

April 11, 2018

The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on April 11, 2018 at 7:30 PM, Watchung School, 33 Mountain Avenue, North Plainfield, NJ. Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary 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  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. - Aye

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

A quorum was established

Also present were Michelle Vella, Acting Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent; and Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, Student Representative, Radha Patel and approximately 27 members of the staff and public.

#### **Introduction of New Staff**

There was none.

#### **Minutes Approval**

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; to accept the public session minutes of March 28, 2018.

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; to accept the executive session minutes of March 28, 2018.

#### **Financial Report**

None.

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

A student congratulated and thanked Ms. Dodd for all of her support of district students and the Basketball team in particular.

#### **Student Representative Report**

##### **Student Representative: Radha Patel**

Good Evening everyone, it's great to see you all again. Since the last time we met, there's a few things I want to catch you up on.

Spirit week part two was a success! Many students came to school matching on Monday. Tuesday was nice and relaxing because it was too tired Tuesday. My peers and I for sure enjoyed spending a whole day in our pajamas. Work it Wednesday was really entertaining. Several of my friends came to school in tuxes and my best friend even came to school in her prom dress! Thursday was school spirit day and it was the winter and spring pep rally. Considering it was my last high school pep rally, it was nostalgic but so much fun! It was also my final cheer performance ever and it went perfectly.

The Spring Fling dance hosted by the mentors the night before spring break started was a success! The mentors were nervous because it was the first time the Spring Fling was to be hosted at NPHS. Although it started off a bit slow like all brand new school events, it

April 11, 2018

turned out to be a major success! Many mentees came and had fun with their mentors including my own. The gym was nicely decorated with the help several mentors and there was a lot of delicious cake. Overall, the mentors made a profit of \$700 while pulling off the theme they started this event with, inclusion.

Yesterday, the mentors collected their applications for the following year. They will be having their interviews for re-applying mentors and new mentors in two weeks.

This Friday is the Junior Prom at the Riverview Banquet Center in Berkeley Heights. They are going to have a great turn out to raise money for their senior prom next year. Thinking back to my junior prom I remember how amazing it was and how memorable it is taking a look back at my high school experience.

The interact club is now taking sign- ups for their spring blood drive. Their winter blood drive was very successful and they are hoping for an even more successful drive for the spring.

The talent show has been rescheduled for Thursday, April 26th. Tryouts for the talent show will be held on April 17th.

Yesterday was senior college shirt day. I was happy to see my peers excited about where they are going to attend school next year. Knowing I will not be seeing them next year, it was nice to see them all come together in shirts representing their futures, putting us together as a big group for one of the last times. I'm glad to say I committed to Rutgers University last week.

### **Student Representative: Jasmine Muhando**

Good Evening everyone,

I am sorry I could not make it today, I was feeling a bit under the weather, so Radha will read my report tonight.

Since the last time we've met the Canuck sport teams have been versing many different schools.

The boys Varsity Baseball team versed Pingry and won 4-5. They also versed the Academy for Urban Leadership Charter and won with an outstanding 11 points.

The girls softball team has versed a few schools but are still working towards bringing home a win.

The boys Varsity Track and Field competed at Metuchen Relays last Saturday with their first place finish in the 4 x 100, 4 x 200, and 4 x 400 relays. Daniel Duncan, Edgardo Villafane, Nase'air Prince, Quinn Gilmore, and Ryan Smith helped carry their team to victory. They also clean swiped at yesterday's meet against Bound Brook and South Hunterdon. They crushed the competition with over 100 points!

The girls Varsity Track and Field also competed at the Metuchen Relays with their first place win in the 4 x 100. The team was led by Sydney Muhando, Tiana Presley, myself and Alyssa Pompey. Unlike the boys, the girls did not clean swipe, but they did their best and were able to defeat Bound Brook.

The boys Varsity Tennis Team unfortunately lost their first match today to Voorhees High School. They are hoping to be victories in their next matches in the following weeks.

Thank you.

### **Presentation**

Ms. Acevedo and Ms. Armmento presented an overview of the Seal of Bi-literacy Credential Program administered by the State of New Jersey. Certificates from the district were presented to the students.

**Superintendent's Report**

**Acting Superintendent Report/Curriculum Report**

- **NJSBOE Student Recognition Program:** Each spring, the New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes students or student groups who have made a significant contribution to their schools, communities, families, or other organizations. On March 29th, our district nominated the NPHS Canuck Mentors to receive this honor. This year in addition to their work mentoring freshmen, the Canuck Mentors took the initiative to create a student-led memorial honoring the lost lives of students from Parkland High School. If chosen, the Canuck Mentors will be honored in Trenton in mid-May.
- **Transition Planning Targeted Review:** The federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires each state to have in place a State Performance Plan and to file an Annual Performance Report evaluating the state's implementation of IDEA. This year, the New Jersey Office Special Education has selected our district, along with several others, to participate in the 2018 targeted review for compliance with age 16 transition planning requirements for students with IEPs (Indicator #13). The purpose of this review is to ensure that our school district is conducting appropriate activities to facilitate the successful transition of our students with disabilities to post-secondary education, employment, and adult life in the community. Five of our students have been selected randomly, and our Director of Special Services will provide the required documentation to the State in order to comply with this review.
- **FBI Presentations:** The final FBI cyber safety presentations of the school year were given to Middle School students on March 28th and 29th, and ninth grade students on April 9th. This concludes the FBI programming for the 2017-2018 school year. In total, Special Agents spent five full days with small groups of students and one evening with parents. Feedback from these events has been overwhelmingly positive. We hope to continue this partnership next year.
- **QSAC Update - 40% Rise in I&P:** I am proud to share the good news that the District has passed the QSAC Instruction and Program (I&P) with a score of **80 percent!** This is a 40% rise from 2013-2014 when North Plainfield received a county QSAC score of 41% in Instruction and Program, which resulted in the district being placed on a District Improvement Plan (DIP). Each year, we have been reevaluated and our scores have been showing demonstrated growth. This year, an equivalency was written to request we be evaluated on the 2018-2019 I&P document for QSAC. After a visit from the county representatives, and deep dive into our data, curriculum, and program, I am proud to share that we scored an 80%; removing the need for a DIP. This score is the result of persistent and focused work with steady measures of growth. The work required the collaborative effort of dedicated educators to make it a reality. This is a team success. I encourage the entire district to pause, as I did when the news was

shared, and acknowledge the commitment expressed in our score. My sincerest gratitude goes to our teachers, staff, and administrators for their tireless efforts and daily focus on the development of students.

- **District Security:** There was a District Security Meeting presentation about NPPD partnership, and a presentation regarding the plans will be on April 25th during the Board meeting.
- **Arts Festival:** Please join us for the District Arts Festival on April 12th at the middle school and high school.
- **Middle School Parent Cyber Night:** On April 19th, the Middle School will host a cyber night for parents. This Ed Camp style program will allow parents to rotate through four presentations facilitated by students: Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, and Safety Tips. Students content experts will demonstrate how to set up accounts and navigate each application, discuss the positives and negatives of each, and alert parents to potential hazards. Parent interest has been high in this area, and we look forward to a well-attended, successful evening.
- **Parent Dual Language Immersion Presentations:** Dual Language Immersion presentations will be provided for parents as indicated.
  - April 19th - 8:30 am - 9:30 am - Stony Brook School
  - April 26th - 8:45 am - 9:45 am - Growing Tree School
  - April 30th - 8:45 am - 9:45 am - East End School
  - May 4th - 9:00 am - 10:00 am - Holy Cross School

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools  
Personnel

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

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 Suzanne Parmelee, special education teacher at West End School, for reasons of retirement, effective July 1, 2018.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the appointment of the individuals indicated as instructors for Advanced Placement Examination Preparatory Review Sessions at NPMS, at the rate of \$28.35 per hour, for up to 10 hours each.

Kelli Beard                      Rebecca Dix                      Theresa Fuller

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye	Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye	John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Absent	Thomas Allen – Absent
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye	

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education adjusts the leave of absence of Eman Mobarak, paraprofessional at Somerset School, **from** February 1, 2018 through April 13, 2018 **to** February 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye	Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye	John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Absent	Thomas Allen – Absent
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye	

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 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	Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye	John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Absent	Thomas Allen – Absent
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye	

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2018-2019 school year, the Board of Education approves the individuals indicated for clinical experience in the district.

Student Name	College	School/Class	Dates	Coop. Teacher
Taylor Deleo	William Paterson University	NPMS/Social Studies	Sept. 6, 2018- Dec. 13, 2018	Michael Mulry
Jessica Johnson	Montclair State University	NPMS/School Counseling	Sept. 6, 2018- Dec. 20, 2018	Lindsey Mulry

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye	Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye	John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Absent	Thomas Allen – Absent
Willie Vick Jr. – 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 Heather Daley, special education teacher at NPMS, effective July 1, 2018.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education grants Mary Krause, mathematics teacher at NPHS, a leave of absence effective May 18, 2018 through June 30, 2018 using accrued sick days until released by her physician.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the donation of 20 sick days from employee #4994 to employee #5297.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Mullen moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the appointment of Nicola Kisling to serve as a volunteer assistant softball coach at NPHS.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Karen Kayalo as an instructional paraprofessional at Somerset School for the 2017-2018 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, effective April 12, 2018, Karen Kayalo shall be placed on Instructional Non-Degree/Step 5 and will be paid the rate of \$18.55 per hour, for 3.75 hours per day. (This position is new.)

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the staff indicated to each teach an additional science class at NPMS from March 1, 2018 through April 6, 2018, for the prorated additional annual salaries noted.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Salary</b>
Chin-Ping Jen	\$11,825.83
Elio Mayo	\$11,160.83
Shara Gilchrist-Hamilton	\$11,263.33

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye	Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye	John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Absent	Thomas Allen – Absent
Willie Vick Jr. – 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 Alfred Streicher, mathematics teacher at NPHS, effective July 1, 2018.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye	Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye	John Fellin, Jr. – Aye
Kathleen Mullen – Absent	Thomas Allen – Absent
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye	

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote with Mr. Fellin abstaining; that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of John Tarnofsky as Director of Special Services for the 2017-2018 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, John Tarnofsky shall be paid the prorated annual salary of \$130,000, effective April 30, 2018.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye	Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye	John Fellin, Jr. – Abstain
Kathleen Mullen – Absent	Thomas Allen – Absent
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye	

**Curriculum, Instruction and Pupil Services**

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

2018\_25

2018\_26

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 Acting Superintendent’s recommendations regarding the results of the investigations; and

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

2018\_25

2018\_26

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
 Bianka Butler – Aye  
 Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the out-of-district placement of the classified student as indicated, effective April 12, 2018. Transportation will be required.

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
KKKKKK-17-18	9/23/01	ED	Hunterdon Preparatory School	\$248.10 per diem

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
 Bianka Butler – Aye  
 Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the funds necessary to allow LLLLLL-17-18, classified student at Celebrate the Children School, to receive a 1:1 paraprofessional effective April 12, 2018 through June 30, 2018, at a cost of \$27,000/year prorated.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
 Bianka Butler – Aye  
 Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the out-of-district placement of the classified student as indicated, effective April 16, 2018. Transportation will be required.

<u>Name</u>	<u>DOB</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Placement</u>	<u>Tuition</u>
LLLLLL-17-18	7/12/04	ED	Rutgers Day School - prorated Adolescent Prg.	\$6,283.00/month

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
 Bianka Butler – Aye  
 Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
 Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

**Finance, Purchasing & Agreements**

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education authorizes an increase in the maximum expenditure amount for legal services of \$50,000.00 for the balance of the 2017-2018 school year as provided by Sciarrillo Cornell, LLC. Total approved expenditures are now \$145,000.00 for the full fiscal year.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education authorizes and approves the agreement between the North Plainfield Borough and the North Plainfield Board of Education to utilize the North Plainfield Library and Vermeule Community Center as student and staff emergency evacuation centers for both required drills and in the event of an actual emergency situation, for the 2018-2019 school year.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education authorizes the Acting Superintendent of Schools to apply for the New Jersey Alliance for Social, Emotional, and Character Development (NJASECD) grant to provide funding for NPHS and Somerset School to act as mentor schools to two New Jersey schools with similar demographics at a total value of \$4,000, to be divided evenly.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that for the 2017-2018 school year, the Board of Education approves the use of Care Finders Total Care LLC to provide nursing services, at the rate of \$53.00 per hour, not to exceed \$22,000.00.

Linda Bond-Nelson – Aye  
Bianka Butler – Aye  
Kathleen Mullen – Absent  
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

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

**Correspondence**

There was none.

**Committee and Delegate Report**

Board Staff – No meeting scheduled at this time  
Communications – Next meeting scheduled for April 19, 2018 at 5:30 pm.  
Curriculum – Next meeting scheduled for April 18, 2018 at 5:30 pm.  
Finance & Facilities – No meeting scheduled at this time.  
Policy Meeting – Next meeting scheduled for April 19, 2018 at 6:30 pm.  
Negotiations(NPEA) – Next meetings scheduled for April 30, 2018 at 4:30 pm.  
Negotiations(NPAEAS) – Next meeting scheduled for April 25, 2018 at 5:00 pm.  
NJSBA – Mr. Fellin provided an update on recent legislation.  
SCSBA – Mr. Fellin discussed recent meeting topics. Next meeting scheduled for April 26, 2018 at the Cherry Valley Country Club.  
SCESC – No meeting scheduled at this time.

**Old Business**

Ms. Butler provided an update of the Superintendent search process, noting that everything is on schedule and that the next meeting of the committee is yet to be determined.

**New Business**

None.

**Comments from the Public**

None.

**Future Agenda Items**

Per the presentation calendar ([www.nplainfield.org](http://www.nplainfield.org))

**Adjournment**

Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at East End 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 and a half an hour.  
Ms. Butler moved, seconded by Mr. Fellin and unanimously approved to adjourn at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED: Donald Sternberg