

March 21, 2012

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on March 21, 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 3 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 March 7, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to accept the executive session minutes of March 7, 2012.

Financial Report

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the list of bills and payrolls dated February 29, 2012 in the amount of \$4,975,385.84.

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

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

Comments from the Public

Upon request of the chair for topics from the public, Ms. Ilene Hunter-Green requested placement of her children in Stony Brook School.

Student Representative Report

There was none.

Presentation

There was none.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Students

Congratulations to Michael and Kevin Sani, NPHS juniors, and Dr. Sarah O'Donnell, NPHS biology teacher, for their achievements this past weekend at the North Jersey Regional Science Fair held at Rutgers in New Brunswick. This fair has been held for 29 years with 68 high schools competing over the years. High schools like Watchung Hills, Summit, Bergen County Technology Academy, Fort Lee, Colonia, Milburn and others competed for two days. There were over 200 entries in categories, such as chemistry, engineering, cancer research and microbiology. Some of these students had access to government and industry laboratories. Examples of their research included nanotechnology used to fight cancer and Alzheimer's disease and a device that could be plugged into a car to purify water to drink. These entries were judged by scientists from institutions including Rutgers, Alcatel/Lucent (formerly known as Bell Labs), and the armed forces. "This is a very tough science fair!" remarked Dr. O'Donnell.

NPHS was represented by Michael and Kevin Sani. They were entered in the category of environmental science, which had 22 entries. Their research was performed on the organisms in Stony Brook. These organisms drift downstream apparently to avoid fish and other predators, so the community is continuously being refreshed in a stream. Kevin and Michael analyzed their results statistically to identify what factors are related to this downstream drift. They found that drift occurs primarily at night and is related to velocity and dissolved oxygen. Their project was entitled, "Fauna Drift Following Storm Surge in an Urban Stream."

The awards were presented Saturday evening. Michael and Kevin won three awards! They won a special award for field ecology. They won another special award from the US Army for their achievement. And, in the category of environmental science, they won second place! Dr. O'Donnell has worked with Kevin and Michael since last spring when they began the planning process. During the summer, she could be seen at the brook with the brothers, guiding their research. In support of their project, she applied for and received a grant from **Young Science Achievers Program** to purchase statistical analysis software in preparation for their entry into the competition.

Kevin and Michael are scheduled to compete again in the Young Science Achievers Program on June 6, 2012 at the Liberty Science Center! Good luck, Michael and Kevin!

It should be noted that **Kevin Sani** also took a first place for **physics** in the recent science league competition.

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Several North Plainfield High/Middle School students were honored on March 14 at the 22nd annual **Paul Robeson Youth Achievement Awards at Raritan Valley Community College**. Middle School students **Logan Lawson, Grade 8**, and **Jared Cook, Grade 7**, were selected under the "**Achievement in Scholarship**" category. **Zonia Menendez, Grade 12**, was selected for "**Achievement in Arts**" and **Shannon West, Grade 12**, was selected for "**Achievement in Athletics**."

As part of the "**North Plainfield High School Students of the Month**" program, the following students were nominated by their teachers and selected by a committee of teachers for their contributions to NPHS for December 2011. Students are recognized for their accomplishments with a NPHS pride pin, a North Plainfield Canuck t-shirt, a certificate, and a letter to their parent/guardian thanking them for their support and congratulating them on their child's achievement:

David Grant	Fine/Performing Arts
Cesar Roca	Practical Arts
Pablo Ortiz	Academic Achievement, Gr. 11-12
Diego Salguero	Academic Achievement, Gr. 9-10
Flor Ledezma	Academic Excellence, Gr.11-12
Christian Duncan	Academic Excellence, Gr. 9-10
Katherine Barna	"The Canuck"
Joanne Vega	School Spirit

The following students were inducted into the World Language Honor Societies on March 14, 2012:

Spanish Honor Society -New Members 2012

10th Grade

Chigozie Atubi
Desiree Butler
Daisy Cardona
Hasani Eason
Jonathan Eugenio
Mona Gaballa
Kyle Grant
Gladys Hernandez
Bryan Huezo Menjivar
Penpa Lhamo

10th Grade

Jennifer Marmolejos
Davante Jahad Mcduffie
Tamera T. Mcmillan
Nicholas Mercuri
Krupa Patel
Michael Ryan Small
Anna Zhu
Cong Zhu

12th Grade

Jonathan Vargas

American Sign Language National Honor Society -New Members 2012

10th Grade

Brigiette Garcia
Vy Lai
Kelsey Miller
Yvonne Njoku
Amy Palacios

11th Grade

Lauren Bolton
David Havrilla
Karayah Sanders

French Honor Society -New Members 2012

10th Grade

Alyssa Chandler
Michelle Flores
Kevin Monroy
Cassey Sanon
Jasleen Sevilla
Shelby Watters

11th Grade

Samantha Padilla

Italian Honor Society -New Members 2012

10th Grade

Cindy Medrano
Ana Mendoza
Samantha Meza
Maria Molina
Sebastian Munoz
Laura Paduganao
Victoria Stevens
Mikaelah Villacruz
Stephanie Veintimilla

11th Grade

Duvany Acosta
Nicolas Sartori

12th Grade

Zonia Mendez

The following **NPHS Top Ten Students of the Class of 2012** will be honored at the **Scholar-Teacher Recognition Dinner** on April 24, 2012, 8:00 p.m., NPHS library.

Nour Abraham
Yamna Anwar
Vanessa Castillo
Jeffrey Gugliotta
Zachery Joback

Zonia Menendez
Christopher Nichols
Marissa Sarfati
Jacob Watters
Shannon West

Schools

East End School

Kathleen Porter, fourth grade teacher, went to **DonorsChoose.org**, a **501© charity website** that engaged anonymous donors, matching donors, classroom parents, friends and family members and received various equipment valued at \$988.00 to use with her students to enhance learning opportunities. Ms. Porter will receive 6 pairs of binoculars, 12 magnifiers, mounted leaf specimens, tree and leaf field guides, bird field guides, tree kits, both fiction and non-fiction books about birds, trees, plants, and nature, and 6 backyard bird posters which will be displayed throughout the building. The materials will support six "Nature Packs" which are housed in Ms. Porter's classroom but are available for use by all teachers at all grade levels at East End. Some classrooms at East End are collaborating to develop a "Field Guide to our Schoolyard." Throughout the seasons, students will go

outside observing, taking field notes, using their new tools and being amazed by all that the outdoors has to offer!

However, it doesn't end there because **Ms. Porter** received another donation from DonorsChoose for equipment valued at \$2,192. It was generously funded by **Steven Colson**, owner of **Huston Lumber** in North Plainfield. Ms. Porter was introduced to Mr. Colson through **Mark Sager, her class' Trucker Buddy pen pal**, who makes deliveries to Huston Lumber. Mr. Colson is invested in Porter's students becoming the best that they can be, and the equipment donated consists of two laptop computers, two digital cameras, and a document camera. "Ms. Porter was thrilled to receive this equipment and it is scheduled to arrive in a few weeks. The students will benefit immensely and are excited to use the equipment to support learning. I congratulate Ms. Porter for seeking ways to support teaching and learning at no cost to the district," stated **Ms. Herrmann**.

Read Across America was celebrated throughout the school on Friday, March 2. Many guest readers arrived throughout the day and were greeted by PTO President **Anne Fellin** who offered them refreshments. Everyone was encouraged to wear red, black, and white to celebrate the day. **Allison Longley, library media specialist**, invited special guests to read to the students. Special guests included **Mayor Michael Giordano; Dr. Ernest Jaegar, former language arts, social studies and media supervisor; Councilwoman Mary Forbes; Melissa Meola and Jessica Trujillo from the North Plainfield Public Library, and Bob Goellner from the North Plainfield Education Foundation**. Many teachers made green eggs and ham and celebrated with goodies provided by the parents.

Stony Brook School

Maschio's Food Services supported a **School Breakfast Medal Contest** sponsored by the School Nutrition Association. This was a national contest looking for the best design of a breakfast medal, teaching other students about the benefits of a healthy breakfast. Entries were submitted and **Rebecca Rodriguez, Grade 2** from **Marina Heller's** class was the proud recipient of the winning poster. In an award ceremony held during her lunch period, Rebecca was awarded a "Go for the Gold" t-shirt and a certificate of recognition. Her teacher, Ms. Heller and her principal, Ms. Kobylarz were each presented with a "Go for the Gold" Breakfast mug. The award-winning entry will be submitted into the national competition. "Good Luck, Rebecca and special thanks to Maschio's Food Services for sponsoring such a 'healthy' event," exclaimed Ms. Kobylarz.

West End School

Sugar-Less Day: In recognition of **National Nutrition Month**, students at West End participated in the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Children's Oral Health Program ***Sugar-Less Day to Prevent Tooth Decay*** on March 9, 2012.

Prior to the assembly, **Barbara Walker, school nurse**, coordinated a poster contest during February, 2012. All fourth grade students created a ***Sugar-Less Day to Prevent Tooth Decay*** themed poster. Students' posters were displayed in the community room for judging and to showcase their great work and increase awareness about oral health and nutrition.

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All fourth graders also attended an educational presentation led by **Maggie McLaughlin, registered dental hygienist**, who emphasized the importance of brushing, flossing, regular dental visits, and healthy food choices. After the presentation, students received certificates of participation and free oral health supplies which included a toothbrush, dental floss, toothpaste, and a timer. Special ribbons were presented to the poster contest winners with first place awarded to **Jennifer Cooney** and second place going to **Kevin Vasquez**. In addition, grades one and two were treated to an assembly. Also in attendance was **Dr. Beverly Sce, director of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services Children's Oral Health Program**. Dr. Sce stated that one school from each county is chosen for this special presentation. **Principal Beth Sobel** reported, "I would like to thank our **school nurse Barbara Walker** for coordinating this event for our students. Our visitors were very impressed with our students' work."

Sugar-Less Day 2012 is funded in part through a grant from the Dr. Samuel D. Harris Fund of the American Dental Association and Oral Health America. The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services provides grant funds to Southern Jersey Family Medical Centers and Central Jersey Family Health Consortium to implement the Statewide Children's Oral Health Program. The program provides age appropriate oral health and hygiene education to school age students throughout the State. More information about the Children's Oral Health Program is available on the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services website: <http://www.nj.gov/health/fhs/oral/index.shtml>.

Third Grade Character Education Project: To demonstrate the character education pillar of responsibility, the third grade students of West End School started exploring **environmental studies** to learn how they needed to be responsible to the earth. One of the areas in which they researched was reduce, reuse, and recycle. For their project they chose how they could reuse common day items that would have ended up in the garbage. It was decided they would design fashion items from these materials and put on a fashion show for the school. The show included fashion accessories that included necklaces, earrings, bracelets, belts, hats, handbags, tote bags, and shoes made from materials such as bottle caps, aluminum foil, plastic bags, cardboard, rope, plastic bottles, paper cups, and reused clothing and cloth material. Next down the red carpet was clothing. Vests and pants, dresses and gowns were modeled. Materials used were cardboard, plastic bags, paper, restructured old clothing, juice pouches, magazine pages, paper plates, CD/DVD discs, scarves tied together, newspaper, paper towels, and various packaging that would have been thrown out in the trash. Special guests attending the show included **Mike Giordano, mayor of North Plainfield; Ron Fisher, director of technology; and Patricia Marseglia, math and science supervisor**. Many thanks to the third grade teachers: **Brian Bigden, Alison Clark, Marianne Harris, Debbie Lysicatos, Nicole Rivlin, and Angela Roman**.

NPHS

The Gettysburg Project: Ten NPHS students will be featured in a documentary as part of a film festival comprised of the best Civil War films. **Dr. Anthony Mussari**, a former history professor (UMASS) and filmmaker for 40 years will be filming an educational documentary on location in Gettysburg National Military Park on April 28-29. The ten students will be the centerpiece of the film and represent our district as Dr. Mussari is proud to recognize and promote as the "Face of America." The district will be providing transportation for the trip and the NPHS PTO has provided a grant to cover the cost of the

students' lodging. The film will be premiered at North Plainfield High School followed throughout the school year by a concert of Civil War music and a fine art exhibition that will focus on the 150th anniversary of the battle, Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War.

The **NPHS Winter Guard** finished in second place with a score of 81.3 at Matawan High School on March 17, 2012. The junior squad finished in fifth with a score of 76.6

***Come Blow Your Horn** by Neil Simon is this year's NPHS drama club spring production. It is the uproarious tale of Buddy Baker's decision to leave the home of his parents for the bachelor pad of his older brother, Alan, who leads a swinging '50s lifestyle. But as the play progresses Alan discovers real feelings for one of the many women whom he is dating while Buddy has a metamorphosis into a ladies' man himself. Put the boys' parents into the mix and you have the makings for a chaotic and hilarious comedy about coming of age in NYC.*

Cast of Characters in Order of Appearance:

Peggy	.....	<i>Joanne Vega -Junior</i>
Alan	.....	<i>Duvaný Acosta -Junior</i>
Buddy	.....	<i>Alex Carrillo -Junior</i>
Connie	.....	<i>Jasmine Andrews -Sophomore</i>
Father	.....	<i>Izayah Williams -Junior</i>
Mother	.....	<i>Daniela Lopez -Junior</i>

*In direct contrast to the large scale and spectacular fall musical production of **A Christmas Carol**, this play's more intimate cast has built an equally spectacular and humorous night at the theater which should not be missed.*

District

Gifted and Talented

*On February 28, 2012, students in the **second and third grade Inspiration classes**, under the direction of **Cynthia Crawford, G&T teacher**, took a field trip to the **Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City**. The group had the opportunity to be a part of an interactive program offered by the museum. This experience served as an introduction to architecture to the second graders and an extension of the subject for the third graders.

Students began the day with a thematic gallery tour. The exhibit on display was from the works of the sculptor John Chamberlain. Upon entering the ground floor, they immediately viewed an enormous sculpture that resembled two intertwining crumpled pieces of aluminum foil. While sitting on the floor of the lobby, students were handed pencil and paper and given the task to draw what they saw in the design of the building. They were reminded of the magnificent oculus in the ceiling as well as the spiral shapes of the floor plan in the museum. Next, the group continued on a tour of the sculptures on exhibit. Beginning at the top level and working their way down to the ground floor, the group periodically stopped along the way to view works made from a variety of media such as steel, paper, and resin. Throughout the tour, the guide gracefully blended discussions about the sculptures with the architecture of the building designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Another notable stop was made at the painting titled *Composition 8* by Vasily Kandinsky.

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Students learned that this painting inspired the architect in the design of the building. Here the second and third graders were asked to give their impression of Kandinsky's work by recording their thoughts on paper.

After the guided tour, the students were led to a studio where they participated in a building activity. First, students explored constructing with paper manipulating it by crumpling, folding, and taping it into various shapes. Using the materials of paper, tape, pastels, and scissors, students were given an assignment to create a building using the current exhibition and design of the museum as inspiration. The results were as individual and unique as each student who visited that day!

As a continuation of their studies on inventions, the fourth grade **G&T class visited the **Thomas Edison National Historic Park** on March 2, 2012. During the visit, the group was led through the library, machine shops, office, and chemistry lab of this great inventor. The tour began with the viewing of Mr. Edison's library. Ranger Ben played a game of "Eye Spy" with the class as he explained points of interest such as Thomas Edison's bed, an in-house movie screen, his vast collection of research materials, as well as a statue of an eagle with eyes that lit up! The tour continued on to his machine shop where the group discussed the design process and looked at a set of blueprints. Continuing on to the second floor of the building, the group viewed a smaller machine shop along with Thomas Edison's personal office and the drafting room. As a last stop in this building, students had the pleasure of seeing the first phonograph Thomas Edison invented. There were also many subsequent versions of this invention to view. The group listened to several pieces of music on two of his phonographs that used cylinders for the recordings.

Later on, the tour went across the compound for a walk through the chemistry lab on the complex. The lab is literally frozen in time, still housing the equipment and materials used by Thomas Edison and his research teams.

During the visit, the students had the opportunity to engage in a design challenge of their own. Groups were given a set of building materials and an assignment to build in a specific amount of time. Each set of students quickly completed the tasks which included a playground, mousetrap, amusement park, and robot under construction. This was a fitting culmination to a day spent learning about one of America's greatest inventors.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

SafetyTopic-Operations: The safety topic for March is vehicle safety. Related safety training is being provided via our new on-line employee training system and all employees are currently completing their assigned training.

Safety Topic-Transportation: Our van drivers and van paraprofessionals are currently completing 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

We have now scheduled an on-site survey that will be conducted in target areas before month's end. 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 March is a bomb threat. All schools are in the process of completing their assigned drills.

MAINTENANCE PROJECTS/REPAIRS

Listed below are contracted projects and/or maintenance tasks that were recently completed.

- Roofing repairs at the high school, middle school, field house, West End and East End Schools.
- Installation of an override switch for the middle school gym sound system.
- Repair of a waste line in the high school basement.
- Repair of a waste line for the second floor of the middle school.
- Repair of lighting fixtures in Somerset and NPMS gymnasiums.

PROPOSED FIELD HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

The following improvements have now been approved for the field house. This work is currently being scheduled for completion prior to this year's graduation exercises.

- 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, *phase one.
- Complete painting of all areas including exterior restrooms.

*Due to the number of exterior doors, these replacements will be completed in two phases with the second phase being scheduled for this coming summer.

CAPITAL PROJECTS (STATUS REPORT)

HARRISON SCHOOL

The installation of a chiller, piping and associated controls to air condition the entire building. UPDATE: Bids were received for this project on March 13, 2012. As of this writing, there was an apparent low bidder and we were checking the validity of their bid. This project will be partially funded by a Rod Grant. More information to follow.

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

The installation of two package air conditioning units for the multi-purpose room. UPDATE: Bids were received for this project on March 13, 2012. As of this writing, there was an apparent low bidder and we were checking the validity of their bid. This project will be partially funded by a Rod Grant. More information to follow.

DISTRICT WIDE

Solar Energy Grant. UPDATE: 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 the proposed capital improvement projects for the upcoming 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
- *North Plainfield High/Middle School 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. The “committee” will include those persons who have a direct or indirect impact on the use of this space.

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 OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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 accept with regret the resignation of Ralph Sorrentino, assistant principal at NPHS, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved 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.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Yuri Urrutia to teach in the Extended-Hour Math Program for NPHS students for one hour each day at the rate of \$35 per hour, effective March 22, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve Jonathan Valencia as a volunteer assistant to the baseball coach.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the appointment of Barbara Walker as a substitute school nurse for the Alternative High School Program at the rate of \$30 per hour.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the **2012 fall semester**, the Board of Education approve the following student teacher placements:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>College/Univ</u>	<u>Grade/School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Kelly Wagner	Caldwell Univ.	Grade1/West End School	Kourtney Karl
Anniely Acosta	Kean Univ.	Grade 2/West End School	Eliz. Cirillo
Meghan McCartney	Rutgers	ESL/East End School	Francesca Cardona
Kailyn Barbour	Rutgers	English/NPHS	John DeLaurentis
Jeong Hyun You	Rutgers	ESL/NPHS	Elba Velazquez

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve an adjustment in hours for East End School paraprofessional Nancy LasLuisa from 2.5 hours per day to 1.0 hour per day, effective March 12, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Anne Fellin as a lunch paraprofessional at East End School for 1.5 hours per day at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective March 22, 2012. (Ms. Fellin will replace Nancy LasLuisa’s lunch position.)

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of the following individuals as substitute paraprofessionals in the district at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$20.16, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective date pending completion of the employment process:

Kim Carter Michelle Gorel

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve Janet Darwin to serve as mathematics/science facilitator at Somerset School at the prorated stipend of \$400. (Ms. Darwin will replace Mary Castro as facilitator.)

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education accept with regret the resignation of Leah Glicksman, ESL/blilingual teacher, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2012.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve non-classified student HI-40-11-12 be placed on home instruction for five hours per week to be provided by Educere, effective March 14, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve identified student HI-41-11-12 be placed on home instruction for ten hours per week, to be provided by district staff pending child study team evaluation, effective March 15, 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 16, 2012.

HI-42-11-12

HI-43-11-12

HI-44-11-12

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve the following classified students be placed on home instruction for ten hours per week, effective dates and provider as indicated:

<u>Student ID#</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Provider</u>
HI-45-11-12	March 7, 2012	District Staff
HI-46-11-12	March 19, 2012	District Staff/Educere, Inc.
HI-47-11-12	March 12, 2012	District Staff/Educere, Inc.
HI-48-11-12	March 12, 2012	Educere, Inc.
HI-49-11-12	March 15, 2012	Educere, Inc.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that the Board of Education approve that classified student HI-04-11-12 be placed on home instruction for ten hours per week, to be provided by district staff, effective March 2, 2012 through June 22, 2012.

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved that for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve an increase in hours for Natural Setting Therapeutic Management, **from** ten hours per week **to** twelve hours per week at an increase in cost of \$3,500.

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

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the Board hereby places student #13504 on long-term suspension for the balance of the 2011-2012 school year subject to review by the Child Study Team. The Board shall review the student’s progress at the next board meeting in Executive session.

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

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

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

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent the Board hereby places student #12323 on long-term suspension for the balance of the 2011-2012 school year subject to review by the Child Study Team. The Board shall review the student's progress at the next board meeting in Executive session.

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

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

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

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 March 21, 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 approve line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated January 31, 2011.

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

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

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

<u>School</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Transportation</u>
HS K. Rosen	5/23/12	Students will perform at a HS/MS Festival as an extension of their classroom learning experience	Rider University	\$0.00	1 district bus
HS T. Mazur	4/27-4/29	Create an educational documentary film that will spearhead a year-long series of events commemorating the history of the US Civil War	Gettysburg, PA	\$2300	Contracted

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

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

March 21, 2012

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education award the following bid for the purpose of installing an air conditioning system in the community room at the Stony Brook School:

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2012, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) conducted a public bid opening for the award of the project to furnish HVAC equipment necessary for the installation of an air conditioning system in Stony Brook School community room (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, nine vendors submitted a bid for consideration at the bid opening; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Board’s Engineer, Edwards Engineering, have evaluated the bids 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-1 et seq., the Board has determined that ***DeSesa Engineering Company Inc.***, having offices at ***83 Dorsa Avenue, Livingston, New Jersey 07039***, is the lowest responsible and responsive Bidder for the Project, with a Lump Sum Base Bid of \$128,000.00 (One Hundred and Twenty-Eight Thousand Dollars), which amount includes an Allowance of \$5,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board makes the following award of contract:

DeSesa Engineering Company Inc. is hereby awarded the contract for the Project, for the total contract sum of **\$128,000.00 (One Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Dollars)**,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this award is subject to DeSesa Engineering Company Inc. executing the Owner/Contractor Agreement for the Project, and providing Performance/Payment Bonds and an Insurance Certificate(s) evidencing coverages in accordance with the Project Specifications (“Contract Documents”); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board’s Counsel is authorized to prepare and transmit for signature the Owner/Contractor Agreement applicable to this award, as well as to secure from DeSesa such other documentation as required by the Project Specifications and this Resolution.

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

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

March 21, 2012

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education award the following bid for the purpose of installing a chiller system Harrison School:

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2012, the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) conducted a public bid opening for the award of the project to install a chiller system in Harrison School (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, nine vendors submitted a bid for consideration at the bid opening; and

WHEREAS, the Board and the Board’s Engineer, Edwards Engineering, have evaluated the bids 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-1 et seq., the Board has determined that ***DeSesa Engineering Company Inc.***, having offices at ***83 Dorsa Avenue, Livingston, New Jersey 07039***, is the lowest responsible and responsive Bidder for the Project, with a Lump Sum Base Bid of \$190,450.00 (One Hundred Ninety Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars), which amount includes an Allowance of \$5,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board makes the following award of contract:

DeSesa Engineering Company, Inc. is hereby awarded the contract for the Project, for the total contract sum of **\$190,450.00 (One Hundred Ninety Thousand Four Hundred Fifty Dollars)**,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this award is subject to DeSesa Engineering Company Inc. executing the Owner/Contractor Agreement for the Project, and providing Performance/Payment Bonds and an Insurance Certificate(s) evidencing coverages in accordance with the Project Specifications (“Contract Documents”); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board’s Counsel is authorized to prepare and transmit for signature the Owner/Contractor Agreement applicable to this award, as well as to secure from DeSesa such other documentation as required by the Project Specifications and this Resolution.

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, the Board of Education determined the need to request proposals for Internet and Voice Over IP services for the district, and

WHEREAS, the Board solicited requests for proposals from a total of five firms to be submitted by February 2, 2012, and

WHEREAS, the proposals that were submitted were reviewed, and it was determined that one firm, having most closely matched the particular needs of the district, and

WHEREAS, this firm has been authorized by the Alliance for Telecommunication (ACT) Bid through the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission to solicit school districts for the purpose of providing both Internet connectivity and Voice Over IP services (VoIP), and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education hereby approves the appointment of Data Network Solutions, having offices located at 106 Apple Street, Suite 103, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724, as the provider for telecommunications and Internet services for the 2012 through 2015 school years (three-year contract) at an amount not to exceed the amount listed in each year as following:

Internet: \$55,020.00 (Fifty Five Thousand Twenty Dollars) in total each year.
Voice Over IP: \$4860.00 (Four Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Dollars) in total each year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

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 line item transfer of \$68,292.00 from Fund 10 Account #11-000-291-250-00-00 (Unemployment) to Fund 12 Account #12-000-400-932-00-00 (Capital Outlay) to be transferred to Capital Projects in support of local share of DOE Project #3670-X02-10-1002-G3, Harrison School Chiller and DOE Project #3670-090-10-1007, Stony Brook A/C Multipurpose Room as follows:

DOE Project #3670-X02-10-1002-G3		
From Fund 10:	11-000-291-250-00-00	\$ 65,192.00
To Fund 12:	12-000-400-932-00-00	\$ 65,192.00
DOE Project #3670-090-10-1007		
From Fund 10:	11-000-291-250-00-00	\$ 3,100.00
To Fund 12:	12-000-400-932-00-00	\$ 3,100.00

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

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve line item transfer of \$68,292.00 from Fund 12 Account #12-000-400-932-00-00 (Capital Outlay) to Fund 30 Account #30-000-505-450-09-02 (Capital Projects) in support of local share of DOE Project #3670-X02-10-1002-G3, Harrison School Chiller and DOE Project #3670-090-10-1007, Stony Brook A/C Multipurpose Room as follows:

DOE Project #3670-X02-10-1002-G3			
From Fund 12:	12-000-400-932-09-00		\$ 65,192.00
To Fund 30:	30-000-505-450-09-02		\$ 65,192.00
DOE Project #3670-090-10-1007			
From Fund 12:	12-000-400-932-09-00		\$ 3,100.00
To Fund 30:	30-000-404-450-09-02		\$ 3,100.00

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

Mr. Branen moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the appointment of James Cardaneo for the purpose of coordinating all necessary documents for submittal to the SDA to secure the grant funding for all projects listed plus four additional projects, at the amount not to exceed \$5,000.00

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

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from:

Mrs. Kathy Senna regarding tree planting.

Ms. Ilene Hunter Green

Ms. Kristina Pusinska

Invitation to NPHS Drama Club Spring production of “Come Blow Your Horn.”

Invitation to Scholar-Teacher Recognition Dinner

Mr. Allen asked about Mrs. Senna’s letter and requested additional information regarding the wording on the plaque and that it would need to be reviewed.

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 – next meeting scheduled for March 29, 2012 at 7:30pm

NJSBA – Mr. Kasper attended Student Achievement workshop.

SCSBA – next meeting scheduled for May 15, 2012.

SCESC - no meeting scheduled at this time.

Old Business

School Budget 2012-2013

New Business

Items moved from future Agenda – there were none.

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

Current Events in Education

There were none.

Comments from the Public

There were none.

Future Agenda Items

Pathways Program Update – Jane Delaney

NCLB – Approved NJ Wavier – May

Letter from Joseph Rosenberg

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

2012-2013 School Budget Public Hearing, March 26, 2012 – West End School, 7:30 pm

Dr. Birnbaum discussed the May 2, 2012 meeting and the board meeting schedule for the upcoming school year. It was also suggested the meeting for June be held on June 6th and June 20th.

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on March 26, 2012 and April 11, 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 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg