

April 11, 2012

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on April 11, 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, and approximately 1 member 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 March 21, 2012 and March 26, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of March 21, 2012 and March 26, 2012.

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

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public, Ms. Gerry McGee introduced herself.

#### **Student Representative Report**

There was none.

#### **Presentation**

There was none.

#### **Superintendent's Report**

### **RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS**

#### **Staff**

Congratulations to **Jerome Pocius, NPMS English teacher**, who was selected to receive the **Honey and Maurice Axelrod Award**. The following was noted in a letter from **Paul Winkler, executive director, NJ Commission on Holocaust Education**, "For over 20 years the Axelrod family has provided financial rewards to educators who have demonstrated outstanding efforts in teaching the Holocaust and genocide in their classroom

as well as in the field of bias, bigotry and prejudice. The Axelrod Family Award, presented through an endowment to the **Anti-Defamation League**, in cooperation with the New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, will be given at a special ceremony at your school.....Again, congratulations for your hard work—work that is making a significant difference in eliminating bias, bigotry and intolerance wherever and whenever they exist.”

## Students

**Kevin Sani, NPHS junior**, was the top scorer in the **Physics Science League test, round three**. His score bested those of all students in North Plainfield High School, Scotch Plains High School and Watchung Hills Regional High School. Kevin was also a recent award winner at the North Jersey Regional Science Fair.

Two students from West End School were selected for the **Central Jersey Elementary Honors Band: Abby Smith and Grace McGrath**. The rehearsal and concert will take place on April 22, 2012 at Rahway Middle School. Students were selected from 35 different elementary schools in central New Jersey. There will be three bands with about 85 students in each ensemble. “These are the top students in each school and this will be such a wonderful experience for each child. Eight students from Somerset School were also selected. Congrats to both,” remarked **Dorian Parreott, band director**.

The **NPHS Winter Guard** continues to dominate area high school winter guard competitions with another first place finish at Toms River North High School this past Saturday, April 7. Under the direction of **advisor Shannon Shotwell**, the girls have been experiencing the benefit of practice, practice, practice and the euphoria of victorious recognition, while making NPHS a force with which to be reckoned in competition. On March 27, the **NPMS Select Chorus** of 35 students charmed the **North Plainfield Senior Citizen Club** with a medley of old jazz tunes directed by **Ivan Izeppi, music teacher**. Then the entire room of 50 senior citizens and 35 middle school students were transported into a genuine aesthetic experience as NPHS choristers **Christina Stoudt, Enrie Simms both seniors at NPHS**, and **Evita Sylvester, a junior**, performed their own angelic arrangement of “Amazing Grace.” “Their harmonies were perfect and their rendition heartfelt,” commented a proud **Tom Mazur, supervisor of the arts**. **John Ferguson, NPMS assistant principal**, is proud to announce the following students for recognition on achieving the **Honor Roll** for the second marking period:

### Grade 7

Acevedo, Giancarlo

Agudelo, Johan

**Ahmed, Raja (\*)**

Amaya, Jenely

**Andrade, Kevin (\*)**

Angulo Orozco, Kimberly

Aviles-Carmona, Sebastian

**Bahnasy, Abdelaziz (\*)**

Baker, Adrianna

Barriga, Daniela

Barros, Jesse

Bermudez, Elena

Borja, Vanessa

Kolubah, Sefa

Lane, Symone

Lattimore, Lauren

**Liang, Yanqing (\*)**

Lozada Villegas, Kevin

Marquez, Alexander

Martinez, Chanell

Mauro, Stephanie

**Mendez, Cierra (\*)**

McDuffie, Brandon

McGrath, Emily

Mendez, Michael

Merrill, Steven

Brito-Eusebio, Royer  
Cabrera, Matthew  
Cadena, Charles  
Calderon, Victor  
Carreras, Kaitlyn  
Castellanos, Joselynne  
Cherasaro, Nicholas  
Cook, Jared  
Cortes-Salguero, Maria  
Cosby, Samuel  
Desotelle, Emily  
Dock, Ka-Ron  
Dock, Khalil  
Donatelli, John  
Duncan, Mikayla  
Durmus, Husnanur  
Dustin, Alexandria  
**Elkhouli, Fares (\*)**  
Elsais, Amina  
Enwerekowe, Dilinna  
**Forrester, Nikita (\*)**  
Fuentes, Mirian  
**Gardner, James (\*)**  
Girgis, Nermeen  
**Gordon, Karen (\*)**  
Haley, Brandon  
Hernandez, Matthew  
**Jackson Dexter (\*)**  
Jordan Freire, Rosario  
Kelly, Ricky  
Kisling, Victoria

Mobeen, Zoya  
Mora, Daniel  
**Navas, Kenny (\*)**  
Orejarena, Valentina  
Orellana, Matthew  
Pacheco, Aracely  
Patterson, Sydney  
**Pellegrino, Frank (\*)**  
Perez, Christian  
Persaud, Rishwati  
Plata, Daniela  
Polly, Aurelia  
Rana, Mohammad  
Riccardi, Harley  
Ruiz, Luis  
Salguero, Joseph  
Sevilla Torres, Sidney  
Soto, Sigrid  
Souza, Luhana  
St. Cerny, Ross  
Steward, Jonnelle  
Tapia-Alvarado, Grace  
Truong, Christina  
Urbano-Gomez, Christopher  
Velastegui, Emely  
Velis-Amaya, Javier  
**Ventriglia, Lauren (\*)**  
Wagnac, Andy  
**Warren, Christopher (\*)**  
Wieczorek, Christian  
Williams, Kylah

### Grade 8

Anderson, Breonna  
Appezato, Molly  
Baijnath, Amelia  
Barna, Stephen  
**Bartley, Rushea (\*)**  
Bashir, Zainab  
Bedoya, Nicole  
Blackwell, Kevin  
Cartagena, Angelo  
Celleri Elizalde, Kayla  
Ceriani, Toni  
**Chavez, Jasmine (\*)**  
**Chen, Melody (\*)**  
**Couso, Alexis (\*)**  
Dayton, Emily  
Deepchandani, Oneil

Melgar, Reina  
Mercuri, Tiffany  
Mohamed, Ebrahim  
Moodry, Kelly  
Muhando, Olivia  
Okereke, Brenda  
Okolo, Jasmine  
**Olivares, Kelly (\*)**  
Orozco, Claudia  
Ortega, Jaquelin  
Paredes Coronel, Yahaira  
**Pazmino-Nuñez, Helen (\*)**  
**Perez, David (\*)**  
Perez, Sabrina  
Pham, David  
Pisani, Nicholas

**Forbes, Natasha (\*)**  
Funelas, Kyle  
Gist, Destiny  
Gonzalez, Chris  
Grant, James  
**Gugliotta, Caitlin (\*)**  
Hatala, John  
Hernandez, Marisol  
Jeannot, Samantha  
Kenny, Samuel  
Lamperti, Amanda  
Lawson, Logan  
Le, Jason  
Ledezma, Dannia  
Lema-Tigse, Mishelle  
Lema-Tigse, Nicole  
Lopez, Maria  
Mastrobattista, Vincent  
Matias Lopez, Jason  
McClutcher, Mariah  
Megaloudis, Martyn  
Melendez-Yanotta, Alexandra

Ramirez, Genesis  
Requejo-Reymundo, Geraldine  
Rosa, Alih  
Ruilova, Julie  
**Samayoa, Caitlin (\*)**  
**Santana, Chyanne (\*)**  
Serna, Jesus  
Shafqat, Saira  
Soto, Katherine  
**St. Cerny, Ying (\*)**  
Thomas, Jamie  
Torres, Amber  
Urmaza, Charles  
Velasategui, Kely  
Villacis, Angelique  
Wallace, Shawn  
Way, Yvette  
**Weyand, Valerie (\*)**  
Zabala, Joel  
**Zhu, Lena (\*)**

(\*) = All A's

## Schools

### West End School

**Second Grade Science Presentation:** North Plainfield resident and former employee of the Environmental Protection Agency, and grandfather to a West End School second grader, **Harry Allen**, visited the second grade recently to present a lesson on the importance of the water cycle. The focus of the presentation was how the students could help preserve the water cycle in their community. Mr. Allen showed the students a demonstration involving grass, dirt and rain water. He also spoke to the students about the importance of not littering. **Second grade teacher, Christine Birnbaum** stated, "The students had some very good questions to ask and Mr. Allen was happy to answer them all! We look forward to having him come back again soon."

**Read Across America:** Congratulations to West End School's new **librarian, Lindsey Gall**, on her first West End Read Across America Event. The day began with an assembly celebrating poetry with the performance of *The Mother Goose and GaGa Goose Revue*. Directed by **special education teacher, Suzanne Fordham**, traditional Mother Goose rhymes performed were countered with updated versions provided by GaGa Goose. Staff members that made this production possible included **special education teachers Wendy McClellan, Christina Moscatello, and Angela Roman, kindergarten teacher Nancy Lubreski, librarian Lindsey Gall, instructional paraprofessionals Eileen Faede and Cori Williams and retired staff volunteers Carol Irvine and Marilyn La Marca**. Students performing were **Julian Mel-tos, Luther Vilvert, Darius Gabriel, Dajuan Gregory, Derek Espinoza-Mejia, Matthew Coslit, Brianna Dawsey, Abby Smith, Brian Garcia, Julia Gomes, Sophia Pellegrino, Raquel Kruscynski, Justin**

**Vargos, Olafade Omole, Tianna Burke, Jasmine Aybar, Sebastian Mendes, and Isaiah Medina.** The day continued with guest readers, stations with crafts and activities were visited by each class and a Dr. Seuss movie played in the community room for students to enjoy.

**Smile Train Update:** Rehearsals will begin again on Monday, April 16 for West End School's annual Smile Train Show. The show is now tentatively scheduled for **June 4.**

### East End School

During the week of March 12, all East End students participated in **Jump Rope for Heart**, a national educational fund-raising program that is sponsored by the **American Heart Association** and the **American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.** Students are sponsored by patrons and then jump rope in order to raise money for the American Heart Association. The event was held during each child's physical education period and was facilitated by physical education teachers **Corrine Cecala** and **Todd Vanderputten.** Many parents volunteered throughout the event to assist the students. East End School broke a record in the district and raised \$3000.00. "When Ms. Cecala informed the school community during morning announcements, you could hear the cheers throughout the school. It was a proud moment for East End," remarked **Ms. Herrmann.**

Students at East End School celebrated **St. Patrick's Day and Hat Day** on March 16. Students and staff arrived at school wearing green colored clothing and a favorite hat. Read-alouds were conducted throughout the day and many teachers hosted a "tasting of the green" event in their classrooms. Students enjoyed tasting all of the green colored foods and expressed their opinions as to whether they liked or disliked the food. Given that most of the foods were fruits and vegetables, the tasting was a healthy experience. This activity provided students with an opportunity to try new foods and find out that tasting something new could lead to enjoying the food and adding it to your diet. "Thanks to all the parents who sent in different foods for the students to sample," said Ms. Herrmann

The annual **Dress-up Day** was held on March 27 at East End School. A phone message was sent home in English and Spanish to remind students to wear their finest attire to school. The children arrived wearing their best and proudly walked through the halls. **PTO representatives Anne Fellin and Janet Quinteros** placed table clothes and centerpieces on each table in the Community Room, as well as played music. "It was wonderful to see and hear all of the compliments throughout the day. The children felt so special. At lunchtime, they truly were amazed when they entered the Community Room and they felt as though they were eating in a restaurant," remarked Ms. Herrmann. Dress-up Day is always held when spring pictures are taken. **PTO representatives Dawn Kasper and Angie Workman** volunteered throughout the day to ensure the children looked just right for their picture. "We are very fortunate to have parents who support our endeavors throughout the year," stated Ms. Herrmann.

**StarLab** was held the week of March 26 at East End School. Once again, the students were amazed when they went inside the large dome and listened and learned about the universe. Committee members **Alexis Holbrook, Jill Fogarty, Joanne Wendt, Nicole Rossi, Karen Lewis, and Kathy Porter** coordinated the schedule and StarLab instruction.

### Stony Brook School

**Pennies for Patients:** The students and staff members of Stony Brook School spent the month of March raising money for the **Leukemia and Lymphoma Society** by participating in the “Pennies for Patients” program. Stony Brook’s patient was actually a two year old girl named Leah who has been battling Leukemia for 18 months. Her picture hung in the hall as a reminder to everyone the importance of the collection. Organized by Leslie Castillo, Stony Brook’s School Counselor, each student received a Penny Collection Box which held their donated pennies. Each week the pennies were collected and amounts totaled. Unbelievably, by the end of March \$1246.00 was collected and donated to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in Leah’s name. Two classes were selected as the top contributors and will receive popcorn parties to celebrate. The real celebration was in understanding what a big difference a small group of students and staff can accomplish.

**North Plainfield Fight Club Visits Stony Brook School:** On March 27, the North Plainfield Fight Club visited Stony Brook School for an all school assembly on Anti-Bullying. The Fight Club, a school of **Martial Arts**, is located on Somerset Street in North Plainfield. Led by Master Mike, the assembly focused on the definition of bullying, an open discussion about bullying and strategies for overcoming bullies we all may encounter. Master Mike and his team demonstrated various techniques used at the Martial Arts School. Twenty Stony Brook students are current members of the school and wore their uniforms during the assembly. Master Mike surprised and delighted everyone at Stony Brook by offering each student at the assembly one month’s free membership during the month of April 2012. “Thank you, Master Mike and the NP Fight Club!” exclaimed **Cathy Kobylarz, principal**.

### NPMS

**Choosing Your Path: The Women’s Health & Counseling Center**, in conjunction with the middle school, is proud to introduce “Choosing Your Path,” a high school preparation program for eighth grade students and parents. The goal of this program is to make the transition into high school as successful as possible for both students and parents by improving communication and increasing awareness about health related topics. Parents and students are invited to a series of evening workshops to begin in early April.

**Hoops for Heart:** On February 23, the middle school physical education and health classes held the event “Hoops for Heart.” Run by the American Heart Association, this program encourages students to take care of their hearts through physical activity, while making a difference in the lives of others. Facilitated by PE teachers **Chris Eshelman** and **Robin Ederle**, middle school students raised over \$700.00 for the AHA. Eighth grade student **Vincent Mastrobattista** helped raise \$220.00, and seventh grade student **Terrence Jones** raised \$85.00. It was a fun-filled day with students competing in various tournaments, games, and jump rope activities.

**The Great Debate, A Unit on Argument and Persuasion:** **Patricia Bailey’s** grade 7 reading class spent the better part of February and early March exploring the art of argument and the power of persuasion. Students read, deconstructed, and analyzed a variety of persuasive texts by noted American writers and speakers. They explored the texts for, among other elements, “loaded” words, point of view, types of support, and tone. The culminating activity was a student-constructed debate centered on the issue of year-

round schooling. Each team researched its position and submitted its finding and list of sources. The debate took place on March 7, in the auditorium. With Ms. Bailey acting as the moderator and **math teacher Lauren Myer** presiding as judge, each team defended its position and expertly fielded questions from the audience. Ms. Bailey stated, "Using debates in the classroom can help students grasp many essential critical thinking and presentation skills."

### **"RYAN'S STORY"**

On April 19, 2012, **John Halligan** will share "**Ryan's Story**" with students in grades 6-10. Mr. Halligan lost his son, Ryan, to suicide on October 7, 2003 at the age of 13. At the time of his death, Ryan was a student at a middle school in Vermont. It was revealed in great detail after Ryan's death that he was ridiculed and humiliated by peers at school and on-line.

In memory of his son and in just a few months after Ryan's death, Mr. Halligan spearheaded the Vermont Bullying Prevention law in 2004. He also led the passing of a law in 2006 pertaining to suicide prevention education in public schools. Mr. Halligan has been outspoken about the need for more education and prevention of bullying, cyber bullying and teen suicide throughout the United States, Canada and Latin America. In fact, *Primetime* with Diane Sawyer devoted an entire episode to cyber bullying and Ryan's story in 2006 called "Cruel Intentions." Along with his wife Kelly, he also appeared in the PBS *Frontline* special called "Growing up On-line" and on the *Oprah Winfrey Show* in 2009.

Mr. Halligan will provide three presentations for students in grades 7-8, grades 9-10, and grade 6. According to the website, "His student presentation begins with video of home movie clips and pictures of Ryan as a very powerful way of introducing his son. John then begins to tell the story of Ryan's life and the factors that led up to his son's suicide. The audience gains a unique perspective from inside a family of a child who is a victim of bullying and cyber bullying. They also gain a deeper understanding of the devastating impact of a teen suicide on a family. There are many powerful life lessons imparted, including forgiveness and finding ways to turn a tragedy into hope for others."

## **DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES**

### **EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING**

Safety Topic-Operations. The safety topic for March was vehicle 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 April is fire safety and response.

Safety Topic-Transportation. Our van drivers and van paraprofessionals have now completed job-specific safety training related to special needs transportation.

Safe Schools On-Line Training. Due to 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**

An on-site survey was conducted at the high and middle school on March 20, 2012. The survey included all team and locker rooms, shower areas and restrooms throughout the building. All areas were negative for hidden cameras. Additionally, the district will continue to utilize our simplified hidden camera locator and sweep target areas at all schools including team rooms, locker rooms and restrooms.

### **SECURITY DRILLS**

The security drill for March was a bomb threat. The security drill for April is an evacuation, non-fire related.

## **MAINTENANCE PROJECTS/REPAIRS**

Below are contracted projects and/or maintenance tasks that were recently completed:

Repairs and striping of the running track.

Repair of a 2" domestic water line at West End School.

Clearing and repair of a waste line at the high school.

Replacement of three lighting fixtures in the middle school gymnasium.

## **PROPOSED FIELD HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS**

The proposed field house improvements are currently on schedule for completion prior to this year's graduation exercises. All materials have been ordered and demolition work will begin at the end of baseball season.

## **HIGH SCHOOL MARQUEE**

A new electronic messaging marquee has been ordered for the high school. This unit has been designed to be installed in the existing encasement and will be operated via a wireless controller. The unit should be installed prior to this year's graduation exercises.

## **CAPITAL PROJECTS, STATUS REPORT**

### **HARRISON SCHOOL**

The installation of a chiller, piping and associated controls to air condition the entire building: Bids were awarded for this project on March 21, 2012. A kick-off meeting is currently being scheduled and we anticipate a project start-up immediately following the last day of school. This project is partially funded by a Rod Grant.

### **STONY BROOK SCHOOL**

The installation of two package air conditioning units for the multi-purpose room: Bids were awarded for this project on March 21, 2012. A kick-off meeting is currently being scheduled and we anticipate a project start-up immediately following the last day of school. This project is partially funded by a Rod Grant.

### **DISTRICT WIDE**

Solar Energy Grant: Project applications have now been filed with the New Jersey Department of Education and are currently under review. The review process is expected to take up to four weeks and we now anticipate a start-up of this project in May.

## 2012/2013 BUDGET

Listed below are our capital improvement projects for the upcoming year:

Stony Brook School – Complete Heating System Replacement.

Watchung School – Complete Heating System Replacement.

District Wide - Restroom Renovations to include East End, West End, Stony Brook and NPHS/MS.

District Wide – Energy Reduction & Lighting Retrofit Project

NPHS Library/Media Center – Complete Redesign and Renovation.

(This project will require the creation of a steering committee to ensure any redesign of the library/media center will meet our current and future needs. )

## 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:

WHEREAS Ralph Sorrentino, assistant principal in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that he wishes to retire on July 1, 2012, and

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

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

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 11, 2012, and be it further

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

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:

WHEREAS Charles V. Jaidullo, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that he wishes to retire on July 1, 2012, and

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

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

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 11, 2012, and be it further

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

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:

WHEREAS Nancy Masucci-Beirne, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2012, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Ms. Masucci-Beirne its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 11, 2012, and be it further

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

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

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

April 11, 2012

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

WHEREAS Ann Caruso, student assistance counselor in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2012, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Ms. Caruso its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 11, 2012, and be it further

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

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:

WHEREAS Patricia Collins, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2012, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Ms. Collins its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 11, 2012, and be it further

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

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:

WHEREAS Leah Glicksman, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2012, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Ms. Glicksman its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 11, 2012, and be it further

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

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:

WHEREAS Mary S. Imperato, teacher in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on July 1, 2012, and

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

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of North Plainfield extend to Ms. Imperato its thanks for the service she has given and best wishes for her future; and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on April 11, 2012, and be it further

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

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 accept the resignation of Sharon Gianneschi, teacher of family and consumer science at NPHS, effective July 1, 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 accept the resignation of Gloria Cernuto, paraprofessional, effective June 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 accept the resignation of Nelida Hayes, paraprofessional, effective June 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 for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the following individuals as district K-12 substitute teachers:

Marilyn E. Ali

William W. Nesbitt III

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 rescind the recommendation to employ Judi Rosa as a substitute paraprofessional in the district.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the following paraprofessionals receive up to two hours each of training at the hourly rates indicated after their names, effective April 12, 2012:

                  \$20.16/hr                    
 Vanessa Cabrera  
 Maria Marinas  
 Erika Schreck

                  \$20.61/hr                    
 Kim Holzer  
 Monica Juarbe  
 Lucy Minichino  
 Nina Pleasant  
 Margie Williams  
 Denise Cruz

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 accept with regret the resignation of Marlene Yoskowitz, teacher of French at NPHS, for reasons of retirement, effective April 1, 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 Giovanni Reynoso from the NJ Expedited Certification for Educational Leadership Program (NJEXCEL) as an administrative intern in NPHS with Jerard Stephenson serving as the on-site supervisor.

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2012-2013 school year, the Board of Education approve the following fall student teacher and/or internship placement(s) from the Rutgers Graduate School of Education:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>Class/School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teachers</u>
Amanda Retenberg	Special Ed/Elem/Stony Brook	Kim Gargiule/Rachel Rehfeld

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

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

April 11, 2012

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 temporary employment of Carolann Kiss, temporary teacher of French at NPHS, **from** effective November 14, 2011 through May 11, 2012 **to** November 14, 2011 through June 30, 2012. (Ms. Kiss is temporarily replacing Marlene Yoskowitz.)

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

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education grant Mary Castro, elementary teacher at Somerset School, an unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act, effective one half day on June 14, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

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

Kathleen Mullen – 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 identified student HI-50-11-12 be placed on home instruction for ten hours per week, to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective March 8, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the following non-classified students be placed on home instruction for five hours per week, to be provided by Educere, Inc., effective March 27, 2012:

HI-51-11-12

HI-52-11-12

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve identified student HI-14-11-12 continue on home instruction which began on March 15, 2012, for ten hours per week through the end of the academic year.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve classified student HI-53-11-12 be placed on home instruction for up to ten hours per week for six to eighteen months to be provided by Newark Renaissance House at the cost of \$30 per hour, effective March 12, 2011.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve classified student HI-09-11-12 be placed on home instruction for up to ten hours per week to be provided by the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey at the cost of \$46.09 per hour, effective March 13, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the following classified students undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Nancy Durant at the cost of \$450:

PSY-18-11-12

PSY-19-11-12

Mr. Branán 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 OOOOO-11-12 at the Somerset County Alternative Academic High School at the cost of \$40,300, to be prorated effective April 12, 2012.

Mr. Branán 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 PPPPP-11-12 at the Somerset County Alternative Academic High School at the annual rate of \$40,300, to be prorated effective April 12, 2012.

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that:

RESOLVED, that the NORTH PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, continues home instruction for student #63, a student at North Plainfield High School, pending further recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

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

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

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that the Board of Education, on behalf of Somerset School, accept the donation of \$220.00 from Anne McCarthy for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Miles for Music Event. The funds will support the music program at Somerset School.

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

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

Mr. Branán moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote, with Mr. Kasper abstaining, that the Board of Education accept the donation of materials and equipment from DonorsChoose.org totaling \$3,180.00 for various equipment including binoculars, magnifiers, and tree and leaf guides to be utilized at East End School.

Thomas Allen – Aye  
David Branán – 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 authorize Parette Somjen Architects to prepare applications to the Department of Education for various site projects including, but not limited to, the following:

Stony Brook Heating System - #3670-090-12-1000  
Watchung Heating System - #3670-X01-12-1000  
NP High School Restroom Renovation - #3670-050-12-2000

And further, that the Board of Education affirm that the projects are being submitted as "other capital" projects and the Board of Education is not seeking state funding. The Board of Education further authorizes Parette Somjen to update the district's Long Range Facility Plan as applicable.

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 the Board of Education approve the following adjustment, **from days in session to days off**, to the 2011-2012 district calendar:

Friday, May 25, 2012	Schools and Offices Closed
Tuesday, May 29, 2012	Schools and Offices Closed
Wednesday, May 30, 2012	Schools and Offices Closed

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

### **Correspondence**

There was 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 – no meeting scheduled at this time.  
Negotiations – Dr. Birnbaum mentioned the tentative agreement.  
NJSBA – Mr. Kasper discussed IOWA Lighthouse Project  
SCSBA – next meeting scheduled for May 17, 2012.  
SCESC – no meeting scheduled at this time.

### **Old Business**

Advantage 3 – Mr. Sternberg reviewed with the Board the proposed signage/advertising.  
Board of Education Meeting Calendar – May 2<sup>nd</sup> will be a special meeting with a limited agenda

April 11, 2012

**New Business**

Items moved from future Agenda – there were none.

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

Mr. Allen questioned tests given during HESPA. Dr. Birnbaum will address.

**Current Events in Education**

Dr. Rich reviewed and discussed with the Board the Commissioner's memo on Regional Achievement Centers and new school status.

**Comments from the Public**

There was none.

**Future Agenda Items**

Pathways Program Update on May 16, 2012 – Jane Delaney

Letter from Joseph Rosenberg

Board Retreat – Gwen Thornton, NJSBA, April 30, 2012

Mr. Allen asked about information on the Bridge Program.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on April 25, 2012 at 6:30 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 10:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg