

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on February 15, 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 – absent, notified
David Branam	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 56 members of the staff and public.

Introduction of New Staff

There was none.

Minutes Approval

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the public session minutes of February 1, 2012.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of February 1, 2012.

Financial Report

Mr. Branam 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 January 31, 2012 in the amount of \$5,482,811.54.

Mr. Branam 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 December 2011 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 Branam – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye

Thomas Kasper – Aye
Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Comments from the Public

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public:

Virginia Feola commented on the meeting venue.

Alexis Gardner commented on the status of the contract negotiations.

Latonya Sample commented on supporting teachers during the current negotiations.

Kwanza King commented on supporting the teachers.

Jennifer McGovern commented on supporting the teachers.

Marcella El Dekki expressed concerns for the entire staff and children during the negotiations.

Kobina Thomas commented on the status of the contract negotiations.

Student Representative Report

The student report was presented by Jihad Womack as follows:

The Canuck Mentors at North Plainfield High School participated in a 3 night training course. Evita Sylvester and Faith Way were two guest speakers who talked to the mentors about living with a disability. The purpose of this training was to “build community” among the mentors, so they will be able to go into Middle School Health classrooms to teach about drugs, alcohol, and bullying.

The North Plainfield Talent Show raised approximately \$3,000! North Plainfield High School has some remarkable talent.

The Senior Class Student Council recently had a Valentine’s Day bake sale. Also, they sold results to a compatibility test that students took in order to raise additional money. Their next initiative will be canning at Stop and Shop in Watchung on February 24th starting at 9 am. Their goal is to raise \$700.00! Lastly, they will be hosting the first annual “Canuckathon,” on March 30th, a class color war competition that will take place in the Middle School gym.

The Junior Class is continuing to work hard as they plan prom. The DJ and photographer have already been selected, and the invitations were set to the graphic designer to be printed. Prom bids will be sold from March 5th to March 30th. The Junior Class is currently selling Gertrude Hawk Chocolates.

The Freshman Class Council is brainstorming fun and interesting ways to involve their classmates in their activities. Some ideas are a movie night, a gaming night, a scavenger hunt, or a soccer/volleyball tournament. In two weeks, they will be holding their first bake sale.

The National Honor Society tutors everyday afterschool. The Spanish National Honor Society tutors every Tuesday and Thursday afterschool.

The Valentine's Day Edition of the Tunlaw was distributed to students today. The newest issue of the newspaper contains many interesting stories.

Presentation

Dr. Robert Rich, assistant superintendent, and Mrs. Linda Remolino, director of guidance, presented to the Board an overview of the impact of the HIB laws. They also discussed the mid-year summary of the V&V reporting for the school year.

Ms. Gwen Thornton of the NJSBA, provided the Board with an overview of the Strategic Planning Process planned by the Board for this spring.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Staff

Dr. Hope Blecher, supervisor of language arts/literacy, social studies, and media services, and Diana Sefchik, director of English as a second language/bilingual, academic support and world languages, will present a workshop on Saturday, March 24, 2012, entitled **"Including English Language Learners (ELLs) in Commemoration Activities,"** an interdisciplinary approach to include ELLs in classroom lessons and community activities that involve American commemorations and observances of days such as 9/11 for the **Bergen-Passaic Chapter NJTESOL-NJBE**. Through this seminar, participants will learn creative ways to address such issues as background knowledge, relevance, and prejudice. Curriculum opportunities such as discussion themes, multilingual and literacy activities, as well as service activities for older students will be presented.

Bill Nutt, *Courier News* reporter, featured **Jonathan Scott, West End School music teacher,** in his February 12 article *Teacher receives an education singing at the Met*. Mr. Scott is performing in the chorus for two different productions at the Metropolitan Opera in Manhattan: Wagner's "Götterdämmerung" and Mussorgsky's "Khovanshchina." To access the article, please go to: <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2012302120011>

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) and Educational Testing Service, invited **Matthew Mergen, NPHS French teacher,** to serve as an **AP Reader** at this year's annual AP Reading. As noted in the invitation, "Participants in the AP Reading: receive training in consistent application of the scoring standards, and use those standards to score student responses; interact with members of the AP Development Committee responsible for revising the AP Course description and developing the exam, giving and receiving information about the current state of teaching and learning in the discipline; discuss achievement, assessment and teaching strategies with college faculty and AP teachers; develop a network of professionals in their discipline that will last a lifetime; and earn

Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The careful evaluation of students' work is one of the most important aspects of the AP Program. The AP Program's acknowledged success is due to an evaluation and scoring process that reflects the high standards of faculty members who, by virtue of their experience and expertise, have the appropriate student performance expectations within their respective disciplines. The AP Program sincerely hopes that you will encourage your faculty to participate in this year's AP Reading. AP Readers testify that the annual AP Reading offers a rare and enriching professional development experience by providing them with the opportunity to develop teaching approaches and ideas through close interactions with a diverse group of professional colleagues."

Mid-Year Induction will be held on February 22, 2012 at Somerset School library, 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. for those staff members who were hired after the summer Induction I program. Presenters will include **Patty Marseglia, supervisor of math and science; Cynthia Crawford, G+T teacher; Janet Darvin, Somerset teacher; Jill Peluzzo, NPHS math teacher; Gretchen Jacot, Stony Brook teacher; and Francesca Cardona, East End ESL teacher.**

Students

Writing Recognition Awards: For the third consecutive year, **Stony Brook School** students have continued their participation in a monthly incentive writing program that recognizes and awards writing excellence. This **Writing Incentive Program** was developed by Stony Brook's school based planning team consisting of teachers **Patricia Klatt, Michele Motichka , Kelly Feeney and Kathleen Willwerth** and is based on *The Writing Wall*, a book by Margy Burns Knight. Each month students' writing samples are reviewed by the classroom teachers and one student's work is selected to be displayed on the Stony Brook Writing Wall. The following students, one from each class, were recognized for their outstanding contributions: **October Writers:** Rania Mikhail; Jadelyn Villacis-Martinez; Hamza Malik; Samantha Alvenus; Anthony Olivo-Valdez; Nathalia Valverde Galarza; Amy Llerena; Bhavya Patel; Jasmine Zaher; Olivia Sheridan; Audrey Arias Justo; Camille Padugano; and Selvin Amaya Diaz. **November Writers:** Nick Angelo Hernandez; Beker Ixim Wallace; Anthony Manzano; Dennis Rojas; Shirley Supe-Gonzalez; Makari Dankins; Ivan Mangui; Derick Murillo; Lindsey De Paz; Christien Desir; Kyle Alejandro; Tyrell Pereira; and Abner Ortiz. **December Writers:** Ajshe Pelaez; Adamaris Acostan Castro; Angel Nunez; Valeria Esquer; Bianca Veloz-Arocho; Mekhi Mays; Tania Molina; Adair Yanca-Tobar; Elsy Amaya-Hernandez; Karla Garcia; Alejandro Chavez; Daniel Duncan; and Britney De Horta Meza. **January Writers:** Gabrielle Aguirre; Josselyn Lopez-Garrido; Destiny Romero Colcas; Brandon Datu; Brandon Urquizo; Melissa Lainez; Luisa Salguero; Antony Salazar, Wilny Guerrero; Rebekah Narine, Vanessa Morales; Anthony Grant; and Raymond Carchuarica.

Stony Brook's Honor Roll Assembly: On February 7, 2012, the third and fourth grade students gathered for the Honor Roll Ceremony. During the first marking period, thirteen students received honor roll status, with one student receiving High Honor Roll. The group celebrated this accomplishment and then set a goal of

surpassing thirteen students and promised to work together to increase the number of awardees. True to Stony Brook standards, twenty-three students were recognized this marking period, with two students earning **High Honor Roll** status: **Isabella Carroll and Jasmine Zaher**. Honor Roll recipients included the following: **Grade Three** – Rebecca Batz-Murillo, Karla Garcia, Ashley Ordonez, Olivia Sheridan, Viviana Blanco, Lindsey Depaz, Henry Ruiz-Hernandez. **Grade Four** – Kyle Alejandro, Audrey Arias-Justo, Steven Datu, Verina Girgis, Jasmine Ponce-Hernandez, Vanessa Morales, Lenise Phillips, Daniel Solis, Jeremiah Thomas, Vanessa Colon, Melody Liu, Joseph Manzano, Andy Nunez-Reyes, Camille Padugano, Irvin Solis, Jennifer Vargas and Anthony Grant.

Somerset School Principal's Honor Roll: Reginald Sainte-Rose, principal, announced the Principal's Honor Roll, which includes sixth grade students who have grades of A- and above on their report cards. Mr. Sainte-Rose will recognize this outstanding accomplishment by presenting each student with a certificate of excellence at a special "Principals Breakfast" on February 22, 2012.

Second Marking Period Principal's Honor Roll

Menatallah Bahnasy	Mohamed Ramy Hosny
Fiona Ting Chen	Crispreet Kaur
Zhane Clarke	Alexander Kushnir
Jane Emily Crowther	Jared Lesaca
Jessica L. Dardignac	Radha Patal
Andre Eason	Flabia Recinos Peres
Aliyah Graham	Jaclyn Scopel
Jordan Grundy	Bria Stapleton
Jenna Jean Guevara	Selena Nicole Turcios Reyes
Elizabeth Hernandez	Bruce James Weyand

Parents/Guardians/Community Members

On January 31, 2012, **Patty Marseglia, supervisor of math and science, and Melissa DeCosPalma, family resource coordinator**, repeated the parent seminar "**How Will the Common Core Standards Affect Your Child's Report Card?**" at West End School. There were 24 families present, with more of them preferring to hear the presentation in Spanish. The presentations were made at small tables, allowing the participants to feel comfortable in asking questions and adding to discussion of the math program.

Schools

West End School

Pillows and Books Event: Approximately one hundred people attended the first Pillows and Books FAST (Families and Schools Together) event. Parents and students wore their pajamas and brought their pillows for a night of read-alouds and crafts. Stations included popular winter story books including *The Mitten* by Jan Brett and *Cuddly Duddly* by Jez Alborough. Following the readings, parents and their children decorated mittens and created penguins. The evening concluded with

parents attending training on the importance of read-alouds while their children enjoyed a special treat of hot chocolate and smores. A special thank you to the FAST committee: **Taryn Buffolino, school counselor; Lisa Cirillo, Alison Clark, Dina Diaz, Marianne Harris, Paula Lemos, Vickie Mendes, and Robert Meringolo, teachers; Marilyn Pinto, student liaison; Lindsay Gall, media specialist; and Angel Lopez, head custodian.**

Tutor Time with the Student Council: Student council members will visit the Breakfast Program every Tuesday and Thursday morning, 7:45-8:15 a.m., to run tutoring sessions. The objective of the tutoring time will be to increase students' abilities with mastering basic math facts. Mastering basic facts is one of activities for the school's test improvement building objective. Student council is under the direction of fourth grade teachers **Dina Glowacki** and **Michelle Tafuri**.

Face of America at West End School: Dr. **Anthony Mussari**, producer of "The Face of America Project" visited West End School to interview fourth grade teacher **Megan Schutz** as a follow-up from an earlier documentary about North Plainfield High School. Dr. Mussari was so impressed with Ms. Schutz and West End School that he posted an article entitled *Making Learning Contagious*. To access the article, please go to: <http://faceofamericawps.com/news/making-learning-contagious/>

East End School

Descendents of the **Lenni Lenape Native American** tribe **Many Feathers and Blue Sky** delighted the East End School Community with a visit on February 7. Second grade teacher **Deborah Lockley Thompson** happened to meet them in a grocery store one evening and they began chatting. Ms. Lockley Thompson told them that East End School was in the process of studying the history of North Plainfield and that the Lenni Lenape were part of the research. Ms. Lockley Thompson asked Many Feathers and Blue Sky if they would visit the school. They happily agreed and throughout the day, each grade level visited the gymnasium to listen to the stories about the Lenni Lenape, as well as see the beautiful artifacts that were displayed around the gymnasium. Also, Many Feathers and Blue Sky wore the authentic clothing of the Lenni Lenape, and they explained that the clothing was made from deer skin. They also provided a great deal of handouts to be used in the classroom and be shared at home. "It was so kind of them to come to East End and share the history of the Lenni Lenape with everyone. Thanks to Ms. Lockley Thompson, they provided the all day workshop at no cost. Ms. Lockley Thompson's chat in the grocery store was quite beneficial to our school and supported our building objective," remarked **Ms. Herrmann**.

The East End School Community is celebrating **Black History Month** by integrating lessons across the disciplines. Students are enjoying listening to read-alouds about famous African Americans and demonstrating their knowledge through writing. Each morning Ms. Herrmann talks about a famous African American during the morning announcements and then the highlighted person or landmark is discussed during the day. "We are all learning a great deal and the students are excited and anxious to listen. One favorite moment of mine was when a student

appeared in my office after the announcement when I challenged them to find out how many years ago 1881 was and he proudly gave me the answer,” stated Ms. Herrmann. East End School will host its annual **Black History Assembly** at the end of February.

NPHS

Concurrent Enrollment: North Plainfield High School is forming a partnership with **Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC)** to provide students with college credits while enrolled in high school. RVCC will permit high school teachers, with advance degrees in their content area, to teach college level courses. The courses that will be selected are high school courses we are currently offering, including Pre-calculus, French 5, A.P. Biology, and A.P. English. Meeting dates are being established for the RVCC faculty to meet high school faculty members who will teach the courses and review their resumes. The RVCC faculty will review the curriculum, textbooks, and facilities to ensure the high school course meets their standards.

NPHS implements Green Dot Program: The “Green Dot” strategy is a comprehensive, academic research approach to violence prevention through educational training. This model targets all community members as potential bystanders and equips them with a skill set to recognize and intervene in potentially high risk situations (red dots). The objective is to pull men and women together so they become part of the solution and intervene in a way that will reduce the likelihood that violence will ultimately occur (green dots). In other words, the goal of this strategy is to engage a critical mass of bystanders in proactive and reactive interventions. The key approach is to help bystanders, men and women alike, understand their obstacles and generate solutions that seem realistic in their own life and environment. Ultimately, the global concept of this initiative is to eliminate as many red dots as we can by replacing them with green dots.

The plan at North Plainfield High School is for students who are in grades 9, 10, and 11 to be trained in “**Green Dot Bystander Training**” which involves four modules. Module one begins by introducing the students to the Green Dot concept. Module two presents examples of Red Dots and explains how to recognize them. Module three identifies self-defining moments and ways to overcome obstacles for the bystanders. Module four gives suggestions in ways to implement proactive and reactive Green Dots. “I believe that this program has a design to make a difference in our students’ lives. This strategy takes a much more effective and cutting edge approach to violence which we believe our students will respond to favorably,” noted **Jerard Stephenson, NPHS principal.** (For additional information see the *Courier News*, February 9, 2012.)

*On Tuesday, January 31, 2012, NPHS was very fortunate to have **Project P.R.I.D.E . (Promoting Responsibility in Drug Education)** offer a powerful presentation. **Michael Ritter**, the coordinator of this project, brought four young prison inmates and two officers to the high school auditorium.*

Project P.R.I.D.E is an educational program that is coordinated by the New Jersey Department of Corrections which shouts this message out loudly and clearly. This program originated in 1998 and to date, Project P.R.I.D.E. has reached more than 230,000 students from 700 schools throughout our state. According to statistics from the New Jersey Department of Corrections, 80% of the 2,700 people who are incarcerated every year in the state of New Jersey are put in jail for crimes related to drugs and/or alcohol. The purpose of this program is for young people to come to the true realization about the results that alcohol and drug abuse can have on their future. This presentation is a rare opportunity for our students to hear first-hand stories from young inmates who were placed in jail because of their poor choices involving drugs and alcohol.

The belief of the Department of Corrections is that their staff members and offenders who participate in this program will make a significant impact on all of the students sitting in the audience. The hope is that students will realize that the choices they make today will impact the rest of their lives and not to lose sight of the fact that they are responsible for their choices.

Martha Truxel, coordinator of the North Plainfield Food Bank, sent a letter to Alexandra Pereira, NPHS Interact Club advisor, and the club's members thanking them for collecting food for the North Plainfield Food Bank: "Your food was delivered at the busiest time of the year. We served 360 people during the month of November. Your donations and those of other groups helped to fill the pantry shelves and a rear storage area. It is expected that the food will keep the shelves supplied at least 3 months. Your generosity and tremendous efforts are greatly appreciated."

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

Safety Topic: The safety topic for February is Proper Lifting Techniques and Back Safety. Related safety training is being completed via our new on-line employee training system and all employees are currently completing their assigned training.

Safe Schools On-Line Training: Because of the number of requests from member districts, Safe Schools is now offering an on-line anti bullying course that meets the standard for New Jersey. All employees now have access to this course.

HEALTH & SAFETY

HIDDEN CAMERA MONITORING

The district is currently reviewing a proposal to have an in-depth hidden camera survey completed in target areas. The expenses associated with this work may be paid for by our Joint Insurance Fund. Additionally, the district has purchased a simplified hidden camera locator and has begun to sweep target areas including team rooms, locker rooms, and restrooms.

SECURITY DRILLS

The security drill for February is an Active Shooter Drill. All schools are in the process of completing their assigned drill.

FEMA SUBMISSION #4

Although the preliminary submission was approved, we have not yet been funded.

CURRENT MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (Completed)

Listed below is a partial list of projects and/or in-house maintenance tasks that were recently completed.

- Completion of plumbing repairs in the high school kitchen.
- Installation of a new washing machine for the high school kitchen.
- Completion of a new layout for assigned parking spaces to relieve congestion in the high school parking lot.

PROPOSED FIELD HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

The following improvements have now been approved for the Field House. This work will be scheduled to begin in early spring.

- Installation of new flooring for locker, training and restroom areas.
- Installation of new lockers for both varsity and junior varsity teams.
- Installation of new drinking fountains and restroom partitions.
- Installation of new exterior entrance doors and associated hardware.
- Complete painting of all areas including exterior restrooms.

CAPITAL PROJECTS (Status Report)

HARRISON SCHOOL

The installation of a chiller, piping and associated controls to air condition the entire building. UPDATE: This project is currently out to bid for a second time. A pre-bid walkthrough has been scheduled for February 21 and bids will be received on March 13. This project will be partially funded by a Rod Grant.

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

The installation of two package air conditioning units for the multi-purpose room. UPDATE: This project is currently out to bid for a second time. A pre-bid walkthrough has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 21 and bids will be received on March 13. This project will be partially funded by a Rod Grant.

DISTRICT WIDE

Solar Energy Grant: The engineering firm is currently in the process of filing for Department of Education project approvals for all locations slated to receive solar panels. It should be noted, however, that Stony Brook School has been removed from the list due to a negative feasibility study. The process of filing for approvals is expected to take up to six weeks. We do not anticipate a start-up of this project until late spring or early summer.

2012/2013 BUDGET

The physical plant budget for the fiscal year 2012/2013 was submitted and has been reviewed by central office. This budget assumes state aid will be unchanged from last year.

Additionally, the operations office, in conjunction with the business office, has compiled a list of proposed capital improvement projects for the upcoming 2012/2013 budget year. The list of proposed projects assumes state aid will be unchanged from last year.

- Stony Brook School – Complete Heating System Replacement.
- Watchung Building – Complete Heating System Replacement.
- District Wide - Restroom Renovations to include East End, West End, Stony Brook and North Plainfield High/Middle School.
- District Wide – Energy Reduction & Lighting Retrofit Project

ENERGY REDUCTION

Demand Response: The district is currently working with **Constellation Energy Services** regarding our ability to qualify for a Demand Response Program. If we qualify for the program, the district would be compensated for agreeing to reduce our utility load during a high-demand event. The district would also receive additional compensation for our participation during an actual event. UPDATE: We have been approved for the program and are currently awaiting a contract for execution.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools
Personnel

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses, as indicated on the attached list.

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

Thomas Kasper – 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 employment of the following individuals as substitute paraprofessionals in the district to be called on an as-needed basis at the rate \$20.16 per hour, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process:

Maria Marinas

Angele Salako

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

Thomas Kasper – Aye
Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve reimbursement to Peter Ahlert, maintenance worker in the Operations Department, for the following certificate courses taken at Rutgers Center for Government Services:

Management Supervision and Human Resources	\$ 809
Structural and Mechanical Systems	\$ 450
Energy Management	<u>\$ 225</u>
Total	\$1484

Thomas Allen – Aye	Thomas Kasper – Aye
David Branam – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as K-12 substitute teachers in the district:

Jason Chernesky	Stephen Muench
Erica Gara	
Thomas Allen – Aye	Thomas Kasper – Aye
David Branam – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the following teachers as volunteer softball coaches for the 2012 spring season:

Corrine Cecala	Ashley Krug
Thomas Allen – Aye	Thomas Kasper – Aye
David Branam – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education grant Deborah Gray Lysicatos, elementary teacher at West End School, a twelve-week unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act for child care purposes, effective September 1, 2012 through November 25, 2012.

Thomas Allen – Aye	Thomas Kasper – Aye
David Branam – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following staff members to the co-curricular coaching positions listed for the spring sports program, at the 2010-2011 rates indicated, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement:

Brian Moody	Baseball-Head Coach	\$7795
Christopher Eshleman	Baseball-Asst. Coach	\$5941
Charles Henriques	Track-Boys Head Coach	\$7795
DeJohn Cataldo	Track-Boys Asst. Coach	\$5941
Deanne D'Armiento	Track-Girls Head Coach	\$7795
Courtney Kopf	Track-Girls Asst. Coach	\$5941
Edison Torres, Jr.	Tennis-Boys Head Coach	\$7601
Renee LaGala	Softball-Head Coach	\$7795
Jennifer Magliaro	Softball-Asst. Coach	\$5941
Stefanie Myers	MS Track – Girls	\$4016
Jason Lilly	MS Track – Boys	\$4016
Roger Graubard	MS Baseball	\$5515
Paul Kraucheunas	MS Softball	\$5515

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

Thomas Kasper – Aye
 Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the following individuals as instructors in the Somerset Enrichment Program at the rate of \$35 per hour for up to twelve hours each, effective February 21, 2012:

Evin Aksay	Language Arts	Jeffrey Delese	Mathematics
Melissa Hunton	Language Arts	Camille Ragin	Mathematics

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

Thomas Kasper – Aye
 Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education adjust the hours of Nancy LasLuisa, paraprofessional at East End School, from 2.5 hours per day to 4.5 hours per day, effective February 13, 2012.

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

Thomas Kasper – Aye
 Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
 Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education adjust the hours of Kim Holzer, paraprofessional at Stony Brook School, from 3.25 hours to 4.50 hours per day to cover unstructured time of a classified student, effective February 21, 2012.

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

Thomas Kasper – 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 certificated staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for courses taken between September 2011 and December 2011 at the 2010-2011 rates indicated, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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

Thomas Kasper – Aye
Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for non-classified student HI-30-11-12 for up to five hours per week to be provided by Education Inc. at Robert Wood Johnson Medical Center at the cost of \$45.50 per hour.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for **identified** student HI-31-11-12 for up to **ten** hours per week to be provided by Educere, effective February 9, 2012, **pending child study team evaluation.**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve classified student PSY-17-11-12 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$150 an hour for up to three hours.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of education approve classified student AUD-02-11-12 undergo an audiological and central auditory processing evaluation to be provided by JFK Hospital – Department of Speech and Audiology at the cost of \$741.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve classified student OT/PT-55-11-12 receive occupational therapy to be provided by Trinitas Children's Therapy Services at the cost of \$81 per hour, for one thirty-minute session per week.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-32-11-12 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective date to be determined.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-33-11-12 for up to ten hours per week to be provided by district staff, effective the week of February 3, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the out-of-district placement of classified student LLLLL-11-12 to Greenbrook Academy at the cost of \$57,571 per year, to be prorated pending establishment of an effective date.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve non-classified student HI-16-11-12 receive home instruction for five hours per week to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective February 16, 2012.

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated February 15, 2012.

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>
EE	3/16/12	Visit grave of Caesar (slave) to learn about 1700 & 1800's	Scotch Plains Baptist Church	\$0.00	District

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept the donation of \$2,067.26 from the Somerset PTO for the purpose of paying stipends to teachers in support of an after-school enrichment program for students who are interested in additional support in the areas of language arts and math.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education authorize the disposal of broken irreparable equipment from NPHS as follows:

- Elmo Overhead Projector HP-L355 Serial # 510826, AV # 09236
- Elmo Overhead Projector HP-L355 Serial # 984829
- EIKI Overhead Projector Serial # 2093037, AV #038

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from:

Mr. Joseph Rosenberg regarding a plaque in honor of Mr. Thomas Lanno.

An invitation to the World Language Honor Society Induction Ceremony being held on March 14th.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Communications – meeting in the process of being schedule

Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Finance & Facilities – next meeting scheduled for February 28th at 7:00 pm.

Policy Meeting – next meeting scheduled for February 28th at 8:00 pm.

Negotiations – next meeting date is TBD.

NJSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCSBA – Ms. Dodd provided an overview of topics that were discussed.

SCESC – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Old Business

There was none.

New Business

Items moved from future Agenda – there were none.

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

Race to the Top Grant – Dr. Rich provided the Board with a recent request by the DOE for district participation in Race to the Top. The district declined participation due to level of funding being inadequate to support development.

Current Events in Education

Ms. Dodd asked about changes to NCLB and how it would affect the district.

Comments from the Public

Ms. Michelle Robinson commented on the status of contract negotiations.

Ms. Latonya Sample made comments regarding the need to settle the contract.

Mr. Kobina Thomas asked about possibility of changing future meeting venues.

Future Agenda Items

Middle State Evaluation Report – Jerard Stephenson – March 7, 2012

Pathways Program Update – Jane Delaney

Humanitarian Lunch Report – Donald Sternberg

Letter from Mr. Joseph Rosenberg regarding Tom Lanno plaque

NCLB changes – May 2012

February 15, 2012

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on March 7, 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 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg