

SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
125 Jackson Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
Telephone: 908-754-4620

Special Business Meeting Minutes –Tuesday, September 5, 2017 – 6:00 p.m.
South Plainfield High School
200 Lake Street
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

- I. CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Seesselberg called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.
- II. SALUTE TO FLAG
- III. ROLL CALL- James Damato
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Present: Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Farinella, Mr. Giannakis, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Glover, Mr. Seesselberg

Absent: Mrs. Anesh

Also Present: Dr. Noreen Lishak, Superintendent; James Damato, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Joseph Roselle, Legal counsel

Announcement:

South Plainfield Public Schools Mission Statement:

Students are the focus of the South Plainfield Public Schools. We will provide a dynamic, rigorous, relevant and technology-enriched curriculum, guided by the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. Our mission is to develop life-long learners who are prepared to succeed in a global and diverse society. We are resolved to educate the whole child, instilling the desire within our students to question and to become divergent thinkers who can achieve their fullest potential.

In accordance with the terms of the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was posted in all school buildings, the Administration Building, Borough Clerk's office, Police Headquarters, Public Library, four newspapers and W.C.T.C. on August 15, 2017.

Please be advised:

- There is no smoking on school grounds - inside or outside - at any time.

Special Business Meeting
September 5, 2017

- Please silence all electronic devices.
- Pursuant to District Policy #0167, each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration and no participant may speak more than once on the same topic.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLVED, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1, *et. seq.*) that the Board meets in closed session to discuss confidential matters pertaining to personnel and legal matters.

1. a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law
2. a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds
3. material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it
5. a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public fund
6. protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
7. pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege
8. specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session
9. deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in closed session shall be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

MOTION:

SECOND:

VOTE:

V. COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

- A. Agenda Additions and/or Deletions
- B. Public Comments (Agenda Items Only)

Special Business Meeting
September 5, 2017

negotiate contracts. We all think that the teachers deserve to be well-compensated with very good lifetime compensation packages and, on the other end of the table, you have to deal with being fiscally responsible for the members of the community and trying to balance the two is a very difficult task. He congratulated the people who worked tirelessly on this to get it done. It is never easy and he is looking forward to a great school year. He said he is glad that this is behind us.

Mrs. Glover thanked the committee for the time and hard work that was put into this collective agreement that we have with our teachers union. She said that although she is a member of the NJEA as well, she is allowed to vote on behalf of this agreement that was reached because she was not part of the negotiations process. She said that once she got involved with being able to vote it was already all pretty much signed, sealed and delivered. She thanked Mr. Seesselberg because he listened to her complain for hour upon hours about getting this contract settled. Our teachers deserve it. If we want to remain competitive in Middlesex County, we have to pay our teachers appropriately and fairly. Thank you to the committee, Mrs. Miller and Mr. Farinella as well, for the time that they put in and thank you to the SPEA as well.

Mrs. Boyle said that she is glad that, through all the hours of trying to negotiate between the two teams that it was finally settled. It is a competitive market and we need to retain the teachers that we have and to look when we need to have new teachers that we are an open market. Thank you, again.

Mrs. Miller said that she is happy that we were able to settle this. She thinks this is a very fair and a very good contract for the teachers and she thanked the members of the SPEA. Both sides worked very well together. It was a very long process and we spent many hours and nights together and she thanked their side as well for working together with us.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, there was a motion to adjourn at 6:15 p.m.

MOTION: Mrs. Miller

SECOND: Mrs. Glover

VOTE: 8-0

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Damato
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary