

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LIVE STREAMING VIDEO MEETING  
January 13, 2020 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Kathleen Barry, Mike Broughton, Cindy Arpin, Peggy Bourey, Heather Smith, Nick Easton, Kenneth Di Pietro, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Courtney Langlois, Sterling Representative

**1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**2. CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. Minutes of the Meeting of November 12, 2020:

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to approve the minutes of the November meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Minutes of the Meeting of December 9, 2020.

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to approve the minutes of the December meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Easton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

**3. COMMUNICATIONS:** Mr. Di Pietro communicated to the Board that the district had received approval from the Bureau of Health/Nutrition to allow Plainfield to provide weekend meals to the families in town.

**4. PERSONNEL:**

a. Resignations & Appointments: Several letters of retirement were received:

Ms. Kristen McDermott, MES teacher, has submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Ms. McDermott.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Ms. Sally Kausch, MES teacher, has submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Ms. Kausch.

SECOND: Ms. Smith

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Ms. Mary Lynne Dumaine, PMS teacher, has submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Ms. Dumaine.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Ms. Liz Munro, MES teacher, has submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2021.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to accept the letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement from Ms. Munro.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

b. Appointments: None

## 5. PUBLIC FORUM:

a. Public Forum/Agenda Items:

b. Student Representatives: Jake said that the staff have been working very hard to keep the students active and learning. College acceptance letters are beginning to come in. Olivia stated that they will soon begin some selective winter sports.

6. **STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS**: None presented.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS:

a. FY21 Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier said that there are no unusual or excessive expenditures posted for the month of December. Most of the expenditures were made through the CARES Act and the Coronavirus Relief Fund. He noted that transportation costs are currently under plan by approximately \$610,000 and fuel savings of about \$57,000. Mr. Lussier said that the facilities report includes a leak at the ECC due to damage caused by the wind and rain storm. He said that the fire suppression system in the kitchen at SHE has reached its end of life and will need to be replaced. Five new focus boards were installed at PMS over the Christmas break and the backflow prevention valves and hot water circulators at PHS were rebuilt over the break.

i. COVID Funding: Mr. Lussier said that to date we have expended \$791,833 against the CARES and Coronavirus Relief fund grants.

ii. Federal/State Grants: Mr. Lussier informed the board that we have received \$1.404 million in grant revenue to date this year.

iii. ECHIP Status: Mr. Lussier said that the current balance for the ECHIP account is \$1.787M.

b. Project 2020 Interim Plan: Mr. Di Pietro reviewed the Project 2020 plan. He said that there would need to be a transition into a new plan for the future needs of the district. The new study team will audit what has been completed and develop a new plan for capital improvements for the next five years.

c. COVID Status Update: Mr. Di Pietro said that due to the holidays, the students remained on an extended leave until January 11<sup>th</sup> to allow families to report any situations that may have caused

a spread of COVID. He said that presently the kindergarten is on remote, but all other grades are on hybrid. Mr. Easton stated that he thought it would be beneficial to remain on remote for all grades, however, the majority of the Board felt that it would cause undo detriment to the students to remain out of the classroom.

- d. Special Education Report: Mr. Sugarman said that they are still working with the Department of Health when dealing with the COVID cases. He said that some of the high needs special education programs are in school four days per week. They are continuing to evaluate the students with consultations between the principals, teachers and parents.
- e. Superintendent Search Committee: At this point in the process, it is recommended that the advertisement for the position be released. All were in agreement with process.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. BOE 2021 Meeting Dates: The Board was presented with a calendar for the meeting schedule for this year. It has a monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of each month with the exception of July (no meeting) and November (third Wednesday due to the election).

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved approve the meeting dates for 2021.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- b. Five Year Capital Plan: Mr. Di Pietro reviewed the items on the capital plan with the Board. He presented the new list that will need to filed with the Town.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to approve the Five-Year Capital Plan.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- c. Budget FY 2022: Mr. Lussier provided the Board with a calendar for the budget process. He said that it was developed in coordination with the Town's calendar. He asked the Board for their approval on the dates.

Mr. Di Pietro presented the Board with the budget priorities. He said that the list was prepared with the priorities that the Board has set as their goals. Ms. Smith inquired about programs for the Gifted and Talented. Mr. Di Pietro said that the state does require us to identify those students, however, they do not provide any funding for programs. He said that they do need to look into programs and implement them.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to approve the 2022 budget calendar.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- d. TEAM Applications: A TEAM application was presented for Joshua Farrish. Mr. Farrish is the Department Head for English at the high school. He wishes to take the training to become a mentor.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to approve the application of Joshua Farrish.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

**9. ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.