

MINUTES

PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
September 11, 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 will preside and voice the call to order at 6:02 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	Absent
Mr. Stepnowski	Absent *Arrived at 7:10 p.m.

ALSO PRESENT

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

Mr. Meroney made a motion to go into executive session at 6:04 p.m. for the purpose of discussing pending litigation, student matters, collective negotiations, and some personnel matters.
Seconded by Mrs. Morgan, 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

Dr. Giardina	Present
Mr. Goodman	Present
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Mr. Meroney	Present
Mrs. Morgan	Present
Mrs. Raywood	Absent
Mr. Stepnowski	Present *Arrived at 7:10 p.m.

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

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Morgan made a motion, with a second by Mr. Meroney that VII.A. be approved:

- A. Recommend that the Board approve the regular meeting agenda for September 11, 2024.

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

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Morgan made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Kovacs that VII.A. and VII.B be approved:

- A. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the regular meeting on August 14, 2024.
- B. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the special meeting on August 28, 2024

Roll Call

Yes	Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Kovacs, Mr. Meroney (VII.B. only), Mr. Stepnowski, Mr. Goodman, Dr. Giardina (VII.A. only)
No	None
Abstain	Mr. Meroney (VII.A. only), Dr. Giardina (VII.B. only)
Absent	Mrs. Raywood

IX. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

A. Board Meeting dates:

The remaining Board of Education meetings will be held:

October 16, 2024	December 11, 2024
November 13, 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

None

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

None

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mr. Ytreboe, Superintendent, commented on the following:

Concurred with Dr. Giardina's recognition and appreciation of the staff's professionalism during the negotiations process.

Thanked the Mayor for including the district in their 9/11 memorial ceremony and thanked Assemblyman Sauickie for providing the Class of 2025 students with flags at the ceremony.

School year is off to a great start thanks to all the district staff.

Fall sports have begun - first time competing in the Shore Conference.

Football's latest victory was the 36th win for Head Coach Steven Fence.

Next month will start Student of the Month recognitions.

New Student Representative is Jordan Lanuto.

Back to School Nights - all information is on the website/parent square.

New district website was launched.

Excited for the upcoming school year.

XIII. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS

None

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - Opened at 7:09 p.m. and closed at 7:09 p.m.

None

XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

Mrs. Morgan moved with a second by Mr. Goodman 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 September 11, 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 September 11, 2024, which required handwritten checks after the August 14, 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 July 31, 2024.
4. Recommend approval of the Board Secretary's Report for the period ending July 31, 2024, and the Treasurer of School Monies Report, for the period ending July 31, 2024.
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 July 31, 2024, 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 July 31, 2024, 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 ratification of approval of a contract with Mercer County Special Services District for tuition for the 2024-2025 school year, for student number 202617, at a total cost of \$68,400.00
8. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with The Rugby School, for tuition for the 2024-2025, for student number 202978, at a total cost of \$78,142.15.
9. Recommend of approval of an agreement between ParentSquare Inc. and Plumsted Township School District to provide subscription services for communication platform for the 2024-2025 school year, at a total cost of \$6,843.78.
10. Recommend approval of an agreement between the Educational Services Commission Of Morris and the Plumsted Township School District for participation in the Cooperative Pricing System.
11. Recommend approval of a proposal with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt to purchase Read 180 student materials at a cost of \$4,001.00.
12. Recommend approval of a proposal with Lexia Learning Systems LLC to purchase student materials at a cost of \$588.00.

13. Recommend approval of an agreement with Frontline Education to purchase RTI - Direct and 504 Program Management for the 2024 - 2025 school year at a cost of \$12,997.66.
14. Recommend approval of an agreement with Frontline Education to purchase the Applicant Tracking program at a cost of \$11,998.24.
15. Recommend approval of a contract with Jostens for the 2025 High School Yearbook with no cost to the district.

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

Absent

Mrs. Raywood

B. Personnel Motions

Mrs. Morgan moved with a second by Mrs. Kovacs that B.1 - B.15 be approved:

1. Recommend acceptance of the resignation of Richard Trumper, District Accountant, effective September 27, 2024, with regrets.
2. Recommend approval of Kristen Bahnam, as a MD 1:1 Paraprofessional, at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, effective on or before September 16, 2024, at a prorated salary of \$18,320.00, equal to Para Step 6, of the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools, and that the criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
3. Recommend approval of the renewal of non-affiliated staff and their salaries for the 2024-2025 school year, [as per the attached](#):
4. Recommend approval of extra-curricular staff for the 2024-2025 school year, [as per the attached](#):
5. Recommend approval of Bus Aide's for the 2024-2025 school year, [as per the attached](#):
6. Recommend ratification of approval of district interpreters for the 2024-2025 school year, effective July 1, 2024, [as per the attached](#):
7. Recommend approval of staff position/change of assignment and/or building transfers for the 2024-2025 school year, [as per the attached](#):
8. Recommend approval to fulfill the District mentor-mentee requirements for the 2024-2025 school year, [as per the attached](#):
9. Recommend approval of the fall sports stipends for the 2024-2025 school year, [as per the attached](#):
10. Recommend ratification of approval of ESY staffing for summer 2024, [as per the attached](#):
11. Recommend ratification of summer 2024 staff and their rates of pay, [as per the attached](#):
12. Recommend approval for certified staff at the New Egypt Primary School, Dr. Gerald H. Woehr

Elementary School, and the New Egypt High School to provide additional academic support to students during the 2024-2025 school year, at the rate of \$47.00 per hour, [as per the attached](#):

13. Recommend ratification of approval of District Paraprofessionals to work additional time beyond their contractual day, to supply classroom and 1:1 support to students, [as per the attached](#):
14. Recommend approval of additional NEED staff, and their rates of pay for the 2024-2025 school year, as [per the attached](#):
15. Recommend approval to rescind Jennifer Sonsiadek as the fall Assistant Cheer Coach.

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

Absent

Mrs. Raywood

C. Policy

Mrs. Kovacs moved with a second by Mr. Goodman that C.1 - C.16 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of the first reading of Policy 9202, Civility.
2. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 0141](#), Board Member Number and Term.
3. Recommend approval of the first reading of [Policy 2200](#), Curriculum Content (M).
4. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 2363](#), Student Use of Privately-Owned Technology.
5. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 3160](#), Physical Examination (M).
6. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 4160](#), Physical Examination (M).
7. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 5337](#), Service Animals.
8. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 5350](#), Student Suicide Prevention (M).
9. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 8420](#), Emergency and Crisis Situations (M).
10. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 8467](#), Firearms and Weapons (M).
11. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 9181](#), Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants.
12. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 3160](#), Physical Examination (M).
13. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 4160](#), Physical Examination (M).
14. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 5200](#), Attendance (M).

15. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 5600](#), Student Discipline/Code of Conduct (M).
16. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Regulation 8467](#), Firearms and Weapons (M).

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

Abstain

Mrs. Morgan

Absent

Mrs. Raywood

D. Professional Development/Travel Reimbursements

Mrs. Morgan moved with a second by Mr. Stepnowski that D.1 be approved:

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

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

Absent

Mrs. Raywood

E. Other Motion

Mrs. Morgan moved with a second by Mr. Meroney that E.1 - E.7 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of the District 2024-2025 Organizational Chart, [as per the attached](#):
2. Recommend approval of the [District Goals](#) for 2024-2025.
3. Recommend approval of the 2024-2025 Mentoring Plan and submission of the Annual Statement of Assurance.
4. Recommend approval of the 2024-2025 Professional Development Plan and submission of the Annual Statement of Assurance.
5. Recommend approval for students in the 12+ program at the New Egypt High School to participate in the Work Study program at various local locations during the 2024-2025 school year, which requires transportation to be provided by the district, at an estimated cost of \$2,477.92.
6. Recommend ratification of approval of an Admissions Agreement for non-resident student(s) from Erin Merwin, teacher at the New Egypt High School to permit her child(ren) Grades 10 and 11, to attend the New Egypt High School, effective September 5, 2024, enrollment permitting, for the 2024-2025 school year, according to the stipulations contained in the 2021-2024 PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement.
7. Recommend ratification of approval of an Admissions Agreement or non-resident student(s) from Vanessa Cassandra, Paraprofessional at the New Egypt High School to permit her child(ren) Grades 7 and 11, to

attend the New Egypt High School, effective September 5, 2024, enrollment permitting, for the 2024-2025 school year, according to the stipulations contained in the 2021-2024 PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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

Mrs. Morgan moved with a second by Mr. Goodman that E.8 be approved:

8. Recommend approval of a side-bar agreement between the Plumsted Township Board of Education and the PTEA.

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

- F. Facilities
- G. Field Trips

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

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

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

- XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL RELATED TOPIC - Opened at 7:14 p.m.- closed at 7:23 p.m.
Bernard Bahnam, 370 E. Millstream Road, Cream Ridge, NJ 08514 - Ethics and student fight.
Tom Potter, 94 Sanders Lane, Cream Ridge, NJ 08533 - PTEA contract negotiations; thanked Mr. Ytreboe for his 9/11 speech; and inquired about the land sale.
Elizabeth Bloomfield, 29 Hickory Lane - Middle school moving up ceremony; Middle School usage.
Earl Meroney, Board Member - 6th-grade transition to elementary school / small moving-up ceremony; primary school reopening.
- XVII. NEW BUSINESS
NJSBA Ethics Training - 7:25 p.m.
Mary Ann Friedman presented the Ethics training.

XVIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XX. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Morgan made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.
Seconded by Mr. Stepnowski, passed unanimously.

Sean Gately
Business Administrator/Board Secretary