

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
October 13, 2021 7:00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Heather Smith, Mike Broughton, Audrey Lemieux, Kathleen Barry, Cindy Arpin, Peggy Bourey, Diane Summa, Nick Easton, Paul Brenton, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager

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

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Minutes of the Meeting of September 8, 2021:

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to approve the minutes of the September 8th meeting.

SECOND: Ms. Smith

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

3. INDIVIDUAL STUDENT REPORTS:

a. BOE Student Representatives: Jack Pothier said that the Senior Class Officers have been working to create a video that will be used during the NEASC evaluation.

Allison Conger said that the College Fair was a great opportunity for the students and allowed them to experience what the different colleges have to offer.

Eeva-Liisa Stone said that the sports program is back in full swing and it great to be participating in school sports again.

They also stated that there will be a Trunk or Treat at the high school so that children can trick or treat in a safe location. The Girls' volleyball team is once again raising money through Dig Pink to donate to the Dana Farber Foundation.

4. COMMUNICATIONS:

a. SHE Time Capsule: Mrs. Trahan spoke to the Board about the opening of the Time Capsule at Shepard Hill. She shared some photos that the photography students at PHS took during the unveiling and brought some artifacts from the capsule for the Board to see. There will be an official presentation of the capsule on October 29th.

Mrs. Barry asked the Board for a motion to allow the Superintendent to speak during communications with regard to the communication that he sent home to families.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to add the communication from the Superintendent.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- b. Climate Plan Presentation: Mr. Sugarman presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the efforts being made this year to support students. The district is using programs such as Yale Ruler and Aperture.

5. PERSONNEL:

- a. Resignation & Retirements: A letter of resignation was received from Mr. Craig King, School Psychologist at PCS.

MOTION: Ms. Smith moved to accept the resignation from Craig King.

SECOND: Mr. Easton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- b. Appointments:

Ms. Erin Quinn was hired to serve as the district Instructional Technology Coach.

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to approve the appointment of Erin Quinn.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Mr. Nicholas Bousquet has been hired to be the new Technology Education Teacher at the high school.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the appointment of Nicholas Bousquet

SECOND: Ms. Arpin

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- a. Public Forum/Agenda Items: Mr. John Sublette spoke to the Board and asked that they review their policy on background checks with regard to hiring teachers.

Mrs. & Mr. LaPrade came forward and asked that something be done at Plainfield Central School to stop the bullying.

7. STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

- a. Superintendent's Report: Mr. Brenton said that the transportation department is having a difficult time finding drivers. This will cause field trips to be limited. We are also no longer able to subcontract through Eastconn as they are having the same issues. He also informed the Board that he held his first coffeehouse with parents this week. The first

one was at Plainfield Central School and each month he will hold the meeting at a different school. He said it is a great way to connect with parents and he also had the Community Liaisons present.

- b. Curriculum Committee Report: Mrs. Cadro said that the Curriculum Committee met this week. They reviewed the Science Curriculum along with the new Computer Sciences courses. She said that they will post them on the website so that they can be reviewed this month and will ask for BOE approval at the November meeting.
- c. Policy Committee Report: Mr. Sugarman said that the Policy Committee met and reviewed the legislative updates along with the Bullying policy to make sure that it is up-to-date.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. FY22 Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier said that the audit for the 20-21 budget has begun. He noted that there are a few accounts in the present year budget that are over expended. He said that those will eventually be balanced when all of the anticipated funds are received. Facilities – He said that the facility walkthroughs went well. There were several that participated. Grants – At this point in the year, six grants have been approved for an amount of \$1.1 million. ECHIP – He said there is presently \$1.1 million in the ECHIP account.
- b. MOU – BOF Approval: Mr. Brenton said that the Board needs to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Board of Finance for the 2% set aside account. He said that the MOU states that they can set up the fund, it must be used for items that are in the 5-year capital plan. This MOU will renew each March 1st unless written notice of intent to cancel is provided prior to that date.

MOTION: Mr. Broughton moved to approve the MOU with the Board of Finance for the 2% set aside account.

SECOND: Ms. Smith

VOTE: Passed with opposition from Mr. Easton.

- c. Sterling Cooperative Agreement: Mr. Brenton said that the Sterling Agreement has been reviewed and updated. It has eliminated some of the old language that no longer applies to the collaboration between the two districts.

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to approve the updated Cooperative Agreement with Sterling.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- d. NEASC Accreditation: Mr. Bitgood said that the visit is taking place virtually this year. The Chair of the committee will spend a couple of days at the school. This is a much more streamlined process and less disruptive to the school environment.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. TEAM Applications: Mrs. Cadro said that she has put forward the following teachers for training to become TEAM mentors:

Jillian Lecy
Christine Wakefield
Katherine Shekleton
Diana Lamothe

Lisa Robertson
Karla Paquette
Joyce Richardson

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to approve the presented teachers for TEAM training.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- b. TVAL Approval: Mr. Brenton distributed a copy of the Flexibilities for Implementing the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation from the Connecticut State Board of Education. These flexibilities are in place for the 2021-22 school year.
- c. Gymnastics Team of One: Mr. Brenton said that we have a high school student that would like to participate in gymnastics. As there is no team in Plainfield, she would like to train and compete with the team in Killingly as a Plainfield students. Her parents will provide her transportation.

MOTION: Ms. Lemieux moved to approve the Team of One in Gymnastics.

SECOND: Ms. Smith

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Mr. Easton moved to go into Executive Session at 8:39 for the purpose of litigation.

SECOND: Ms. Lemieux

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

The Board came out of executive session at 9:01 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.