

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
LIVE STREAMING VIDEO MEETING
October 14, 2020 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Christi Haskell, Mike Cartier, Mike Broughton, Kathleen Barry, Peggy Bourey, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Tammy St. Amour, Recorder

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

A. Minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2020:

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the minutes of the September 9th meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

B. Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 30, 2020:

MOTION: Mr. Broughton moved to approve the minutes of September 30th.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed with abstention from Ms. Barry.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

A. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Di Pietro asked that his report be given during the COVID discussion.

5. **PERSONNEL:**

A. Resignations & Appointments: Mr. Di Pietro said that he received a letter of resignation from Christopher Bailey, special education teacher at PHS. His last day will be on October 9, 2020.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of resignation from Christopher Bailey.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Mr. Di Pietro said that they have offered the open school social worker position at Moosup Elementary School to Ms. Kayla Fafard.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the appointment of Kayla Fafard to the open social worker position.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

A. Questions: As no one came forward the chair moved to the next item on the agenda.

B. Student Representatives: Jake said that he feels the distance learning is successful and the teachers have done a great job to make learning as normal as possible. The students are looking forward to returning to school.

Ms. Haskell mentioned that the Sterling Board of Education is hoping to set up a time to meet with regard to the Cooperative Agreement. Ms. Langlois, Sterling Representative, will discuss with her Board and get back to Plainfield with possible dates.

7. STANDING COMMITTEES & INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

A. Standing Committee Memberships: Ms. Haskell mentioned that the Sterling Board of Education is hoping to set up a time to meet with regard to the Cooperative Agreement. Ms. Langlois, Sterling Representative, will discuss with her Board and get back to Plainfield with possible dates.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. FY21 Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier said that the 20/21 total budget values reported on the cost summary include staffing changes and tuition adjustments through September 1st. He said that other than expenditures related to school safety (PPE and cleaners) and learning (computers) there were no unusual or excessive charges posted in the month of September. He said that the facilities walkthroughs were completed this week and he will be pulling together a summary for the Board.
- COVID Budget – Mr. Lussier said that federal money in the amount of \$347,996 was received through the CARES Act. The State has indicated that the district will be receiving \$490,682 through the Corona Relief Funds for academic and student support, cleaning and PPE and transportation. Additionally, the district received computers and hotspots from the State of CT. He said that we have incurred costs for products and services beyond our normal operating expenses. \$125,776 was submitted to FEMA. We were notified that \$79,000 of that did not qualify for FEMA recovery. These expenses will be covered through the CARES Act.
 - Federal & State Grants – Mr. Lussier said that there are currently six approved grants for FY20-21 totaling \$1,109,707. Mrs. Cadro added that almost 3 million has been applied for this year. She is still waiting for the Perkins grant.
 - ECHIP Status – Mr. Lussier said that our current balance is 1.3M but this excludes a CD investment of \$681,000. This gives us a reserve balance of 2.0M.
- B. Pandemic School Operation: Mr. Di Pietro said that there were potentially 35 cases of COVID between staff, students and parents in the district. Only four cases came back as positive and no further cases have arisen from this. He said that we are currently on remote with PK, K and some special education students attending in either hybrid or full attendance. He said that the students will be returning on an AB Remote AB schedule as of October 19th.
- C. Solar/LED Project Update: Mr. Lussier said that the Town is resolving the solar installation issue. The town engineer will come to the high school and do an analysis of the roof and they will proceed from there.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. TEAM Application: Mrs. Cadro said that there are presently two teachers that are interested in being trained to be mentors and help with supporting new teachers. Taryn Ricci and Mindy Fennelly have both submitted applications for approval.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the applications for Taryn Ricci and Mindy Fennelly to participate in the TEAM programs.

SECOND: Mr. Cartier

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- B. Transportation Bid Approval: Mr. Di Pietro said that the currently contract with DATTCO for transportation services is coming to an end. He asks the Board's approval to send out bid information for the continuation of bussing services for students.

MOTION: Mr. Cartier moved to approve going out to bid for transportation services.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mr. Broughton moved to adjourn at 7:56 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

ACTIONS TAKEN:

- Approval of September 9th minutes
- Approval of September 30th minutes
- Acceptance of resignation for C. Bailey
- Appointment of K. Fafard
- Approval of TEAM applications
- Approval to bid for transportation services