

MINUTES

PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING

August 27, 2025
6:00 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, presided and voiced the call to order at 6:06 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. 2024-1, 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
Mrs. Morgan	Present
Mr. Dreher	Present
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Mr. Meroney	Present
Mrs. Raywood	Present
Mr. Stepnowski	Present

ALSO PRESENT

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

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
Mrs. Morgan	Present
Mr. Dreher	Present
Mrs. Kovacs	Present
Mr. Meroney	Present
Mrs. Raywood	Present
Mr. Stepnowski	Present

VI. FLAG SALUTE

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Stepnowski made a motion, with a second by Mr. Dreher, that VII.A. be approved:

- A. Recommend that the Board approve the special meeting agenda for August 27, 2025.

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

VIII. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS
None

IX. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS
None

X. SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS
None

XI. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS
None

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - Opened at 6:08 p.m. - Closed at 6:11 p.m.
Tom Semko, 7 Wood Road, New Egypt, NJ 08533 - B.6. Athletic Coordinator redundancy

XIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S AGENDA

Mrs. Raywood made a motion, with a second by Mr. Meroney, that A.1. - A.4. be approved:

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

A. Finance Motions

1. Recommend approval of an agreement with DawnSignPress for American Sign Language Curriculum Materials, at a cost of \$2,540.00.
2. Recommend approval of an agreement with Innovamat Education, Inc. to provide math intervention materials for students at the elementary school during the 2025 - 2026 school year, at a cost of \$17,546.00.
3. Recommend approval of an agreement for a WeVideo subscription for the 2025 -2026 school year, at a cost of \$3,493.85.
4. Recommend approval of insurance coverage and carriers from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026, per the recommendation of the broker of record, Boynton & Boynton as follows:

Commercial Package	Selective Insurance Company of America	\$165,389.00
Worker's Compensation	New Jersey School Board Insurance Group (NJSIG)	\$94,988.00
Excess Worker's Compensation	New Jersey School Board Insurance Group (NJSIG)	\$4,737.00
Student Accident	Philadelphia Insurance Companies	\$15,323.00
Crime Bond	Selective Insurance Company of America	\$644.00
Cyber	Beazley Insurance Company, Inc.	\$6,490.00

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

B. Personnel Motions

Mr. Stepnowski made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Kovacs, that B.1. - B.6. be approved:

1. Recommend approval of an FMLA leave of absence for Lynn Blanchard, Paraprofessional at the New Egypt Primary School:

<u>LEAVE</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>THROUGH</u>
FMLA without pay/with benefits	September 1, 2025	November 21, 2025

2. Recommend revision of approval of Jessica Harrison, as a Kindergarten Paraprofessional, at the New Egypt Primary School, effective September 1, 2025, at a salary of \$19,249.00, equal to Para Step 1, 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 Rachel Curtiss, as a pre-school disabled Paraprofessional, at the New Egypt

Primary School, effective September 1, 2025, at a salary of \$19,249.00, equal to Para Step 1, 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.

4. Recommend approval of Solomon Hailemichael, as a special service Paraprofessional, at the New Egypt Primary School, effective September 1, 2025, at a salary of \$19,249.00, equal to Para Step 1, 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.
5. Recommend approval of Anthony Burr, as a special service Paraprofessional, at the New Egypt High School, effective on or about September 1, 2025, at a salary of \$19,249.00, equal to Para Step 1, 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.
6. Recommend approval of the stipend positions for the 2025 - 2026 school year, [as per the attached](#):

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

Mrs. Raywood made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Kovacs, that B.7. be approved:

7. Recommend approval of staff transfer/positions changes for the 2025 -2026 school year, as per [the attached](#):

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

Mrs. Morgan made a motion, with a second by Mrs. Raywood, that B.8. - B.9. be approved:

8. Recommend approval for district Paraprofessionals to attend a professional development session on September 2, 2025, during non-contractual hours, [as per the attached](#):
9. Recommend approval of staff professional development/travel reimbursements, [as per the attached](#):

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

Mrs. Raywood made a motion, with a second by Mr. Meroney, that B.10. - B.12. be approved:

10. Recommend approval to rescind the approval of Christian Smith, as an LOA Social Studies Teacher, at the New Egypt High School, effective September, 1, 2025 through January 30, 2026, at a salary of \$60,843.00, equal to BA step 1, of the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement.
11. Recommend approval of Michael Cestare, as an LOA Social Studies Teacher, at the New Egypt High School, effective on or about September, 1, 2025 through January 30, 2026, at a salary of \$62,805.00, equal to BA step 5, 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.
12. Recommend approval of Christian Smith, as a Middle School Resource Room/In-Class Resource Teacher, at the New Egypt High School, effective September, 1, 2025, at a salary of \$60,843.00, equal to BA step 1, 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.

Roll Call

Yes

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

No

None

- XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL-RELATED TOPIC - Opened at 6:17 p.m. - Closed at 6:22 p.m.
Tom Semko, 7 Wood Road, New Egypt, NJ 08533 - Board interviews in executive session instead of public.

Kristyn Thoens, 11 Joseph Court, New Egypt, NJ 08533 - Boy Scouts to send messages to the school community. The board responded that messages can come from PTO.

XV. NEW BUSINESS

XVI. OLD BUSINESS

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Request resolution for Executive Session at this point in the meeting of the Plumsted Township Board of Education on _____ for the purpose of discussing _____.

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:

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Board may determine that there is no longer any requirement for confidentiality.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Meroney made a motion to adjourn at 6:22 p.m.
Seconded by Mr. Dreher, passed unanimously.

Sean Gately
Business Administrator/Board Secretary