

MINUTES

PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
February 21, 2024
6:00 p.m. Executive Session
7:00 p.m. Anticipated Public Session
NEW EGYPT HIGH SCHOOL

Vision Statement

“Unleashing Unlimited Opportunities . . . Empowering One Warrior At A Time!”

Mission Statement

The Plumsted Township School District shall inspire all students to realize their personal potential. A rich and challenging learning environment, in partnership with the community, will develop critical thinkers, lifelong learners and productive citizens in an emerging global society.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Giardina, BOE President, called the meeting to order at 6.07 p.m.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been given in the form of an Annual Notice contained in Resolution No. 2023-1, which Resolution was immediately thereafter posted upon the bulletin board in the main office of all four schools and the Board Secretary's office and disseminated within seven (7) days of passage to the Asbury Park Press and The Trenton Times, and a copy of such resolution was filed with the Plumsted Township Clerk. No advance written notice of this meeting was requested and paid for by any person according to the record of the Secretary of the Board. I direct the Secretary of the Board to enter into the minutes of this meeting this public announcement.

III. ROLL CALL

Dr. Giardina	Present
Mr. Goodman	Present
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Mr. Meroney	Present
Mrs. Morgan	Present
Mrs. Raywood	Present
Mr. Stepnowski	Present

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Ytreboe, Superintendent
Mr. Gately, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Supsie, Board Attorney

Mr. Meroney made a motion to go into executive session at 6:11 p.m. for the purpose of discussing contract negotiations, litigations, personnel matters and student matters.
Seconded by Mrs. Raywood, passed unanimously.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.) permits bodies to discuss certain matters in closed sessions, and
WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO THE Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.), such a meeting may be held in private;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

- 1. The Board shall meet in closed session on these matters; and
- 2. The matters to be discussed in private may be shared with the public at such other time as the Board may determine that there is no longer any requirement for confidentiality.

V. ROLL CALL

ROLL CALL

Dr. Giardina	Present
Mr. Goodman	Present
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Mr. Meroney	Present
Mrs. Morgan	Present
Mrs. Raywood	Present
Mr. Stepnowski	Present

ALSO PRESENT

Mr. Ytreboe, Superintendent
Mr. Gately, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Mr. Supsie, Board Attorney

VI. FLAG SALUTE - Dr. Giardina, BOE President led all in the salute to the flag.

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Raywood moved with a second by Mr. Goodman that VII.A be approved:

- A. Recommend that the Board approve the regular meeting agenda for February 21, 2024.

Roll Call	
Yes	Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Goodman, Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Stepnowski, Dr. Giardina
No	None

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Meroney moved with a second by Mrs. Morgan that VIII.A - VIII.B be approved:

- A. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the reorganization meeting on January 3, 2024.
- B. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the regular meeting on January 17, 2024.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan,
Mrs. Kovacs, Mrs. Raywood (VIII.B)
Mr. Stepnowski, Mr. Goodman,
Dr. Giardina
None
Mrs. Raywood (VIII.A)

No

Abstain

IX. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- A. Board Meeting dates:

The remaining Board of Education meetings will be held:

March 13, 2024
April 10, 2024
May 8, 2024
June 12, 2024
July 10, 2024
August 14, 2024

September 11, 2024
October 19, 2024
November 13, 2024
December 11, 2024
January 7, 2025 (reorganization meeting)
*Tuesday

- B. [Student Enrollment](#)

- C. [Fire/Drill/School Security Drills](#)

- D. [Suspension List](#)

X. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mrs. Raywood spoke on the curriculum committee meeting with Mr. Ytreboe and Mrs. Cappadonna and moving forward with curriculum, and the exiting of the summit learning platform.

Mr. Goodman spoke about the policy committee meeting, and discussed use of facilities, athletic and co-curricular policies regarding homeschooling, parental rights, as well equivalent education outside of the schools.

Mrs. Morgan spoke in regards to the finance committee to address the district budgetary issues, review of tuition and transportation budgets. Putting out a second question in November and different options to address the deficient for next school year. Preschool and possibility of opening the primary building. Received our Stabilization Aid for \$264,898.00. Review options for tuition and regionalization.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

Kelly Hammer, Student Representative, commented on the following:

High School

Students being accepted to Rutgers Business School
Girls bowling team having semi-finals

Boys and Girls Basketball teams playing in the State tournament
Students of the month
CentraState healthcare volunteer program accepting volunteer applications

Middle School

Student's of the month breakfast celebration
Drama production on March 8th & 9th - The Day the Internet Died
Sidekicks made a visit to 4th grade

Elementary School

Mr. Beere teacher of the year
Musical on March 15th & 16th - Ever After the Musical
Rockin Teacher of the Month -Mrs. Eagan and Mrs. DeBenedictis
Students created hearts and wrote about what they loved about school and teachers, and placed around the school.

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ytreboe, Superintendent, commented on the following:

Teachers of the Year Selected:

Mr. Ken Beere - elementary School

Ms. Rebecca Webb - middle school

Mrs. Kayla Drake - high school

Mentioned Rockin Warriors of the Month for the Elementary School

Preschool fashion show

Middle and High School students of the month

Bowling, Boys and Girls Basketball Teams

High school drama production tickets on sale for Xanadu

XIII. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS

Mr. Ytreboe played a video created by the students, to thank the BOE members for their service.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - opened at 7:19 p.m. closed at 7:23 p.m.

Roger Ramierez and Jen Hlubik, Warrior Cage Grappling, spoke on entering the 4th month of usage of the district facilities for meets. Thankful for being allowed to utilize the building and raise money to be used for the school.

XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

Mr. Goodman moved with a second by Mrs. Raywood that A.1 - A.15 be approved:

The following items are presented for approval as recommendations by the Superintendent of Schools:

A. Finance Motions

1. Recommend approval of all bills and claims for February 21, 2024, which have been examined by members of the Finance Committee and are presented for approval.

2. Recommend approval of all bills and claims for February 21, 2024, which required handwritten checks after the January 17, 2024, Board of Education meeting. Bills and claims list were approved, and were examined by the members of the Finance Committee and are presented for approval.
3. Recommend ratification of the transferring of funds, for the period ending December 31, 2023.
4. Recommend approval of the Board Secretary's Report for the period ending December 31, 2023, and the Treasurer of School Monies Report, for the period ending December 31, 2023.
5. Recommend approval that Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies that as of December 31, 2023, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contracted orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a), that the District financial accounts have been reconciled and are in balance.
6. Recommend approval that the Plumsted Township Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, certifies that as of December 31, 2023, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and other appropriate district officials, that to the best of their knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
7. Recommend approval of an agreement with Prevention Specialist Inc. to provide third party administration of Department of Transportation drug testing services for school bus drivers, effective February 1, 2024 - January 31, 2025, not to exceed \$1,200.00.
8. Recommend approval of an agreement with Liberty Lake for the NEMS Class of 2024 end of the year celebration, to be held on May 16, 2024, at a cost of \$4,444.00. The NEMS PTO is graciously paying half, with the remainder by the NEMS Class of 2024, at no cost to the Board of Education.
9. Recommend approval of a rental agreement with Mercer County Park Commission, for the Class of 2025 to secure the Boathouse at Mercer Lake, as a prom venue on May 22, 2025, at no cost to the board.
10. Recommend approval of an agreement with Soliant Health, LLC for the purpose of providing supplemental staffing during the 2023-2024 school year.
11. Recommend approval of a contract with Tech Abilities Consulting, LLC , to provide assistive technology evaluations, consultations and professional development during the 2023-2024.
12. Recommend approval of an agreement between Above & Beyond Entertainment and New Egypt High School to provide entertainment at the Junior/Senior Prom on May 23, 2024, at a cost of \$2,425.00, fundraised by the Class of 2024, and at no cost to the Board of Education.
13. Recommend approval of an agreement with Carolina Biological Supply Co. to pilot the OpenSciEd program for New Egypt Middle School students grades 6-8, at a cost of \$2,218.85.
14. Recommend approval of an agreement with SAVVAS, to pilot the Interactive Social Studies program for New Egypt Middle School students grades 6-8, at a cost of \$3,859.52.
15. Recommend approval of an agreement with SchoolCraft Studios to provide student portraits to the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School for the 2024-2025 school year, to be paid by the students, and at no cost to the Board of Education.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Goodman, Mrs. Raywood,
Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Stepnowski,
Dr. Giardina

No

None

Mr. Meroney moved with a second Mrs. Morgan that A.16 be approved:

16. Recommend approval of resolution 2023-2024 No. 2, Audit

- ACFR - Chris Bodeker, of Holman Frenia Allison, P.C. presented the audit results.
- AMR
- Synopsis

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan,
Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Goodman,
Dr. Giardina,

No

None

B. Personnel Motions

Mr. Meroney moved with a second by Mr. Stepnowski that B.1 - B.12 be approved:

1. Recommend acceptance of the retirement of Cheryl Combs, Principal's Secretary at the New Egypt Middle School, effective July 1, 2024, with regrets.
2. Recommend ratification of approval of an additional FMLA/Medical leave of absence for Stacy Corby, Principal's Assistant at the New Egypt High School:

LEAVE	FROM	THROUGH
FMLA/Medical (utilizing 8 sick days)	January 22, 2024	January 31, 2024

3. Recommend ratification of approval of Carolyn Videla, as Interim Principal (12 month), at the New Egypt High School, effective February 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024 at a prorated salary of \$152,335.00, equal to Principal Step 8, inclusive of the \$5,000.00 Principal Salary Adjustment, as per the PTAA contract.
4. Recommend ratification of approval of a salary adjustment for district paraprofessionals, effective January 1, 2024, [as per the attached](#):
5. Recommend ratification of approval of certified staff position and/or building transfers for the 2023-2024 School year, effective February 2, 2024, [as per the attached](#):
6. Recommend ratification of approval of New Egypt Middle School and New Egypt High School staff to teach an additional 80 minutes per day, beyond their contractual time effective February 2, 2024, in accordance with the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement, [as per the attached](#):

7. Recommend ratification of approval of Paraprofessionals at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School to participate in training and meeting sessions beyond their contractual time effective February 12, 2024, [as per the attached](#):
8. Recommend ratification of approval of teachers at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School to participate in training and meeting sessions beyond their contractual time effective February 12, 2024, [as per the attached](#):
9. Recommend approval to compensate staff members to participate in the Title III Parent Advisory Night's on March 5, 2024, at the non-instructional rate of \$40.00 per hour, not to exceed two (2) hours per session, [as per the attached](#):
10. Recommend ratification of approval of the New Egypt Extended Day and Holiday Care (NEED) staff and their rates of pay, [as per the attached](#):
11. Recommend approval of the spring sports stipends for the 2023-2024 school year, [as per the attached](#):
12. Recommend approval of a spring offering club and staff, [as per the attached](#):

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Meroney, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mr. Goodman, Mrs. Kovacs,
Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Raywood,
Dr. Giardina

No

None

C. Policy - None

Mrs. Raywood moved with a second by Mr. Goodman that D.1 be approved:

D. Professional Development/Travel Reimbursements

1. Recommend approval of the [attached staff](#) professional development:

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Goodman,
Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Stepnowski,
Dr. Giardina

No

None

E. Other Motion

Mrs. Morgan moved with a second by Mr. Meroney that E.1 - E.6 be approved:

1. Recommend receipt of the HIB (Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying) Report on February 21, 2024, by the Board of Education.
2. Recommend ratification of approval of the revision of the 2023-2024 District School Calendar, as per [the attached](#):

3. Recommend approval of a grant application for NJEA/Frederick L. Hipp Foundation for Excellence in Education, A Hop, Skip, and a Jump Across the USA FLH-Code: 1310-24, in the amount up to \$9,153.00. Grant funds will be used to give elementary school students additional ways to play outside at recess, and promote the understanding of the geography of the United States.
4. Recommend approval of Dan Duddy a motivational speaker to provide an assembly on drug and alcohol prevention for high school students on May 23, 2024, at a cost of \$500.00.
5. Recommend approval of student teachers-intern-observers and their assignments, [as per the attached](#):
6. Recommend approval to participate in the 2024 Eagles South Jersey Flag Football League, at not cost to the Board.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Goodman,
Dr. Giardina

No

None

Dr. Giardina moved with a second by Mrs, Morgan that E.7 be approved:

7. Recommend approval of a motion for the continuation of the long term suspension of student 202978 until the next regularly scheduled board of education meeting, which is currently scheduled for March 13, 2024.

Roll Call

Yes

Dr. Giardina, Mrs. Morgan,
Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mr. Goodman, Mrs. Kovacs,

No

None

Abstain

Mr. Meroney

F. Facilities

Mrs. Raywood moved with a second by Mr. Goodman that F1 - F.5 be approved:

1. Recommend approval to operate a State mandated Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) Program, effective July 8, 2024 through August 8, 2024, Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at the New Egypt Middle School.
2. Recommend approval to operate an Extended School Year Basic Skills Program (BSI), effective July 8, 2024 through August 8, 2024, Monday - Thursday from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at the New Egypt Middle School.
3. Recommend approval to operate an Extended School Year ESL Summer School Program, effective July 8, 2024 through August 8, 2024, Monday - Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at the New Egypt Middle School.
4. Recommend approval of the High Note Festival, to be held in the New Egypt Middle School Gymnasium on May 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, 2024 and June 7, 2024.

5. Recommend approval to operate the New Egypt Extended Day Parents Night Out, Holiday Care and Kids Kamp programs, at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School during the 2023-2024 school year, dates and rates, [as per the attached](#):

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Goodman,
Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Stepnowski,
Dr. Giardina

No

None

G. Field Trips

Mr. Meroney moved with a second by Mrs. Morgan that G.1 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of the [attached field trips](#):

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan,
Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Stepnowski,
Mr. Goodman, Mrs. Kovacs,
Dr. Giardina

No

None

- XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL RELATED TOPIC - opened 7:35 p.m -closed 8:07 p.m.
Bernard Banham, 370 East Millstream Rd, Cream Ridge, NJ 08514 - commented on Summitt, policies and block scheduling.
Morgan Peterson, 44 Meadowbrook Ln. New Egypt, NJ 08533 - “non-sense or the past” - Woke agenda.
Nicole MacAllister, 72 Hopkins Rd. New Egypt, NJ 08533 - Vo-Tech students (Senior Trip/Prom)
Sue Potter, 94 Sanders Ln, Cream Ridge NJ 08514 - against regionalization.
Mandy Kraemer, 202 Bunting Bridge Rd. New Egypt, NJ 08533 - Bowling Team
Megan Fischer, 20 Huckleberry Ln, New Egypt, NJ 08533 - middle school block scheduling concerns, (half year vs full year).
Deanna Tedesco, 61 Maple Ave, New Egypt, NJ 08533 - sewer plant? Blocking scheduling.
Lynn Pryzbylowski, staff member - Against regionalization.
Jon Kisthart, 328 East Millstream Rd. Cream Ridge, NJ 08514 - happy about the exit of the Summitt Platform, halftime Vo-Tech/halftime private school?
Christina Seraphin, 3 Veronica Crt. New Egypt, NJ 08533 - question in regards to regionalization (against),

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

XVIII. OLD BUSINESS

Earl Meroney - glad to hear of the enrollment increase

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Meroney made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.
Seconded by Mr. Goodman, passed unanimously.

Sean Gately
Business Administrator/Board Secretary