

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**

November 14, 2018 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Audrey Lemieux, Matthew Radant, Peggy Bourey, Michael Cartier, Kathleen Barry, Cindy Arpin, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Marissa Flores & Vincent Valenti, Student Representatives

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Ms. Barry called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. **ROLL CALL (taken silently by Board secretary)**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. Minutes of the meeting of October 10, 2018.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the minutes of the October 10th meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. Decision of the Expulsion Panel: Since all members of the committee were not present, this item will be tabled for the next meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Radant moved to table the Decision of the Expulsion Panel until the December meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:** State MBR Notice: Mr. Di Pietro said that he received notification from the State that we are out of compliance with our MBR (Minimum Budget Requirement), due to the cuts that were made to the budget last year. He said that he is working with the state to resolve the issue and will keep the board informed.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

A. Resignations & Retirements: Melissa Tracy, PCS Guidance Counselor, submitted her letter of resignation effective on November 21.

MOTION: Mr. Radant moved to accept the letter of resignation from Melissa Tracy.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. Appointments & Transfers: Mr. Timothy Lafayette has been in the Tech Ed. position since the beginning of the school year. He was waiting for official notification from the State Department on his certification. He has received that notification and his certification has been back dated to include the start of the school year. Mr. Di Pietro said that he would like to take him off of substitute status and officially appoint him to the position retroactive to the start of the school year.

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to appoint Mr. Lafayette to the Tech Ed position effect to the start of the school year.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- A. District APP Demonstration: Christine Oberdorf and Christopher Bitgood walked through the new district App. They showed all of the different features that will be available on the App, including a notification of school cancellations or delays.
- B. Public Forum/Agenda Items: Ms. June Gagne addressed the Board and stated that the Wifi access in the high school is not very accessible and could that be looked into.
- C. Student Representatives: Marissa said that football is going well. Kyle Holt has been named as Player of the Week. The girls' soccer team is going to the state finals. NHS had a successful Paint Night fundraiser and the Thanksgiving Day football game will be at home this year at 10:00 a.m. Vincent said that the choir is going to be participating in a fundraiser with Griswold to benefit a sick girl. They will also be performing at the Governor's Mansion. A pie fundraiser is underway and the auditions for the Spring Theater Production as coming up soon.

7. STANDING COMMITTEES & INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

The Curriculum Committee will meet tomorrow at the ECC at 5:45.

The Policy Committee met to review the attendance policy and the progress that the Adopt Committee has been making so far this year.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. FY19 Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier said that the budget expenditures have been reconciled for all staffing changes to date. There were no excessive or unusual charges for the month of October. He also noted that the BOE has received a check for \$100,000 from CIRMA as a preliminary payment for the losses that were incurred in the fire at PMS.

Facilities:

SHE – Still working on the issue with the gutter on the eyebrow area of the music room.

PHS – The leak in the Library is estimated to be about \$12,000 to repair.

MES - Making changes as suggested by the fire marshal during the recent walkthrough.

PMS – The restoration is under way. The lighting is being replaced with LED fixtures.

PCS - New cafeteria doors have been installed and worn stair treads have been replaced.

DATTCO - Investigating a route reduction to see if they can reduce costs.

- Meeting on Energy Savings Program: Mr. Lussier said that the Town is switching to LED lighting. This will reduce costs and improve the quality of the light in the buildings. Payment to cover the cost of switching will be made with the savings that occur with the new lighting and any addition costs will be paid through a 0% interest account.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to go forward with the LED conversion project.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Facilities Walkthrough Summary: Mr. Lussier provided a chart to each member showing the concerns in each building that were pointed out during the walkthroughs. He said that they are reviewing the issues and they will be addressed appropriately.
- C. Status of Plainfield Memorial School: Mr. Lussier said that they met with CIRMA to tour the building. They are impressed with the progress. At this point, the phone, technology and fire panels are being installed and they are working on the design for the library restoration.
- D. ADOPT Report: Mr. Bitgood said that the committee has been working hard to reduce the absenteeism in district. They have been using a three tiered system to help the staff deal with the students that are not attending school. Mr. Bitgood said that they are also making home visit to discuss concerns or even pick up a child and bring them to school.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. BOE Calendar Adoption: The Board reviewed the listing of meeting dates for the monthly meetings in 2019. Each meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of the month with the exception of November, as there will be an election held this year which will push the meeting to the third Wednesday. As with each year, there is no scheduled meeting for July.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the 2019 BOE Meeting Calendar.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Administrator Contract: Mr. Di Pietro stated that the administrator bargaining unit has ratified the contract on their side. He said that he has provided each member with a copy of the proposed contract and asked the Board for their decision on the contract. He noted that it is only a one-year extension to the contract and will need to be negotiation again next year. There were several questions and concerns with regard to the contract and the members of the Board decided to discuss the matter in executive session before making a decision.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to discuss the Administrators' contract in executive session at the end of tonight's meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- C. DATTCO Contract Extension: Mr. Di Pietro said that DATTCO has sent a request asking that the BOE consider giving them a one-year extension to review route and try to save money for the district before they go back out to bid. Mr. Radant asked if this was something that the Board has the right to do without violating any charter regulations.

MOTION: Mr. Radant moved to table the contract extension in order to discuss the issue with the Board of Finance to avoid any conflicts with charter regulations.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed Unanimously.

- D. Equipment Disposal: Mr. Lussier is requesting the Boards' approval to scrap outdated, obsolete and damaged equipment. These items would be scrapped for their salvage value and the funds would offset the cost to replace them. These items include drafting tables, grinders and metal brakes/shears.

MOTION: Mr. Radant move to approve the scrapping of the obsolete items.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- E. PHS New Course Adoption – Elementary Discrete Mathematics: The Curriculum Committee has reviewed the information for the course and is suggesting approval by the complete board. The course will consist of voting methods, mathematics of money, probability and number theory. It will required that a student has completed Honors Algebra II to take this course.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the Elementary Discrete Mathematics course at PHS.

SECOND: Mr. Radant

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- F. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro gave the floor to Mrs. Cadro to discuss the learning progressions within the Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS) promote: Equity for all children, through the setting of high, but appropriate, expectations; High-quality early learning experiences, by providing clear goals and trajectories of learning; Provision of individual support, based on each child's growth and development; Families' understanding of what their children are learning and how they can support them; Teachers' understanding of age-appropriate content and approaches to children's learning; and, Communication across sectors, based upon these common goals for children. Mrs. Cadro showed a brief video for the board showing how the standards are applied in the classroom setting.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Mr. Radant moved to go into executive session at 8:58 to discuss the Administrators' Contract.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to come out of executive session at 9:30 p.m..

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to approve the administrative contract.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed with 4 yeas, 1 nay, and 1 abstention.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Ms. Arpin moved to adjourn at 9:35 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.