

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 7:30 PM, Watchung School School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Ms. Bond-Nelson, Board President 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, Ms. Bond-Nelson requested the call of the roll:

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. - Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

A quorum was established

Also present were Michelle Aquino, Superintendent of Schools; and Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, Joanne Sung, Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Athena Cornell, Board Attorney, Student Representative Jasmine Zaher and approximately 10 members of the staff and public.

Introduction of New Staff

None.

Minutes Approval

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote to accept the public session minutes of December 4, 2019.

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote to accept the executive session minutes of December 4, 2019.

Financial Report

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Butler and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education approve the lists of bills and payrolls dated November 30, 2019 in the amount of \$6,558,896.61*

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. - Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Butler and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education accepts the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary and the Treasurer of School Funds, for the month of October 2019, 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.*

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Comments from the Public

Ms. Lewis expressed support for Mr. Krouse as Principal of Somerset School.

Student Representative Report

Marta Hernandez: Student Representative

Good evening everyone, unfortunately Marta was not able to attend today's meeting because she has just gotten surgery for her knee and is resting, however, she will be able to make the next meeting. Today, I will report on both sports and activities at the school.

I'll start off by saying that auditions for the spring musical were last week. This year, the high school will be recreating "Mamma Mia," which will be a total success. Last week, the Clearing House Scholarships were handed out to all the seniors, marking an important moment because this could help them pay for college.

Next, Hope Club is having a holiday candy gram as a way for students and teachers to share warm wishes for the holiday season. Today was also the last day of the clothing drive that the Spanish Honor Society was hosting, resulting in many donations to give to families in need for the holidays.

On January 16, our school is having a field day to the Universal Technical Institute, where attendees will be learning about programs in diesel, automotive, and collision repairs. This is an amazing opportunity for students to obtain an insight in these fields if they want to study them in the future.

In addition, this week is spirit week, beginning the week with pajama day. Tuesday was meme day, today was ugly sweater day, tomorrow is class colors for the pep rally, and finally to end the week and mark the beginning of winter break, fancy Friday.

Jasmine Zaher: Student Representative

Next, I will report on the sports.

To begin, no games have been played yet throughout the school as the teams are still transitioning and practicing for the new season. The winter track team is having their first meet this Saturday in Toms River, and will hopefully bring home some victories. The basketball team will also be having their first game on January 2nd, alongside with the cheer team.

The All-Area honors awards have also been announced for the football team. The 1st team defense award was given to Khan-Yae Stevens, the 2nd team offense award was given to Naji Campbell, and the 2nd team defense award was given to Adam Elsaïs.

That's all there is to report on this week, and I hope everyone has a great holiday and break. Thank you!

Presentation

Mr. Wayne Miller presented the annual school financial audit for the 2018-2019 school year with no recommendations.

Dr. Aquino and Mr. McKeen presented the violence and vandalism and HIB report.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools Personnel

It is understood that the employment of all new personnel is pending completion of the employment process including S-414/3381 documentation.

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Wendy Ng, teacher at NPHS, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2020.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the employment of Deanna Tomasso as a District substitute secretary at the rate of \$90.00/day.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the employment of Donna Caira as a K-12 District substitute teacher/substitute paraprofessional.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

December 18, 2019

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the appointments of the individuals indicated to the positions specified, at the stipends/rates noted.

Name	Position	School	Effective	Stipend/Rate
James Horan	Choral Accompanist	HS	12/19/19	\$930.00
James Horan	Choral Accompanist	MS	12/19/19	\$930.00
Kathleen Banko	Athletic Chaperone	HS	12/19/19	\$30.00/hour
Erik Dial	Athletic Chaperone	HS	12/19/19	\$30.00/hour
Kaitlin Muglia	Volunteer Softball Coach	HS	12/19/19	Volunteer
Sal Esposito, Jr	Volunteer Baseball Coach	HS	12/19/19	Volunteer
Sean Canada	Volunteer Boys' Basketball Coach	HS	12/19/19	Volunteer
John Donatelli	Volunteer Wrestling Coach	HS	12/19/19	Volunteer
Raul Figueroa	Alternative School Substitute Science Teacher	HS	12/19/19	\$32.00/hour

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianca Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the following item be tabled:

That BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that employee #5997, custodian, be terminated for just cause and violation of the mutually agreed upon employment agreement, effective February 17, 2020.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianca Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the individual indicated for clinical experience in the District.

Student Name	College	School/Class	Assignment	Date	Coop. Teacher
Jules Auguste	New Jersey City University	MS/ELA	Clinical Observation	Spring 2020 4 Hours	Jennifer Mariani
Jules Auguste	New Jersey City University	MS/SE Math	Clinical Observation	Spring 2020 4 Hours	Kristen Ebbrecht

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianca Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Kate Moore to provide afterschool enrichment at Somerset School, for up to 3 hours per week, at the rate of \$30.00 per hour. This position is funded through the Title III Immigrant Grant.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the Board member and/or staff conference and travel expenses as per the attached list.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the teacher indicated to teach a sixth period class, for the additional annual salary noted.

Name	School	Course	Salary	Effective
Kyle Skrivanek	HS/MS	Band	\$8,754.37	1/2/20 – 6/30/20

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the temporary employment of Andrea Rogicki as a teacher at West End School for the 2019-2020 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective January 2, 2020 through April 24, 2020, Andrea Rogicki shall be placed on MA/Step 1 and will be paid the prorated annual salary of \$64,270. (Ms. Rogicki will temporarily replace employee #6468.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Tammy Scott, teacher at NPHS, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2020.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianca Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education adjusts the assignments of the listed paraprofessionals as indicated.

Name	From (hours per week)	To (hours per week)	Effective
Maria Flores	WE – 22.50	WE – 28.75	1/3/20
Nydiadra Rivers	WE – 17.50	WE – 25.00	1/3/20
Pam Strickland	WE – 22.50	WE – 27.50	1/3/20
Kaitlin Carroll	WE – 20.00	WE – 25.00	1/3/20
Wendy Gaeten	WE – 20.00	WE – 25.00	1/3/20
Beatriz Murillo	WE – 17.50	WE – 25.00	1/3/20
Annie Heinzerling	WE – 22.50	WE – 27.50	1/3/20
Karen Rink	WE – 22.50	WE – 27.75	1/3/20
Nancy Nardi	EE – 21.25	EE – 25.75	1/3/20
Veronica Ortega	EE – 20.00	EE – 27.50	1/3/20
Shoma Kar	EE – 17.50	EE – 28.75	1/3/20
Tatiana Navarro	HS Bridge – 22.50	HS Bridge – 24.75	1/3/20
Gina Ahearn	HS Bridge – 22.50	HS Bridge – 25.00	1/3/20

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianca Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Priscila Espinoza, non-instructional paraprofessional at NPHS, effective December 21, 2019.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianca Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education grants the employee listed a leave of absence as indicated.

Employee	Position	School	Effective	# Sick Days Used	FMLA
#6543	Social Worker	MS	4/23/20 – 6/30/20	23	5/27/20 – 6/30/20

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Ms. Dodd and unanimously approved by roll call vote that WHEREAS Ms. Linda Bond-Nelson, Board of Education Member in the North Plainfield School District, will complete her service as a member of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS for twenty-seven years she has served the district, students, and community of North Plainfield with distinction; and

WHEREAS she has displayed unflagging dedication to education and the academic achievement of all North Plainfield students, and has developed long-term personal relationships with administrators, staff, students, and families, serving them all with compassion and empathy; and

WHEREAS she has promoted the North Plainfield School District continually and vigorously through her organizational memberships and professional affiliations, bringing recognition and positive regard for both the district and community; and

WHEREAS for the betterment of the district and student achievement she has served as a member of the Board of Education for twenty-seven years, and as Board President for sixteen years and Vice President for nine years, and on all committees during her tenure including Policy, Curriculum, Finance and Facilities, Personnel, and Negotiations; and

WHEREAS as a member of the Board, she has worked with six Superintendents, and has been a partner in developing and supporting Board policy, goal setting, curricular enhancements, fiscally sound budgets, and accountability to all constituents and stakeholders; and

WHEREAS during her leadership, the district reorganized the ESL/bilingual, academic support, special education, and gifted and talented programs, implemented the Navy Jr. ROTC program and expanded the fine and performing arts programs; and

WHEREAS she has proven to be a true role model through her integrity, loyalty, and devotion to the students of the North Plainfield School District; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education extends to Ms. Bond-Nelson its deeply felt gratitude and appreciation for all the years of service she has given the community and especially the North Plainfield School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be placed in the official minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on December 18, 2019; and

NOW, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, with a very heavy heart and with sincere wishes for all the best that life has to offer in her future endeavors, may we have a MOTION that the Board of Education recognizes the contributions of Ms. Bond-Nelson and offers sincere thanks and appreciation on behalf of the entire North Plainfield School District.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote with Mr. Allen reading the statement that WHEREAS Mr. John Fellin, Board of Education Member in the North Plainfield School District, will complete his service as a member of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS for six years he has served the district, students, and community of North Plainfield with distinction; and

WHEREAS he has displayed unflagging dedication to education and the academic achievement of all North Plainfield students, and has developed long-term personal relationships with administrators, staff, students, and families, serving them all with compassion and empathy; and

WHEREAS he has promoted the North Plainfield School District continually and vigorously through his organizational memberships and professional affiliations, bringing recognition and positive regard for both the district and community; and

WHEREAS for the betterment of the district and student achievement he has served as a member of the Board of Education committees on Finance and Facilities, Negotiations, Curriculum, Communications, Personnel, Policy, and New Jersey School Boards Association representative; and

WHEREAS he has proven to be a true role model through his integrity, loyalty, and devotion to the students of the North Plainfield School District; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Education extends to Mr. John Fellin its deeply felt gratitude and appreciation for all the years of service he has given the community and especially the North Plainfield School District; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be placed in the official minutes of the public meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education on December 18, 2019; and

NOW, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, with a heavy heart and with sincere wishes for all the best that life has to offer in his future endeavors, may we have a MOTION that the Board of Education recognizes the contributions of Mr. Fellin and offers sincere thanks and appreciation on behalf of the entire North Plainfield School District.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Curriculum, Instruction & Student Services

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB incidents #

2020_10

2020_11

and the investigations which were conducted following these complaints; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education was advised of any consequences and/or remedial measures related to these matters as well as the Superintendent's recommendations regarding the results of the investigations; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education votes to affirm the Superintendent's recommendations on HIB cases #

2020_10

2020_11

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Finance, Purchasing & Agreements

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approves line item transfers in accordance with the attached list dated October 31, 2019.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approves the following change order due to contract allowance for the roof projects at East End School, West End School, and North Plainfield High School:

Original Contract Price	\$665,178.00
<u>Allowance</u>	<u>-11,081.36</u>
Total New Contract Price	\$654,096.64

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approves educationally related field trips per the attached list.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education accepts and files the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and the Auditor's Management Report of Administrative Findings Financial and Compliance, with no recommendations, for the 2018-2019 fiscal school year.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approves and accepts a donation of \$500.00 from Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey for the costs associated with expanding Career Day at NPHS to include activities that highlight career paths in the construction trades.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
 Bianka Butler – Aye
 Michelle Robertson – Aye
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
 John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
 Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approves and accepts a donation of colored paper for the District from the North Plainfield Memorial Library at a value of \$500.00.

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 – Next meeting scheduled for February 19th, 2020.

Negotiations(NPEA) – None.

NJSBA – Mr. Fellin provided an overview of recent legislation and upcoming events.

SCSBA – No meeting scheduled at this time.

SCESC – Next meeting scheduled for February 2, 2020

Personnel – No meeting scheduled at this time.

Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report

Sheltered Instruction Cohort Update

We are in our third year of the district's multi-year commitment to Sheltered Instruction Professional Development, and are abundantly proud of the home grown effort that is being led by district Teacher Leaders. Our most recent Sheltered Instruction cohort, led by teacher leaders Annette Bicksler, Soyoun Ouh and Gabriela Colon supported an additional 25 teachers as they worked toward their Sheltered Instruction certification. K-12 staff continue to implement techniques and strategies to support our growing population of English Language Learners.

During the most recent Professional Development Day, held in November, staff learned the importance of modifications and how to adapt grade-level content to meet the unique learning needs of the ELL student. As an example of how the work is infused into daily learning, Ms. Wendy Alvarez, Physical Education teacher at Somerset School, is shown labeling the gymnasium in order to promote English language acquisition and vocabulary development as one means of supporting English Language Learners.

Early Childhood Update

District supervisors and elementary principals participated in preschool curriculum training where they explored developmentally appropriate practices and curricular expectations. Important conversations were facilitated to highlight curriculum connections to kindergarten expectations, as well as the application of these concepts across elementary grades.

Planning is underway for a series of follow up sessions that will expand the focus to include academic rigor in the preschool classroom, review of the learning continuum, and exploration of how the learning continuum is used to design effective instructional opportunities. The collective concepts explored by district participants cultivates a comprehensive understanding of the early elementary learning cycle and how intentional curricular and classroom choices can maximize academic growth and achievement in our youngest learners.

As we explore best practices in our preschool classrooms, it is worth noting that construction at East End school continues to be on schedule. The expansion of the

preschool program at East End will provide additional integrated classrooms, allow for the placement of additional preschoolers, and afford all current preschool waitlist families an opportunity to participate.

Gifted and Talented Program Update

The Gifted and Talented Program is comprised of three separate programs: The Inspiration Program; The Enrichment Program; and The Acceleration Program. The Inspiration Program services Grades 2-6 and allows identified students the opportunity to work alongside their intellectual peers. Each grade-level focuses on a unique theme while exploring complex and in-depth studies, and conditioned to apply critical and creative thinking skills to generate new ideas and engage in the problem solving process.

The Enrichment Program is designed for all K-2 students across the district, and provides whole group or small group challenges through diverse, inquiry-based lessons with new topics introduced each trimester. The third component of the G&T program is The Acceleration Program which is designed for small, teacher-recommended groups, kindergarten students only, working on verbal and non-verbal cognitive skills.

The G&T program will continue the “Thinking Theme” this year with the in-depth study of *Mindset* by Carol Dweck.

Correspondence

None.

Superintendent Report

Updates:

- Fall Athletics Banquet: On the evening of December 10th, Karl Gordon hosted the Fall Athletics Banquet. The evening was dedicated to recognizing the achievements of our athletes who participate in fall sports. The program was well attended by student athletes and their parents. Feedback from parents has been exceptionally positive. In 2020, Mr. Gordon will host winter and spring sports banquets at the close of their respective seasons.
- Our District hosted the New Jersey Network of Superintendents meeting in the NPMS/NPHS media center on December 13th. Dr. Eddie Fergus of the Temple University College of Education was the guest presenter and worked with all districts on their equity goals.
- Strategic Planning Update: The steering committee has been organized and will meet in early January to map out a plan. There was tremendous interest and a lottery was held. The first staff interviews will take place at the High School during the January Faculty meeting.

- As per the newly agreed upon contract, we have been increasing paraprofessionals' hours at our schools. Through these increases, we have been able to eliminate three ESS positions.
- Update on Buildings and Grounds:
 - IAQ testing will be performed by Dr. Lynch beginning on December 16th or 17th. This testing will encompass both floors of the Middle School.
 - 20 new lockers (10 top and 10 bottom) were ordered for the Middle School on December 9th. I will keep the Board apprised of the delivery and installation dates when I receive more information.
 - We are in the process of renovating the Middle School band room storage closet. Our custodial staff has cleaned out the closet and removed the old wooden shelves. An outside contractor will install a subfloor and new floor on 12/19 and 12/20. The full project will be completed before or during winter recess.
 - Ms. Karcher is discussing the work order process of entry with each school as each has their individualized method.
 - I have met with Dr. Allen.
- *Maschio's Update (written by Gail Fabbriatore): In an effort to be more environmentally friendly, Maschio's will begin using eco-friendly cutlery that is produced from corn starch instead of plastic. Additionally, the High School has successfully converted to paper straws and wooden coffee stirrers. The latest Issue of Lunch Bites, Maschio's Newsletter for the District, appears on the final page of this report.*

Board Questions: The following sections includes questions posed by Board members via email to me, and as promised, I want to share responses with the Board. Please note that I will also share these questions during my report during the Board meeting.

- None at this time

Grapevine - *I am "trialing" this section to share any rumors I hear that you may be interested in knowing more about. I want to share that none is fact based, but it is important to make you aware. Let me know what you think.*

- None at this time

Old Business

None.

New Business

Mr. Vick moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that That the Board of Education approves the following job description as revised:

Data Manager and Analyst
Supervisor of Testing and Targeted Programming
Payroll Manager

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Dr. Aquino discussed changes to job descriptions.

Comments from the Public

Mr. Kruszczynski congratulated Ms. Bond-Nelson and commended her on years of service.

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Bond-Nelson and unanimously approved by roll call vote to adjourn to Executive Session for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law at 9:05 PM.

Upon return to Public Session the following action was taken:

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the following item be removed from the table:

That BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that employee #5997, custodian, be terminated for just cause and violation of the mutually agreed upon employment agreement, effective February 17, 2020.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that employee #5997, custodian, be terminated for just cause and violation of the mutually agreed upon employment agreement, effective February 17, 2020.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye

Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for student Number 220529; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations, Board Policy and the Student Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the School District and from the student; and

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESPOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 220529 for a period of six months or until June 30, 2020, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board will review this matter on a bi-monthly basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any consideration of a return to district necessitates additional action by the Board.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for student Number 210318; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations, Board Policy and the Student Handbook; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the School District and from the student; and

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESPOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 210318 for a period of six months or until June 30, 2020, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board will review this matter on a bi-monthly basis; and

December 18, 2019

BE IT FURTHER RESOVED, that any consideration of a return to district necessitates additional action by the Board.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Future Agenda Items

Per the presentation calendar [2019-2020 Special Presentations Calendar](#)

Adjournment

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Butler and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session on Thursday January 2, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. at Watchung School for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law. It is anticipated that Executive Session will last approximately one half an hour.

Mr. Fellin moved, seconded by Ms. Bond-Nelson and unanimously approved to adjourn at 10:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:

Donald Sternberg

