

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on November 14, 2012 at Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Mrs. Bond-Nelson called the meeting to order and made the following announcement: In accordance with NJSA 10:4-10, required advance notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk; submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, AND Comcast; posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall and the North Plainfield Public Library and the school district website. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

Thomas Allen  
David Branan  
Sandra Dodd  
Thomas Kasper

Kathleen Mullen  
Nancy Szaroleta  
Linda Bond-Nelson

A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum, Superintendent of Schools; Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator; and Dr. Robert Rich, Assistant Superintendent, as well as, Jihad Womack, Student Representative and approximately 7 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 17, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of October 17, 2012.

#### **Financial Report**

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Mr. Branan and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated October 31, 2012 in the amount of \$5,330,945.13.

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

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

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

### **Comments from the Public**

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public, Mr. James Freeman thanked the Board for allowing student participation in the Veteran's dinner.

Mary Forbes thanked the Board for Ed Ostroff and the NPEA's help with providing assistance for residents affected by the storm.

### **Student Representative Report**

The student report was presented by Jihad Womack as follows:

The Drama Club will be having an Autumn Treats sale next Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> after school. Candy Apples, Kettle Corn, and Apple Cider will be for sale to warm students up and bring in the festive feeling before our Thanksgiving break.

There will be a Tunlaw meeting on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> after school in room 239A.

The Induction for New Members into the National Honor Society has been rescheduled for this coming Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

There will be an important HOPE club meeting this Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

Homecoming is still scheduled for this Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 PM to 12 AM.

The Senior Class Eco Scents Candle fundraiser is due tomorrow, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Interact Club is collecting food for people who were affected by Hurricane Sandy. The last day to bring food is Wednesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

The blood drive is scheduled for this Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The Red Cross is urging immediate blood donations to support the blood needs of those affected by Hurricane Sandy.

The Yearbook staff is finally back on track now that the internet has been restored and we can resume work on our pages. Teacher superlative ballots will be distributed tomorrow and are due on Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### **Presentations**

Ms. Bond-Nelson presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Edward Ostroff with the Boards thanks and appreciation for his efforts throughout Hurricane Sandy.

Robert Goellner presented mini grant awards to: Nancy Rodino, Kathy Porter, and Clare McEnroe.

### **Superintendent's Report**

## **RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

### **Staff**

**The North Plainfield Education Foundation** is awarding mini-grants to the following staff members in the amount of \$250 each: **Kathy Porter, East End School, "Take a Minute to be in It"; Nancy Rodino, Somerset School, "Good Movies for Good Morals"; Clare McEnroe, NPHS, "Ingredients for Life."** Founded in 1997, the

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Foundation, under the leadership of **Robert Goellner, president**, is a non-profit, fund-raising organization dedicated to encouraging excellence in education in the North Plainfield community and carries out its mission by awarding mini-grants to fund special projects suggested by the district's teachers. Trustees of the Foundation include a cross section of the community representing residents, the Board of Education, school administration, teaching staff and businesses.

The **North Plainfield Education Association (NPEA)** maroon shirts surfaced again! Many thanks to the NPEA, under the leadership of **Madelaine Colas** and **Roger Graubard**, co-presidents, for dedicating their time, energy, and services to the community during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Using the Vermeule Community Center in North Plainfield, NPEA members operated a true community center which opened at 1:00 each afternoon as a warming center, where folks could come – get warm, charge their phones and relax a little. The volunteers cooked and then served hot meals from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to everyone who came in --almost 1,000 people between Tuesday and Friday, November 6-9. On Saturday and Sunday, they also provided a brunch from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Many thanks, too, to the businesses and organizations, in North Plainfield and from out-of-town, who donated hot food for the meals and goods to be given away. (See attached list.) **Florence Ward**, district human resources administrative assistant, who also volunteered, noted the following in her letter to the editor of the *Courier News*, “In particular I would like to commend **Jackie Slattery**, vice president of the NPEA, who worked hands-on tirelessly the entire time organizing the many volunteers and donations. She was like the Energizer bunny, just going and going and going. We are a proud community, as the volunteers and businesses demonstrated so well during the crisis.”

## **Students**

The **NPHS Marching Canucks, under the direction of Heather Fencik**, took **Second Place** in the **National Competition** sponsored by **US Bands** at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford on Sunday evening, November 11, 2012. The **NPHS Color Guard**, under the direction of **Shannon Shotwell** and **Daniel Matos**, took **First Place**, garnering the “**Best Guard**” award. The guard also took **First Place** in the New Jersey State Competition held on Saturday, November 10, 2012. **Tom Mazur, supervisor of fine, practical, and performing arts**, who was at Giants Stadium to see and hear the exceptionally fine performance stated, “Many of the other bands in North Plainfield’s division sounded rather good as well, and included some glitz and gimmicks, which did not resonate with the judges who recognized the clear and simple heart and soul of the North Plainfield Marching Canucks and Color Guard.”

## **DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES**

### **EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING**

Safety Topic - Operations. The safety topic for October was electrical safety. Related safety training was provided via our new on-line employee training system and all employees completed their assigned training. The safety topic for November is confined space awareness.

Safety Topic - Transportation. The October safety topic for van drivers and van paraprofessionals was special education lifts and transfers. All employees completed their assigned training.

RTK (Right To Know) – New Employees. As required, a mandatory training session has been scheduled for all new employees. Scheduled for December 11, 2012, this training session will cover a wide range of safety related topics including RTK and accident and injury prevention.

## **HEALTH & SAFETY**

### **HURRICANE SANDY**

On October 29, 2012, the district was struck by the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy. The initial impact, and subsequent damage from falling trees and broken transmission poles, continues to disrupt many of our communication and operating systems. As of the date of this report, we are in recovery mode and are in the process of soliciting quotations from outside vendors to repair the damage and reactivate our systems. Listed below is a preliminary listing of our losses from Hurricane Sandy:

- Harrison School – Sectional roof area over the multi-purpose room.
- Harrison Greenhouse – Roof section damaged by falling branches.
- Harrison House – Rear entrance awning was destroyed.
- Harrison House – Approximately two hundred square feet of siding damage.
- Stony Brook – Fence damaged by falling trees.
- West End – Fence damaged by falling trees.
- District-Wide – Damage to our fiber optic network from falling trees and poles.
- District-Wide – Loss of perishable product due to a loss of power.

Based upon an initial inspection of our properties and assets, the total cost of our loss from Hurricane Sandy is estimated to be in excess of \$139,000. This total is subject to change as systems are evaluated. A full report, including our response actions, will be prepared under separate cover in the future.

### **SECURITY DRILLS**

The Security Drill for October was an off-site evacuation drill. All schools, with the exception of West End School\*, completed their assigned drills. The security drill for the November is a lock down drill.

\*Due to a scheduling conflict, West End School will hold their drill in the near future.

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

UPDATE: The Office of School Safety and Security has requested a site visit to include the observation of at least two security drills and a review of our plan progress. We are currently scheduling this visit as requested. At this time, 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:

- Drop ceiling installations, with new lighting, at Stony Brook School.
- Repairs to a water feed pump in the middle school boiler room.
- Start up and minor repairs to all heating systems.
- Provide assistance to the contractor working on the Solar Project as requested.

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A complete listing of all maintenance work completed in the days immediately following Hurricane Sandy is currently being prepared.

An updated Project Register has been included with this report that details progress on or recently completed projects. Please review this register for additional information.

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

### **HARRISON SCHOOL**

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

### **STONY BROOK SCHOOL**

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

### **DISTRICT WIDE SOLAR ENERGY**

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

West End School – All 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: The installation of the new heating system is now complete with the exception of one wall mounted unit. A final punch list is pending and a close-out meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

### **STONY BROOK SCHOOL**

**Complete Heating System Replacement.** UPDATE: The installation of the new heating system is now complete with the exception of the work in the gymnasium. A final punch list is pending and a close-out meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

### **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.

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

UPDATE: This project is now in progress and all associated equipment has been ordered and/or received. This project was delayed by approximately two weeks due to Hurricane Sandy.

### **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 was established for this project and a kick off meeting was held on October 16, 2012. More information will follow as we move forward with this project.

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

#### **PENDING GRANTS**

**Safe Routes NJDOT Grant.** UPDATE: The district was recently notified that all grants have been cancelled due to a lack of funding.

**Safe Routes Mini Grant.** UPDATE: The district was recently notified that all grants have been cancelled due to a lack of funding.

#### **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 its portion of the new Five Year Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan for subsequent submission to the Somerset County Engineering Office.

#### Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools Personnel

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the certified staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for courses taken from July 2012 through September 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 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the attached list.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve a one-day/30 minute training session for the following West End School lunchroom and recess paraprofessionals at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$20.61, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement:

Monica Arencibia  
Antonina Chwialowski

Mildred Colon  
Karen Rink

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the guide and salary of James Kelly, special education teacher at NPHS, from the Master's guide to the Master's plus 30 Guide/Step 5 at the 2010-2011 salary rate of \$57,365, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, to reflect his attainment of 30 credits beyond a Master's degree, effective October 1, 2012.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Francesca Petrucci-Cardona, ESL teacher at East End School, a twelve-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective March 8, 2013 through June 5, 2013, for child care purposes. (Prior to the above noted dates, Ms. Petrucci-Cardona will be absent from work during her disability period effective January 28, 2013 through March 7, 2013.)

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Michael Sacco as a substitute custodian at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$17.66, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective November 15, 2012.

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

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

Language Arts

Jennifer Magliaro        \$199 (Journalism)

Social Studies

Charles Rowan    \$199 (African-American History)

West End School-Based Planning\*\*

Kourtney Karl    \$796

Theresa Knauer   \$796

Wendy McClellan        \$796

Michelle Tafuri   \$796

Andrea Grasso    \$895

Marilyn Pinto        \$895

\*\*Funded with Title I FY'13 monies

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Stephen Masterson as a probationary custodian at the 2010-2011 Step 1 Custodial rate of \$36,857, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective December 1, 2012 through February 28, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve an adjustment in the unpaid leave under the Federal Family Leave Act granted to Tara Venturino, elementary teacher at West End School, **from** October 19, 2012 through November 21, 2012 **to** October 19, 2012 through December 12, 2012.

Mr. Kasper moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to separate the following recommendation:

That the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following individuals to the District Evaluation Advisory Committee (DEAC) to ensure stakeholder engagement in the evaluation process:

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Cheryl Lechtanski    | Teacher, NPHS                              |
| Dr. Hope Blecher     | Supervisor, English, Social Studies, Media |
| Kathleen Herrmann    | Principal, East End School                 |
| Marilyn Pinto        | Student Liaison, West End School           |
| Mary Castro          | Teacher, Somerset School                   |
| Mary West            | Teacher, Stony Brook School                |
| Patricia Marseglia   | Supervisor, Math and Science               |
| Rachel Padian        | Teacher, East End School                   |
| Michael Nardi        | Teacher, NPMS                              |
| Maria Araneo         | Supervisor, Special Education              |
| Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum | Superintendent of Schools                  |
| Linda L. Bond-Nelson | President, Board of Education              |
| Bianca Butler        | Parent                                     |
| Dr. Robert Rich      | Alternate                                  |
| Jane Delaney         | Alternate                                  |

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education adjust the employment dates of Alyson DiFiore, temporary elementary teacher at West End School, **from** September 4, 2012 through November 21, 2012 **to** September 4, 2012 through December 12, 2012. (Ms. DiFiore is temporarily replacing Tara Venturino.)

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept with regret the resignation of Janet Jones, LDTC in the district, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2013.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Luis Jaime as a student liaison coordinator at Somerset School at the 2010-2011 MA/Step 7-8 (8) annual salary rate of \$55,815, to be prorated effective January 16, 2013, or sooner should he be released from his present employment. (Mr. Jaime will replace Raul Sandoval.)

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following individuals to the District Evaluation Advisory Committee (DEAC) to ensure stakeholder engagement in the evaluation process:

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Cheryl Lechtanski    | Teacher, NPHS                              |
| Dr. Hope Blecher     | Supervisor, English, Social Studies, Media |
| Kathleen Herrmann    | Principal, East End School                 |
| Marilyn Pinto        | Student Liaison, West End School           |
| Mary Castro          | Teacher, Somerset School                   |
| Mary West            | Teacher, Stony Brook School                |
| Patricia Marseglia   | Supervisor, Math and Science               |
| Rachel Padian        | Teacher, East End School                   |
| Michael Nardi        | Teacher, NPMS                              |
| Maria Araneo         | Supervisor, Special Education              |
| Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum | Superintendent of Schools                  |
| Linda L. Bond-Nelson | President, Board of Education              |
| Bianca Butler        | Parent                                     |
| Dr. Robert Rich      | Alternate                                  |
| Jane Delaney         | Alternate                                  |

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

#### Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, and in compliance with the Department of Education requirements, the Board of Education approve the attached Nursing Services Plan.

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 home instruction for the following non-classified students for up to five hours per week to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective October 26, 2012:

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| HI-10-12-13 | HI-12-12-13 |
| HI-11-12-13 | HI-13-12-13 |

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 home instruction for classified student HI-14-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff effective October 29, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-15-12-13 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Education Inc. at the rate of \$52.24 per hour, effective October 22, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-16-12-13 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Educere, effective October 15, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-17-12-13 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Educere, effective October 25, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-18-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by Educere, effective October 23, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-19-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective October 24, 2012.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-20-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective October 12, 2012 for the duration of the 2012-2013 school year.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-21-12-13 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by Newark Renaissance House, at the cost of \$40 per hour, effective September 5, 2012 for up to 6 – 18 months.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve classified student PSY-06-12-13 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Elisa Dulay at the cost of \$825.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve classified student AUG-01-12-13 undergo an Augmentative Alternative Communication evaluation to be provided by Bergen County Special Services at the cost of \$835.

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 out-of-district placement of classified student QQQQQ-12-13 at Somerset Academy at the annual cost of \$42,300, to be prorated effective November 15, 2012.

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 out-of-district placement of classified student RRRRR-12-13 at NuView Academy at the annual cost of \$49,500, to be prorated effective November 15, 2012.

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 Student 15342 continued suspension until November 23, 2012.

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

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board approves line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated September 30, 2012.

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated October 31, 2012.

|                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 recognize the efforts of Edward Ostroff, Director of Operations and Auxiliary Services, during a major emergency as follows:

**Whereas**, on October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy caused major devastation to the state of New Jersey affecting millions of people and causing large scale power outages, flooding, and disruption to vital services; and

**Whereas**, the Borough of North Plainfield was greatly impacted by the catastrophic storm which caused wide-spread damage to electrical lines, cable lines and residences, forcing the school district to close; and

**Whereas**, Mr. Ostroff took it upon himself to ensure he was in North Plainfield prior to the storm's arrival and remain continuously for four days to monitor the situation, and be the contact person for emergency management agencies on the state, county, and local levels; and

**Whereas**, during this time he ensured that the residents and property throughout the district were kept safe and secure, and at the same time set up a shelter for community members to be housed and fed during the height of the storm; and

**Whereas**, Mr. Ostroff continued to manage the situation on site for an additional nine days working to ensure voting occurred on November 6, 2012 without major difficulties, even in locations that did not have power or heat, setting up portable generators and making sure these locations were safe and accessible for residents;

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved**, that the Board of Education of North Plainfield on behalf of the residents, staff, and students does hereby offer its sincere thanks and appreciation to Edward Ostroff for his selfless dedication to the community and schools of the Borough of North Plainfield.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education authorize the awarding of a contract due to an emergency situation caused by recent Hurricane Sandy, the following project for the purpose of removing downed trees throughout the district:

**Whereas**, on November 9, 2012, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) received a quote of the project to remove downed trees throughout the district (“Project”); and

**Whereas**, this is considered an emergency project affecting the health and safety of the students and staff of North Plainfield; and

**Continued.....**

**Continued.....**

**Whereas**, the Board is desirous of opening schools and bringing back students as quickly as possible having been out of school for two weeks, to the most productive and save environment possible; and

**Whereas**, the Board has evaluated the quote received and the Board has determined to award the contract for the Project; and

**Whereas**, in accordance with the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-7 et seq., the Board has determined that Caffery Tree and Landscaping Company, having offices at 2376 Mountain Avenue, Scotch Plains NJ 07076, is the responsible and responsive service provider for the Project, with a Lump Sum Base Bid of \$50,000.00 (fifty thousand dollars);

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved**, that the Board make the following award of contract:

Caffrey Tree and Landscaping Company is hereby awarded the contract for the Project, for the total contract sum of **\$50,000.00 (fifty thousand dollars)**; and

**Be it Further Resolved**, that this award shall take effect immediately upon submission of signed purchase order.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of \$100,000.00 from capital reserve account for emergency repairs and/or replacements throughout the district due to Hurricane Sandy as follows:

- a. Roof Repair Harrison School by JDS Roofing.....\$15,600.00
- b. Fiber Optic Cable Repair by Millennium.....\$12,000.00
- c. External Power Generation (Operation Office) by TBD...\$12,400.00
- d. Tree Removal by Caffery Tree Service.....\$45,000.00
- e. Fence Repair by Absolute Fence.....\$ 5,000.00
- f. Green House Repair by TBD.....\$ 4,000.00
- g. Wireless Router Backup Installation by Verizon.....\$ 1,000.00
- h. Harrison House Siding Repair by TBD.....\$ 5,000.00

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 recognize the efforts of the North Plainfield Education Association (NPEA) during a weather emergency as follows:

**Whereas**, Hurricane Sandy caused major devastation to the state of New Jersey affecting millions of people and causing large scale power outages, flooding, and disruption to vital services; and

**Whereas**, the Borough of North Plainfield was greatly impeded by the catastrophic storm which caused wide spread property damage and caused hardship to thousands of North Plainfield Borough residents; and

**Whereas**, the NPEA determining a need for food and welcome centers in North Plainfield, operated Vermeule Community Center and East End School throughout the storm and provided same; and

**Whereas**, these efforts provided comfort and sustenance to many residents in need during the event;

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved**, that the Board of Education of North Plainfield does hereby offer its sincere thanks and appreciation to the NPEA and its members for their dedication to the community and schools of the Borough of North Plainfield.

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 that the Board of Education approve the following field trip(s):

| <u>School</u>  | <u>Date</u> | <u>Purpose</u>         | <u>Location</u>  | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Trans.</u> |
|----------------|-------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| HS             | 11/15/12    | Community Service:     | Chimney Rock Inn | \$0.00      | District      |
| LT Eric Hansen |             | Dining with Veterans   | Gillette, NJ     |             |               |
| ROTC           |             | From Lyons VA Hospital |                  |             |               |

### **Correspondence**

Letters were received as follows from: there were none.

### **Committee and Delegate Report**

Board Staff – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Communications – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Finance & Facilities – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Policy Meeting – rescheduled meeting for December 10 and 19, 2012 at 5:30 pm

Negotiations – no meeting scheduled at this time.

NJSBA – meeting on Friday, November 16, 2012. Delegates Assembly

SCSBA - no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCESC - no meeting scheduled at this time.

**Old Business**

Strategic Planning Sessions have been moved to the spring. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 7, 2013.

**New Business**

Dr. Birnbaum discussed the changes to the school calendar due to the additional emergency closing days taken during the storm.

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

**Current Events in Education**

There were none.

**Comments from the Public**

Ms. T. Peters expressed her concerns regarding the recent storm.

**Future Agenda Items**

New Staff Introductions/Service Milestones/Perfect NJASK Scores – December 5, 2012 – West End School

Summer Programs – John Ferguson and Diana Sefchik – January 8, 2013

Gettysburg Project – February 2013

Bridge Program – Jane Delaney

MALES Program – Reginald Sainte-Rose – June 5, 2013

Rutgers Grant – Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum and Dr. Robert Rich

Technology Plan – Ron Fisher – May 15, 2013

**Adjournment**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on December 5, 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 at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg