

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**  
**August 11, 2021 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Christi Haskell, Heather Smith, Mike Broughton, Audrey Lemieux, Steve Boettcher, Cindy Arpin, Peggy Bourey, Paul Brenton, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager

**1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. Minutes of the Meeting of June 9, 2021:

MOTION: Ms. Smith moved to approve the minutes of the June 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed with abstentions from Ms. Arpin.

b. Minutes of the Board Retreat of July 28, 2021:

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the minutes of the Retreat of July 28<sup>th</sup>.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed with abstentions from Ms. Arpin and Ms. Smith

**3. COMMUNICATIONS:**

**4. PERSONNEL:**

a. Resignation & Retirements:

A letter of resignation was received from David Lozupone, PCS teacher.

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to accept the letter of resignation from Mr. Lozupone.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

A letter of resignation was received from Mary Beth Kerr, Social Worker at PCS.

MOTION: Mr. Broughton moved to accept the letter of resignation from Ms. Kerr.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

b. Appointments:

Mr. Brenton presented the Board with seventeen new employees for approval.

Caitlyn Adler	Guidance Counselor	PHS
Gina Barbeau	Business Teacher	PHS
Kelly Baty	Sp. Ed. Teacher	PMS
Becky Caya	Math Teacher	PCS
Amanda Crocker	PreK – ILP	ECC
Lynn Decker	Spanish Teacher	PHS
Ryan Hood	Elementary Teacher	MES
Briana Kowolenko	Third Grade Teacher	MES
Karen Langlois	Sp. Ed. Teacher	MES
Heidi Matczak	Sp. Ed. Teacher	PHS
Meghann McCoil	P.E. / Health Teacher	SHE/MES
Madilyn McNew	Third Grade Teacher	MES
Ilaria Monteleone	Speech Pathologist	
Tara Shea	Sp. Ed. Teacher	PHS
Lauren Stevens	Kindergarten Teacher	MES
Jamie Sutherland	Second Grade Teacher	SHE
Andromachi Tsiakiris	English Teacher	PHS

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to approve the appointments of the above seventeen certified staff members.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

**5. PUBLIC FORUM:**

- a. Public Forum/Agenda Items: Mr. Brenton briefly reviewed the Guidelines for Public Forum and Chair Haskell asked that anyone planning to speak during public forum to sign the list so that she can call them forward.

Ms. Sandra LaPrade came forward. She recited the Boards' policy on bullying and asked the members of the Board if they are doing anything to control the bullying.

**6. STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:**

- a. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Brenton reviewed the opening plans for Plainfield Schools. He said that there was a vaccination clinic at the high school on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and there will

be another one on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Presently 49.98% of the town of Plainfield is vaccinated. The school year will begin with full in-person learning. At this point, there is an executive order stating that masks will be worn by students and staff. This is in effect until September 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Brenton said that the plan will be reviewed and posted on the webpage by the end of the week.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. FY21 Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier said that the 20-21 budget has ended the year under plan by \$900,000. He said that he has spoken to the Lead Custodian in each building and they are all on schedule and will be ready to open for the first day of school.
  - Federal/State Grants: Mr. Lussier informed the board that we have received three additional COVID grants totaling 1.5 million.
  - ECHIP Status: Mr. Lussier said that the current balance for the ECHIP account is \$1.9M.
- b. FY22 Budget: Mr. Lussier said that at this time there is not much to report on the 22 budget. It is in on plan and he will continue to update the Board.
- c. ESSER III Grant Update: Mr. Brenton said that they have set the following goals for the ESSER Grant:
  - Learning Acceleration, Academic renewal and student engagement.
  - Family and Community Connections.
  - Social, Emotional and Mental Health of students and staff.
  - Strategic Use of Technology, staff development and digital devices.
  - Building Safe and Healthy Schools.
- d. 2% Set Aside: Mr. Brenton provided the Board with a draft policy of the 2% set aside account. He said that they will continue to meet with the Town to review the policy and determine who the funds can be used.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Grant Approvals: At this point there are no grants to present for approval.
- b. TEAM Mentor Application: Ms. Cadro put forward an application from Ashley Sleboda to become a TEAM Mentor.

MOTION: Mr. Broughton moved to approve the application of Ashley Sleboda for the TEAM mentor program.

SECOND: Ms. Smith

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- c. Summer Program Report: There was a significant increase in the attendance of our summer program this year. The main goal was to provide a continuum of learning to address losses due to COVID. The students at Plainfield Central School focused their learning through project-based themes and the high school provided some credit recovery as they have in the past.
  
- d. Substitute Rates: Mr. Brenton said that he has reviewed the rates that the area school districts are compensating their substitutes. He said that based on those rates, he would like to set our substitute rates for this school year at \$150/day for non-certified and \$175/day for certified substitutes.

MOTION: Ms. Smith moved to approve the new substitute rates.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

#### 9. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Ms. Smith moved to go into Executive Session at 8:16 for personnel reasons.

SECOND: Mr. Boettcher

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The Board came out of executive session at 8:31 p.m.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the contract for the Secretary to the Superintendent.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the contract for the Assistant Superintendent.

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

#### 10. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.