

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

March 13, 2019 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Christi Haskell, Audrey Lemieux, Kathleen Barry, Steve Boettcher, Matthew Radant, Peggy Bourey, Cindy Arpin, Mike Cartier, Cheryl Hull, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Marissa Flores, Student Representative; Sterling Representative; Tammy St. Amour, Recorder

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 February 13, 2019.

MOTION: Mr. Radant moved to approve the minutes of the March 13th meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 6, 2019.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the minutes of the March 6th meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed with abstention from Mr. Boettcher, Ms. Arpin & Ms. Bourey.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:** Mrs. Barry shared a commendation that was given to Plainfield High School from an advocate that has been impressed with efforts the staff has made to help a student in need.

Mr. Di Pietro reviewed information on the PLI (Professional Learning with Impact) project. He said that we are one of three districts in the state that have been chosen to participate. The fourth grade teaching staff at Plainfield Memorial School will take part in the project.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

A. Resignations & Retirements:

None presented.

B. Appointments & Transfers:

None presented.

6. **PUBLIC FORUM:**

A. Readiness PK & Family Resource Showcase: Mrs. Barbara Tetreault, Readiness Coordinator, spoke to the Board about the Readiness Program. She said that the program is available to 3 & 4 year olds. The

tuition for the program is run on a sliding scale. She said that in order for a family to qualify to attend the program, the parents must be working or going to school on a full time basis. She noted that the program is open year round and only closes for 10 days per year. There is presently a long waiting list to enter the program.

Myra Ambrogio, FRC Director, stated that the FRC has many programs to work with local families with young children. She said that they try to work with families with children under three years of age. This makes for an easier transition for the children when they are ready to begin school. They also provide parenting training and playgroups for the children.

- B. Public Forum/Agenda Items: Mr. Steve Ozga, CEA representative, addressed the Board of Education to thank them for their generosity with the Discovery Bus. He said that it has been a couple of years now that they have been given the privilege of using the bus during Read Across America Week to share the bus with other districts. He hopes to continue the partnership in the future.
- C. Student Representatives: Marissa said basketball has completed its season and baseball and softball are beginning. There will be an Easter Breakfast in April. Parent Conferences were held last Friday. The PIMA Pageant will begin rehearsals on Monday and this year's theme is the circus.

7. **STANDING COMMITTEES & INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:**

None Presented.

8. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. FY19 Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier said that the approved transfers have been completed. He said that the board voted last month to request \$350,000 in excess cost money from the Town to balance the overrun activity in the special education account.
 - PMS Recovery Update: Mr. Lussier said that the latest projection for the claim is \$670,000. At this point, CIRMA has reimbursed the district \$500,000 of that cost.

Facilities: No issues with the facilities this month.

- B. LED Lighting Conversion Report: Mr. Di Pietro said that PMS and SHE are completed. As this point, he said that they are waiting for the electric bills for the month to see if the savings are accurate, before moving on to the ECC.
- C. Solar Energy Project Update: Mr. Di Pietro said that there is a meeting being held at the Town Hall this evening to discuss this project. He said that at this point, they still do not know which of the schools may be participating in this project.
- D. FY 20 Recommended Budget Adoption: Mr. Di Pietro presented the budget to the Board reflecting the changes that were suggested at the special meeting. He said that the budget total is presently \$37,927,137. Mr. Radant suggested that the Board submit a budget reflecting the proposal from the Governor showing reduced ECS revenue to Plainfield.

MOTION: Mr. Radant moved to redraft the ECS budget line to reflect the reduced ECS revenue proposed by the Governor.

SECOND: No second

VOTE: Motion failed.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the budget proposal as presented and submit to the Board of Finance an operating budget in the amount of \$37,927,137.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed with nay votes from Mr. Radant and Mr. Boettcher.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. 2019/2020 Calendar Adoption: Mr. Di Pietro presented a calendar for the Board to review for the 19/20 School Year. He noted that the first day of school will be on August on August 28th for students. The final day of school will be scheduled for June 12th. However, if there are missed days due to inclement weather, they will be added to the end of the year.

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to approve the calendar for the 19/20 school year as presented.

SECOND: Mr. Radant

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. School Performance Report 2015-2018: Mr. Di Pietro stated that due to the already lengthy meeting this evening, he would like to have this discussion at another meeting. He said that there is important information that they Board should review and would like more time available for the discussion. He did briefly review some of the information and stated that although the district is performing well, there is room for improvement, especially in the area of school attendance.
- C. Readiness Program Grant Approval: Mrs. Cadro said that this is the same grant that we have received for many years. The grant supports the Readiness program and the district receives \$215,914 along with an Enhancement Grant in the amount of \$3,881. She asked for Board approval to submit for these grants.

MOTION: Mr. Boettcher moved to approve the application of the Readiness grant as presented.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- D. Healthy Foods Certification: Mr. Lussier said that as part of the School Lunch Program, it is necessary for the Board to certify that they plan to follow the regulations for serving healthy foods. He said that by taking part in this program, the district receives \$.10 reimbursement for each of the meals that are served.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved that the Board of Education will comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards during the period of July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020. This certification shall include all food offered for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals at all times and from all sources, including but not limited to, school stores, vending machines, school cafeterias, and any fundraising activities on school premises sponsored by the school or by non-school organizations and groups.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved the Board of Education will allow the sale to students of food items that do not meet the Connecticut Nutrition Standards provided that it is outside of the regular school day.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved that the Board of Education will allow the sale to students of beverages not listed in Section 10-221q of the Connecticut General Statutes provided that it is outside of the regular school day.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- E. Policy Revisions: Mr. Nagel said that the Policy Committee met and reviewed Policies 5141 and 5141.1 Administration of Medication and Self Administration of Medication and made some minor changes to the policies.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the changes to Policy 5141 Administration of Medication and 5141.1 Self Administration of Medication.

SECOND: Mr. Radant

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

5144.1 Restraint, Seclusion and the Use of Reasonable Physical Force and 5144.11 Restraint & Seclusion Regulations: Mr. Sugarman said that there were several changes that were needed to the policy and regulation. He provided the Board with a copy of the suggested changes as advised by the Board's attorney. He stated that due to the length of the policy and the changes, he asked the Board to waive the public reading of the policy and put it on the webpage for public viewing.

MOTION: Mr. Radant moved to dispense with the reading of Policies 5144.1 and 5144.11 and post on the district website.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- F. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro stated that he does not have a report at this time.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: Ms. Haskell moved to adjourn at 9:02 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.