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of classified student SSSSS-12-13 at the Cranford Achievement Program at the Cost of \$45,676 per year, to be prorated effective 10/18/12.

#### Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the use of JAG Physical Therapy to provide substitute athletic trainers on an as-needed basis, at the rate of \$35 per hour.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board approves line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated August 31, 2012.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board approve the donation of an iPad from What Can You Do With One iPad, applied for by Kathleen Porter, elementary teacher at East End School, for use in the school program.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve and accept the donation of \$1025.35 from the Rauven Friedman Fund for the purpose of purchasing a defibrillator, to be placed in the NPMS gym.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the following field trips:

<u>School</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
MS S Reagan	10/22	Expose students to higher education	Rutgers University Piscataway, NJ	\$0.00	District
HS J. Patrick	11/14	Eastern Analytical Symposium Introduce honors students to industrial analytical chemistry methodology	Garden State Exhibit Edison, NJ	\$0.00	District
HS/MS S. O'Donnell	4/10 & 4/11	Students will gain a better understanding of ocean science	Rutgers University New Brunswick, NJ	\$0.00	District
HS/MS S. O'Donnell	4/19/13	Students will release trout that were raised in the classroom during the year	Middle Brook Park Bridgewater, NJ	\$0.00	District
HS H. Fencik	11/11/12	National Marching Band Competition	MetLife Stadium East Rutherford	\$0.00	District
HS T. Mazur	1/19/13	Screening of film featuring NPHS students "Walking Into the Light"	Gettysburg, PA	\$2024	Contracted

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Allen, Mr. Branan, and Mr. Kasper abstaining, that the Board of Education approve the Agreement between the North Plainfield Education Association and the North Plainfield Board of Education effective July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.

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

**Correspondence**

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

**Committee and Delegate Report**

Board Staff – next meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2012 at 4pm.

Communications – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Finance & Facilities – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Policy Meeting – next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 12, 2012.

Negotiations – no meeting scheduled at this time.

NJSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.  
SCSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.  
SCESC – no meeting scheduled at this time.

**Old Business**

Strategic Planning Session – October 29, 2012

**New Business**

There was none.

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

**Current Events in Education**

There were none.

**Comments from the Public**

There were none.

**Future Agenda Items**

Bridge Program Update – Jane Delaney – November 14  
New Staff Introductions/Service Milestones – December 5  
Summer Programs – January 11, 2013  
Gettysburg Project – February 2013  
M.A.L.E.S Program – Reginald Sainte Rose  
Rutgers Grant – Dr. Birnbaum

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on November 14, 2012 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 for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law at 9:47 pm.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby suspends student, #13452 through November 14, 2012, pending further review. The Superintendent will receive bi-monthly updates on #13452 status including, but not limited to, ability to complete assignments via edu-cere and completion of drug treatment/counseling.

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

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

**Adjournment**

October 17, 2012

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to adjourn at 10:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg