

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on October 19, 2011 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 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, Yamna Anwar, Student Representative and approximately 50 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, with Mr. Branam abstaining, to accept the public session minutes of October 5, 2011.

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved, with Mr. Branam abstaining, to accept the executive session minutes of October 5, 2011.

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 September 30, 2011 in the amount of \$6,860,399.58.

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 August 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	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branam – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – Aye	

Comments from the Public

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

Student Representative Report

There was none.

Presentation

Dr. Robert Rich presented to the Board the Violence and Vandalism report for the 2010 – 2011 school year. A review of the details of the incidents was discussed.

Superintendent's Report

RECOGNITION/PUBLIC RELATIONS

Students

The NPHS **Marching Canucks** secured another **first place honor** (Group 2A) at the **New Jersey Central Regional** competition on Sunday, October 16, 2011. In addition to a first place trophy, the band also took first place in Music, Percussion, Visual Performance, Color Guard, and Overall Effect. The next competition will be on Saturday evening, October 22 at Somerville High School.

Schools

West End School

Respect Week: During the week of October 3-7, West End School was filled with respect! The meaning of respect along with the activities planned for the Week of Respect was introduced to students the week before by **Taryn Buffolino, school counselor and anti bullying specialist**, via classroom visits and a WE Celebrate Assembly. On Monday, October 3, many students and staff wore blue for **World Day of Bullying Prevention** (www.stompoutbullying.org). Quotes about respect were read on the loudspeaker each morning. Students participated in a project called **Tokens of Respect**, in which students each decorated five popsicle sticks and handed them out to classmates, peers, and adults who demonstrated respect. The goal was to raise awareness of and encourage respectful behavior. **Lisa Cerulo –art teacher, Taryn Buffolino**, and the students worked on an art activity which will be turned into a "mural" this month entitled "**West End is a Golden Rule School.**" **Jonathan Scott, music teacher**, worked with fourth grade students to rewrite the lyrics of Aretha Franklin's R-E-S-P-E-C-T for West End School. Many activities occurred in individual classrooms throughout the building, such as reading and reflecting on stories about respect, creating respect power points and signing respect pledges.

School Violence Awareness Week: **Taryn Buffolino, school counselor**, will spread the message "See it, Say it, Stop it" throughout the school during classroom lessons about bullying. Every morning, quotes pertaining to non-violence and peace will be read over the loudspeaker. Students will sign a Peace Pledge, which will be hung in a prominent spot in the building. **Taryn Buffolino and Lisa Cerulo, art teacher**, will continue to work on the respect mural in the community room. Classroom teachers will be conducting individual lessons and activities to teach the important concepts of non-violence and peace, i.e. conflict resolution. And on Wednesday, October 19, West End will welcome **Maggie McGee**, an assembly about good character!

Families and Schools Working Together: West End's FAST committee is well under way and will be kicking off the school year with their annual Spaghetti Dinner/Homework Help Night on October 20. Families will sit down to enjoy a free dinner of spaghetti, salad and bread from local pizzeria DiMola's, while socializing with other West End families and friends. After dinner, attendees will listen while staff members address the important topic of homework and study skills, and then participate in a craft in which parents will help their children design a special "**Study Zone**" sign to be displayed in a designated work area in the student's home. The event will end with a raffle drawing of five backpacks stuffed with school supplies. West End's FAST committee has several additional events planned for the school year, including a Family Dance and Standardized Test Preparation workshop. Their goal is to unite families and educators in a fun, meaningful way to increase student success and well-being. FAST acts under the banner of the New Jersey Education Association and North Plainfield Education Association.

East End School

As part of **International Walk to School Day** on October 5, physical education teachers **Corrine Cecala and Todd Vanderputten** encouraged students throughout the week to walk to school. International Walk to School Day supports leading a healthy life style which includes good nutrition and exercise. Over 200 students walked to school that day and were greeted by Ms. Cecala and Mr. Vanderputten and each child received a sticker and a nutritious snack of grapes and granola bars. The snacks were provided by the PTO. "It was a great morning and the weather was perfect for walking. As I walked outside, the students were so excited to inform me that they walked to school," remarked **Ms. Herrmann**.

On October 11, **physical education teachers Corrine Cecala and Todd Vanderputten** engaged all of the classes in a one-minute jumping jack challenge. Cities throughout the United States participated in this event trying to break a **Guinness Book of World Records**. "The students were so excited and thrilled to participate in this event which is sponsored by First Lady Michelle Obama, and the fact that East End School could get credit for trying to break the record excited the students. They were energetic and lively and we can't wait to hear the results," commented Ms. Cecala.

Student council held its first meeting with facilitators **Jackie Spaventa, school counselor, and Lisa Gabriel, grade 2 teacher**, assigning students to safety patrol and explaining all of this year's projects. "Student council is an excellent way for students to embody the six pillars of character education. They work hard throughout the year and understand the importance of giving of themselves to help others," remarked Ms. Spaventa.

To support the geography building objective, all of the classes at East End School have visited the historic **Drake House in Plainfield**. The children viewed artifacts and were amazed at seeing history come to life right before their eyes. For the majority of the students and staff, this was the first visit to the elegant mansion and the curator provided a tour that was filled with a great deal of information. "Being there and seeing artifacts and timelines provided the students with real experiences that helped them

make connections to their studies, said Ms. Herrmann. “Members of the School Based Planning team, including **Rachel Padian, Alexis Holbrook, Lisa Gabriel, Francesca Cardona, Sharon Egan, and Angela Phillips**, worked diligently throughout the summer planning and coordinating this trip. They also developed lessons for the grade levels which will be taught throughout the year. The objective continues to be integrated across the disciplines and there are a great deal of exciting activities and projects planned for the year,” further remarked Ms. Herrmann.

At the PTO meeting on October 11, Principal Herrmann presented the NJASK results for third and fourth grade to the audience. A great deal of discussion ensued, and **Lynelle Thomas, third grade teacher, and Alexis Holbrook, special education teacher, along with Ms. Herrmann** answered questions and shared strategies that are in place to improve teaching and learning. Parents also made suggestions. “The dialogue among the parents and staff continues to strengthen our school community and validates the importance of working together. We are all here for the children and we are committed to bringing all students toward academic excellence,” stated Ms. Herrmann.

Stony Brook School

Project American Soldier: The first and second grade students from **Leanne Borbely's** class at Stony Brook School will be conducting a new class project titled, "**Project American Soldier.**" This project will continue over the course of the year and involves writing and sending letters, packing and sending care packages, counting money and collecting supplies to send to our heroes in the military both across the seas and in this country. The students will also be placing a "**Penny for a Hero**" jar in each classroom in Stony Brook School in the hopes of raising money to purchase items for the care packages. The students will also be collecting letters written by friends from other classes. The goal this year is to reach out to 100 American soldiers. This project will also allow for many cross-curricular activities in the classroom, such as locating American Soldier addresses on the map, using the internet to research countries where the soldiers are stationed and other endless possibilities. "We are very excited about this project and we cannot wait to get started," stated Ms. Borbely.

Somerset School

Somerset Arts Unite! Cross Curricular Studies Explored: Somerset School arts rotations are coordinating lessons to enhance student learning experience through cross curricular explorations. Somerset School fifth and sixth grade music, art, computers, and library rotations will explore various cultural topics together. Each rotation will utilize a grant from **Colonial Williamsburg Education program**. Students will communicate with various instructors by Skype and Comcast cable on each topic. In addition, each of these rotations and/or classes will cover different aspects of a related theme. Links between various writers, musicians and artists are abundant. For example, in the first rotation students will study Africa's many diverse cultures, musical influences and the influences of the civil rights era on the arts. Individual classes will prepare projects to present to their counterparts in the other rotations. As part of a culminating activity, the artists, writers and musicians will share what they have learned. Teachers will also measure student achievement by administering a pre-test and post test, with the results being tallied as a follow-up on information learned.

Somerset School's Anti-Violence Week Activities

Monday -- Kickoff Day

Kickoff Assembly

Speech at Lunch – Sara Tanne, school counselor, will provide a quick presentation recapping the dignity and respect week's lessons and how violence has no place in school. Suggestions on how to unite Somerset in peace and harmony are given.

Quotes will be read throughout the week to signify anti-violence week.

Tuesday – Make a Skit Day

Students will be encouraged to participate in a contest where they can work together throughout the week to develop skits addressing violence issues, etc. Ms. Tanne will help them perfect the skits, and they will be performed at the next community meeting

Wednesday – Unity Day

These Hands Don't Hurt – Students will unite the school with a colorful display of support. After school there will be a white banner and several different colors of paint for students to leave their handprint as a visible pledge to their commitment to being peaceful members of the Somerset community and the world.

Thursday – Take Action Day

Students will be encouraged to create posters (after school, during lunch time, or in the classroom) that represent school unity and peace and no violence. Posters will be displayed in the school.

Friday – Beats of Peace Day

If skits / dramatic pieces are finished, students will have a chance to perform for other classes as part of a celebratory assembly to wrap up the week.

NPMS

Back-To-School Night: On October 6, the middle school held its annual Back-to-School Night, beginning at 6:30 p.m., with welcoming remarks and introductions by **John Ferguson, assistant principal**. During the introduction, Mr. Ferguson shared his vision of the middle school as “a place where students would be successfully transitioned from the intermediate setting to the secondary school environment, while developing their academic, emotional, moral, and social potential.” The program was extremely well attended, as the auditorium was filled to capacity. One parent expressed her opinion in an e-mail that stated, “Every teacher let us know their door was open for further discussion if we needed to chat. It was great to feel the sincerity. I have reached out to each one to thank them. Teachers need to know they are appreciated!”

Parent Pizza Party: The recent “Parent Pizza Party” on the night of the Back-to-School program was a huge success with over 25 families participating. Combining the talents of the middle school student council, the PTO, and the National Junior Honor Society, the event was created to help assist parents attending Back-to-School Night with their dinner plans.

NPMS Canuck Pride: Middle school student council, under the direction of **Theresa Zimmerman**, recently completed a T-shirt fundraiser that raised over \$400 for future student activities. Due to the fact that the 7th grade edged out the 8th grade in purchases, Mr. Ferguson dyed his hair school colors to show his appreciation to the student body.

Student Council Elections: On October 10, the middle school conducted its annual student elections. Student candidates for the office of class president **Amilyan Boyd, Julie Ruilova, Nancy Bahnasy, Nikita Forrester, and Mariah Rowen**, addressed the entire student body during an assembly to introduce themselves and present their ideas for school improvement. Each student prepared excellent speeches and remained poised and confident throughout the program. **Mariah Rowen** won in a close election to become this year’s middle school president. Also elected for leadership positions were **Anna Yon, vice-president** and **Antoine Izaguirre, secretary**. “It is of extreme importance that students become actively engaged in the democratic process at an early age,” stated Mr. Ferguson.

Hispanic Heritage Month: Beginning on Friday, October 14, the middle school will recognize Hispanic Heritage Month with a series of **cross-curricular activities and interdisciplinary events, developed by the grade level teams**. Activities include analyzing climatic differences in Latin America, reading stories by Hispanic authors, exploring and designing patterns of materials traditionally worn in various Hispanic countries, introducing Latin music and dance, writing a narrative about a traditional Hispanic celebration, and utilizing Mayan mathematical concepts to solve problems.

NPHS

Middle States: The Middle States evaluation committee is scheduled to evaluate NPHS November 14- 17. A schedule of events is being developed for the middle states committee.

Spirit Week, October 17-21

Monday- Crazy Hat Day
Tuesday- Pajama Day
Wednesday- Favorite Sports Team Day
Thursday- School Spirit Day

The pep rally will be held on Friday, October 21, during period 9. Weather permitting; it will take place outside at the stadium. This will allow the marching band and color guard to perform.

PSAT: All students in grades 9-11 took the PSAT on October 12. Seniors came in at 9 a.m. and had their senior class yearbook picture taken in the high school gym. At 10 a.m. the seniors then went the auditorium where a seminar was conducted regarding post-secondary opportunities.

Senior Breakfast: Parents of seniors treated their children to breakfast on October 14, during periods 1 & 2. This decade-old tradition is looked forward to by all. The seniors were also given their senior fundraiser. See a senior if you are interested in purchasing candles for self and loved ones.

Offsite Evacuation: The 1,700 students, faculty, and support staff are ready to evacuate to their three offsite locations. Middle school students will evacuate to the Italian American Club; ninth grade students will evacuate to Somerset School; and grade 10-12 will evacuate to Holy Cross Church where the chapel and common room will be used.

Violence Prevention Week: During violence prevention week students will plant over 1500 red, white, and blue marker flags to create the shape of a peace sign. This peace sign will be located on the hill overlooking the high school track. Students will work on this project during their physical education class.

District

Join the **9/11 Committee** on **October 27, 2011** in the NPHS media center for the **premier of *Rebirth***, a documentary that focuses on the journey from one of the deadliest acts of terrorism in history –September 11, 2001 through the healing process to the present. Throughout the day staff will have the opportunity to view the film and speak with Donna Gaffney, education outreach coordinator for Project Rebirth. Ms. Gaffney will return on November 8 for follow-up discussions with staff to discuss ways to implement the use of the film with our students.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS & AUXILIARY SERVICES

EMPLOYEE SAFETY TRAINING

Safety Topic. The safety topic for October is “Electrical Safety and Lock Out/Tag Out.” Related safety training is being provided via our new on-line employee training system.

Safe Schools On-Line Training. Our new web-based training program from Safe Schools is up and running. As of this date, the majority of the operations staff has successfully completed their first on-line course. This new program allows employees to log into the training site and complete courses that have been assigned to them by their supervisor or other administrator. The district is initially targeting the operations team and hopes to bring the entire district on board later this year. The program is provided to the district through our Joint Insurance Fund at no cost to the district. Update: The operations staff, including van drivers, is currently completing additional assigned courses. As of this date, **Ed Ostroff, director of operations**, has received very positive feedback regarding this new system. “In fact, our employees have stated how easy the site was to navigate,” remarked Mr. Ostroff.

HEALTH & SAFETY

SECURITY DRILLS

The security drill for October is an off-site evacuation. We have now scheduled our off-site evacuations for all schools and the majority of these should be completed prior to the release of this report.

FEMA SUBMISSION #1

Pending. No further information is available at this time.

FEMA SUBMISSION #3

The Governor's declaration for Hurricane Irene clears the way for us to apply for reimbursement of reasonable expenses related to the storm. An initial information and submission meeting was held on September 15, 2011 in Somerville. We are currently waiting for county representatives to schedule an intake conference.

TRANSPORTATION

On October 10, the van drivers and associated paraprofessionals attended a training session and safety meeting at the high school. The training session focused on behavioral management strategies and the safety meeting covered a wide range of related topics.

CURRENT MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

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

- Closing and set up of all district boilers.
- Replacement of two roof drains/scuppers above the high school library area.
- Assembly and installation of two picnic tables at Harrison School.
- Replacement of flooring in both faculty rooms at the middle school.
- Installation of feeder conduits for the greenhouse at Harrison School. The remaining utility work is being completed at this time.

CURRENT MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (In Progress)

Listed below are projects and/or in-house maintenance projects that are currently in progress and should be completed shortly:

- Electrical upgrades for Harrison School. Scheduled for completion 10/14/11.
- Restoration of hot and cold water mixing at a number of areas at the high school.

Listed below are improvement projects that have been approved, utilizing ARRA Funds, at Harrison School. Both projects are currently in progress:

- Installation of a fully functional greenhouse teaching package.
- Installation of new technology and related equipment in the multi-purpose room.

CAPITAL PROJECTS (STATUS REPORT)

HARRISON SCHOOL

The installation of a chiller, piping, and associated controls to air condition the entire building. This project will be partially funded by a Rod Grant. Specifications for this project have now been finalized. This project is currently being advertised and a project walkthrough has been scheduled for October 18, 2011. Bids are due on November 2, 2011.

STONY BROOK SCHOOL

The installation of two package air conditioning units for the multi-purpose room. This project will be partially funded by a Rod Grant. Specifications for this project have now been finalized. This project is currently being advertised and a project walkthrough has been scheduled for October 18, 2011. Bids are due on November 2, 2011.

DISTRICT WIDE

Solar Energy Grant. UPDATE: Sunlight General Capital, the selected contractor, was in district a number of times during the last two weeks to complete additional survey work. We anticipate this project to start up in early spring of 2012.

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.

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 Lianne Pellegrino, school van driver in the North Plainfield School District, has indicated that she wishes to retire on November 1, 2011, and

WHEREAS she has served the District and children of North Plainfield for approximately twenty-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 Ms. Pellegrino 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 October 19, 2011, 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. Pellegrino.

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 per 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 2012 spring semester, the Board of Education approve the following student teacher(s) from Caldwell College:

<u>Student Teacher</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher</u>
Yuri Urrutia	Mathematics	NPHS	Luis Rincon

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 for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education grant Heather Fencik, instrumental music teacher at NPHS, a leave of absence as follows:

March 23, 2012 – April 28, 2012	Disability period using sick days
April 29, 2012 – June 10, 2012	Unpaid leave of absence under the Federal Family Leave Act

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the certificated staff indicated on the attached list be reimbursed for courses taken between May and August 2011 at the 2010-2011 rate, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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 Zoraida Cruz, secretary at NPHS, be reimbursed for the following course taken between June and August 2011, at the 2010-2011 rate, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement:

<u>Course</u>	<u>University</u>	<u>Crdt</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Reimb.</u>
Psychology of Learning	Kean University	3	\$1065.00	\$798.75

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 for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education appoint the following teachers to work on curriculum projects or school-based planning activities at the school/department as indicated, at the 2010-2011 hourly rate of \$49.74, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement:

*Mathematics

Mariluz Torres	\$746	(Grades 3-5 Benchmark Tests)
Marilyn Pinto	\$746	(Grades 3-5 Benchmark Tests)
Mariluz Torres	\$597	(Grades K-2 Revised Portfolios)
Marilyn Pinto	\$597	(Grades K-2 Revised Portfolios)
Jennifer Riolo	\$497	(Grade 8 and Algebra I Benchmark Tests)
Kerry Thompson	\$497	(Grade 8 and Algebra I Benchmark Tests)

*funded with Title I FY'12 monies

Science

Mariluz Torres	\$622	(Grade 4 Science)
Marilyn Pinto	\$622	(Grade 4 Science)

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 for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Karen Fisher as a temporary vocal music teacher at NPMS at the 2010-2011 BA/Step 9-11(10) annual salary rate of \$54,390, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective November 16, 2011 through February 24, 2012. (Ms. Fisher will temporarily replace Amy Six.)

Further, that the Board of Education approve Ms. Fisher as a district substitute teacher for the 2011-2012 school year.

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 for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve John Ferguson, assistant principal at NPMS/HS, be paid at the rate of \$103,000 plus \$1500 longevity for a total of \$104,500, effective July 1, 2011.

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 for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education approve the employment of Eileen DeMeo as a temporary elementary teacher at Somerset School at the 2010-2011 MA/Step 6(6) annual salary rate of \$55,065, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement, effective October 14, 2011 through November 23, 2011. (Ms. DeMeo will temporarily replace Mary Imperato.)

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 rescind the previously approved recommendation to appoint Cori Goldberg as co-advisor of the Canuck Mentors.

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 for the 2011-2012 school year, the Board of Education appoint Maria Annette Bicksler to the position of co-advisor of the Canuck Mentors at the 2010-2011 stipend of \$644.50, to be adjusted pending settlement of the negotiated Agreement.

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 accept the resignation of Travis Smith, teacher of English at NPHS, effective December 18, 2011, or sooner should an appropriate replacement be employed.

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

Curriculum, Instruction, and Pupil Services

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the use of the following textbooks and/or trade books in the district as follows:

The Social Studies and Practical Arts Departments have requested the approval of the following textbooks:

Title: ***World History, Modern times***
Author: Jackson J. Spielvogel
Publisher: Glencoe and National Geographic
Copyright: 2010
Course/Levels: Social Studies, grades 8-12

Title: ***Introduction to Technology***
Author: Alan J. Pierce and Dennis Warwatka
Publisher: McGraw Hill
Copyright: 2010
Course/Levels: Introduction to Technology, grades 9-12

Thomas Allen – Aye	Kathleen Mullen – Aye
David Branam – Aye	Nancy Szaroleta – Aye
Sandra Dodd – Aye	Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Thomas Kasper – 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 Dynamic Therapy Services to provide speech therapy services to North Plainfield students at the rate of \$107 per hour.

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

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve classified student PSY-07-11-12 undergo a psychiatric evaluation to be provided by Dr. Nancy Durant at the rate of \$150 per hour for up to three hours.

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

Mr. Branam moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve home instruction for classified student HI-09-11-12 to be provided by University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey for up to ten hours per week at the cost of \$55 per hour, effective October 5, 2011 for approximately seven to ten days.

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

Finance, Purchasing, Facilities and Agreements

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education reaffirm the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials, 2011 Revisions, approved by the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety and the New Jersey Department of Education and between the North Plainfield Public School District and the North Plainfield Police Department.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve payments from the Cafeteria Account in accordance with the attached list dated September 30, 2011.

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 transfers in accordance with the attached list dated August 31, 2011.

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

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approve the services of Jim Cardaneo for the purpose of submission of ROD Grant applications for payment, at the hourly rate of \$50.00, not to exceed \$2,000.00.

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 acknowledge that emergency exit fire drills were conducted on all pupil transportation vehicles during the month of September, 2011 in accordance with NJSA 6:21-11:4.

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 authorize the submission of the IDEA application for the fiscal year 2012, and that upon final approval, accept the grant award as indicated below:

Basic Grant	\$797,279
Non-Public	\$ 37,887
PreSchool Grant	\$ 19,172

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

Correspondence

Letters were received as follows from:

June Troiano – Thank you

Mr. Tom Mazur, supervisor of the arts, is requesting Board approval to seek a grant to construct a new performing arts center in North Plainfield.

Committee and Delegate Report

Board Staff – next meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 27, 2011.

Communications – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Curriculum – no meeting scheduled at this time.

Finance & Facilities – next meeting scheduled for Friday, November 11, 2011 regarding the budget.

Policy Meeting – the updated disk has been received and will be made available online.

Negotiations – Ms. Bond-Nelson mentioned negotiations have reached impasse.

NJSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCSBA – no meeting scheduled at this time.

SCESC – Ms. Mullen mentioned Career Center Project was approved by County and State and will move forward.

Old Business

Mr. Sternberg discussed the arrangements for the upcoming NJSBA annual conference.

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

Mr. Fellin updated the Board on the band competition to be held in North Plainfield on October 30, 2011.

Tracy Peters expressed thanks to Mr. Stephenson for efforts to support events held at the Vermule center.

October 19, 2011

Future Agenda Items

Student Health Study

Introduction of New Staff & Milestone Awards – Dec 7th – Dr. Marilyn Birnbaum

HIB Report

NPMS Initiatives – November 16th

Adjournment

Mr. Branan moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved to hold an executive session on November 2, 2011 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 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg