

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting– Wednesday, March 13, 2019 - 6:00 P.M.
South Plainfield High School
200 Lake Street
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

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.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

III. ROLL CALL- Alex Benanti
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Present: Mr. Both, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Giannakis, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Pennisi, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Chapman

Absent: Mr. Farinella, Mrs. Wolak

Also Present: Dr. Noreen Lishak, Superintendent; Ms. Mary Malyska, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Alex Benanti, Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. Marc Zitomer, Legal Counsel

IV. BOARD PRESIDENT

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 January 3, 2019.

Please be advised:

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

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Presentation of Tenure Certificates

The following staff members were presented with their Certificate of Tenure:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Date</u>
Tina Ruhnke	Grant School	11/2/18
Jennifer Leiman	Grant School	12/2/18
Amy Cicenia	Central Office	12/2/18
Ann Simone	Franklin School	03/13/19

B. Referendum Update

Dr. Lishak introduced Mr. Seesselberg, a member of the Referendum Reporting Committee, to provide the public with an update on the referendum projects.

Mr. Seesselberg reported that the committee met on February 27th. In attendance were Dr. Lishak, Board President Chapman, Board Vice President Cassio, Interim Business Administrator, Mr. Patel, Mrs. Glover and himself.

The committee discussed the project timelines. The elementary schools HVAC and electrical upgrades will have substantial completion by August 23rd. The final completion is scheduled for September 27th. Classrooms should not be affected upon scheduled opening of school. The elementary school bathroom projects will follow the same timeline dates.

The window replacements at the Middle Schools will have a substantial completion date of August 30th with final completion on September 27th. Again, we project no impact on classroom use when the school reopens.

The Middle School door project should follow the same timeline dates. For each of these projects, substantial completion means acquiring a permanent or temporary Certificate of Occupancy.

Due to these projects over the summer, the recreation programs and the extended school year program will be moved to Roosevelt School. Title I programs will be held at the high school along with proposed tuition-based music programs, which is currently under development review. These summer programs will run from July 8th to August 8th.

The old Jost Field House was taken down during the week of February 25th and

excavation and construction commenced shortly thereafter.

Substantial completion for the new building is scheduled for August 1st with final completion scheduled for August 30th. These dates may be revised due to weather delays and permit and inspection requirements.

Mr. Seesselberg presented pictures of the what the field house will look like. He said that the new field house will house both teams, handicapped accessible rest rooms, and storage .

During construction, Jost field will remain open with restrictions. There will be limited access to the field, no access to visitor side bleachers, and porta johns will be placed and available for use.

All of the projects are within the original funding approved by the public in the March 2017 Referendum. Mr. Seesselberg said that a lot has been done in two years and said that he thinks we have done a very good job so far.

Mrs. Boyle said that all of the board members should have a copy of Mr. Seesselberg reports. She asked if that will be forthcoming. Mr. Seesselberg said that he will provide the business administrator with a copy.

C. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Lishak asked Ms. Malyska to provide a report on the PARCC administration dates.

Ms. Malyska reported the State has moved away from calling the testing PARCC. We are now doing the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment which is the NJSLA-Math, NJSLA-ELA or NJSLA-S (Science).

Testing begins at the High School on April 8th with Math and ELA. Grant School and Middle School will start testing in Math and ELA on May 1st. The elementary schools will begin testing on May 6th. We then have a separate window testing for Science. The High School is testing Science on May 20-23rd. The Middle School is testing May 29th and 30th and Grant School is testing May 13th and 14th.

Dr. Lishak said that the district will hold a STEM in Education Parent Night, K-12, on Wednesday, March 27th , right here in the South Plainfield High School Media Center. The program is beginning at 6:30 p.m. and will feature teachers and students demonstrating Robotics and STEM projects that they have worked on during the school year.

Dr. Lishak said that this Friday, March 15th, is the end of the elementary school trimester. All elementary schools students have an early dismissal for

parent/teacher conferences on March 19th and 20th.

Dr. Lishak said that there is a change listed on the agenda tonight for the 2018-19 school calendar. Due to the snow day that we had last month, we will be changing the school calendar to reflect a half day on Friday, May 24th, the day before Memorial Day weekend. Please make sure that you note that in your calendar.

John E. Riley Elementary School would like to let us know that they jumped all over heart disease by participating in the American Heart Association Jump Rope for Heart. Students were committed to making healthy choices and had the opportunity to raise funds for the event. The students raised \$4,321 so thank you to them.

Roosevelt School, along with Grant, Franklin, Kennedy, and Riley Schools will be hosting the Harlem Wizards on Saturday, March 30th at the South Plainfield High School. It is a rematch for the Harlem Wizards vs. the South Plainfield Teaching Tigers. The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. Please make sure to buy your tickets early. Last year it was sold out.

Grant School Principal, Mr. Sarullo, wants to let you know that the sixth grade Science Department is doing so many amazing things in accordance with the Philadelphia Zoo Unplug Contest. The sixth graders planned a trip to the Philadelphia Zoo. They started a campaign to save the endangered gorillas which included decorating bulletin boards, making posters, and collecting used cell phones in different buildings throughout the district. This week is conservation week at Grant School. The students made announcements every morning with a theme such as, "Unplugging Electronic Devices When Not in Use".

The Middle School wanted to remind the public that the National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony will take place in the Middle School on March 21st at 6:30 p.m.

Last week, the South Plainfield High School welcomed the Class of 2023, along with their parents, to discuss scheduling and to introduce them to the many electives and co-curricular activities at the High School. More than 100 parents met with the Director of Guidance, Sam Fierra, and the High School Principal, Ron Spring to discuss what to expect at the High School level such as graduation requirements and the scheduling process. Parents also had the opportunity to learn about the many elective programs available right here in the High School.

On Friday, March 8th the students visited the High School where they were welcomed up here and learned about the scheduling process, co-curricular activities, and general expectations at the high school. The students attended an elective fair in the gym where they walked around and met with many of the students who are in the various clubs and they were able to decide what they

would like to choose for next year as they worked on their schedules.

Dr. Lishak thanked Mr. Fierra, Mr. Spring, Mr. Redmon and all of the faculty and staff at the High School along with the many presenters that presented at the Annual College and Career Fair on February 27th. It was a huge success right here in the High School. We had so much positive feedback from our students and the presenters about the fair that our students were asking if we were planning on holding another one next year. The answer to that is absolutely yes. Dr. Lishak said that she also received e-mails from a couple of the company representatives as well as a couple of the labor union representatives asking to meet with our guidance department to discuss various employment and educational internships for our college bound students and non-college bound students. We are very happy to announce that we now have new partners here in South Plainfield. Dr. Lishak also thanked the South Plainfield Business Association and Debbie Boyle for working with Sam Fierra to arrange for our morning panel. Thank you again to all who participated. It was fantastic.

VI. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Dr. Lishak said that item IXE. has to be administratively removed. We do not have enough votes to vote on this particular item. It will be moved to the meeting on February 20th. Items IXD. 1 and 2 are also administratively removed.

1. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

VII. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A. Approval of Revised 2018/2019 School Calendar

Approve the revised 2018/2019 School Calendar as shown in Tab VII.A. May 24, 2019 will now be a half-day for students and staff.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the foregoing resolution:

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mrs. Miller

VOTE: 7-0

VIII. POLICY

Mr. Pennisi said that there were some questions that came up in regards to the facility use policy and which groups the Board would excuse from the fees and custodial charges and what happens when school is not in session. Mr. Pennisi said that he knows that this is a conversation for the whole Board and not just the Policy Committee.

Mr. Pennisi said that the question is, do we or do we not charge any group, even the groups we exclude the fees from that are related to the district, when there is no custodian

on duty.

Dr. Lishak said that the policy itself is already approved so it won't be a two time reading. The fee schedule will be an add-on.

Mrs. Boyle asked if there is a custodian here during the day in the summer. Dr. Lishak said that the only thing that is being discussed is if it is off scheduled hours when a custodian is not here. She said that summer hours are different.

Mr. Pennisi said that we don't currently charge groups, such as the PTO, a custodial charge. He asked if we can charge everybody when custodians are not here but still exclude the groups that we had from our fees.

Mr. Chapman said that his feeling is that as far as PTO's and Borough-related recreation is that we don't start to charge them. We haven't charged them. He said that we are squeezed on our budget and that everybody else should be charged custodial fees.

Mr. Pennisi said that would include our Booster Club and PTO but that would not include the Education Foundation because they are not affiliated with our schools. He said that he is okay with that and that he just wanted everybody to have a chance to discuss.

IX. PERSONNEL

Motion by Member Mr. Giannakis, seconded by Member Mrs. Miller, to accept the recommendation of the superintendent and adopt the following:

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:

(NOTE: Approval of this resolution authorizes the superintendent to submit to the county superintendent applications for emergent hiring and the applicant's attestation and proof that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. seq. This includes background checks and fingerprinting for those employees listed below: (All appointments are contingent upon receipt of proper teaching certification **and the satisfaction of all requirements set forth in P.L. 2018, c.5.** All salary placements are pending receipt of college transcripts verifying degree status and letter stating years of service in other districts, *denotes mentoring required.)

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:

IX.A Resignations, Retirements, Terminations

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:

Code	Name	Action	Position	Location	Date Eff.	Discussion
1.	Employee ID#: 5412	Terminated	Musical Choreographer	High School	03/13/19	

Committee of the Whole Meeting
March 13, 2019

IX.B Leaves of Absence

Code	Name	Reason	Position	Loc.	Paid FMLA Start Date	Paid Leave (Not FMLA)	Unpaid FMLA Start Date	Unpaid NJFL A Start Date	Unpaid Leave without Benefits	Return Date	Discussion
1.	Employee ID#: 4202	Paid Medical/ Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	Roosevelt School		1/22/19	PM of 2/13/19			05/02/19	
2.	Employee ID#: 4202	Paid Personal Days/Unpd FMLA	Teacher	Roosevelt School		05/03/19	05/09/19			05/29/19	Revised Dates
3.	Employee ID#: 4154	Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	High School				2/26/19		03/11/19	Revised Dates

IX.C Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Martinetti, Tara	Transfer	Special Education Teacher	6 MA	\$60,885	Franklin School	3/14/2019	6/30/2019	Transfer from Grant School to Franklin Tenured Acct. #11-213-100-101-18
2.	Wargacki, Katherleen	Transfer	Paraprofessional	Step 10 6 hrs per day	\$25,457	Middle/Franklin School	02/27/19	06/30/19	Transfer from the High School Plus \$2400 Longevity Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
3.	Melick, Leslie	Transfer	Paraprofessional	Step 10 6 hrs per day	\$25,457	Roosevelt	03/01/19	06/30/19	Transfer from Grant School Plus \$2400 Longevity Acct#: 11-213-100-106-18
4.	Emert, Lawrence	Transfer	Paraprofessional	Step 1 6 hrs per Day	\$20,871 (pro-rated)	Franklin	03/01/19	06/30/19	Transfer from Grant School Acct#: 11-212-100-106-18

IX.D. Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Administratively Removed Cassio, Chris	Approve	Sound & Lighting Technician	Step 2	\$2,898.00	High School	9/1/2018	6/30/2019	Stipend renamed because of Sidebar Agreement Acct#: 11-401-100-100-00
2.	Administratively Removed Cassio, Chris	Approve	Stage Crew Advisor	Step 1	\$1,606.00	High School	03/13/19	06/30/2019	Acct.#: 11-401-100-100-00
3.	Employee ID#: 5412	Approve	Musical Choreographer	Step 1	\$135	High School	01/28/19	03/13/19	Acct#: 11-401-100-100-00

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mrs. Miller

VOTE: 7-0

ITEM IX.E. was Administratively Removed

IX.E. Approve the Extra-Curricular Sidebar Agreement Between the South Plainfield Board of Education and the South Plainfield Education Association

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the following extra-curricular sidebar agreement between the South Plainfield Board of Education and the South Plainfield Education Association:

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
AND THE
SOUTH PLAINFIELD EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

WHEREAS, The South Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) and the South Plainfield Education Association (“Association”) are parties to a collective negotiations agreement (“Agreement”) in effect for the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020; and
WHEREAS, Article III of the Agreement states that the Agreement shall not be modified except by an instrument in writing duly executed by both parties; and
WHEREAS, both the Board and the Association wish to modify the Agreement in order to accurately reflect the position titles and stipends for two (2) Schedule C extracurricular positions;
NOW, THEREFORE, the Board and the Association agree as follows:

1. The Schedule C position of “Stage Director” will be renamed to “Sound and Lighting Technician.” The associated stipend amounts will remain unchanged.
2. The Schedule C position of “A.V. Coordinator” will be deleted and replaced with the position of “Stage Crew Advisor,” with an associated Step 1 stipend of \$1,606.
3. All other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain unchanged.
4. This Sidebar shall remain in full force and effect throughout the life of the existing Agreement and until a successor Agreement is reached by the Board and the Association, at which time the modifications set forth herein shall be continued and made part of the successor Agreement as if originally negotiated therein, subject to any additional modifications that may be mutually agreed to during the negotiation period.
5. This Sidebar is subject to the approval of the South Plainfield Board of Education prior to becoming effective. Upon approval, it will be appended to the Agreement as an Exhibit and become effective immediately.

FOR THE SPEA:

FOR THE BOARD:

DATED:

DATED:

X. FINANCE

A. Accept Proposal from Mott MacDonald for Engineering Services for Jost Field House Construction Inspection Services

Accept the proposal from Mott Mac Donald to provide construction phase engineering services in connection with the Jost Field House Construction Inspection Services. The scope of services will be on an as-needed basis as directed by the representatives of the District based on hourly rates shown in the proposal, but not to exceed \$15,000.00.

B. Resolution to Approve ANS Consultants, Inc. for Welding, Bolting Inspection and Testing for Grant, Franklin, Kennedy and Riley Schools' HVAC Project (Referendum)

Resolution to approve ANS Consultants, Inc. to provide steel welding, bolting inspection and testing for Grant, Franklin, Kennedy and Riley Schools' HVAC project (referendum), not to exceed \$4,000.00. Referendum project account numbers 30-000-408-450-03-070 (Grant), 30-000-408-450-04-060 (Franklin), 30-000-408-450-05-053 (Kennedy) & 30-000-408-450-06-058 (Riley).

C. Accept Proposal from ANS Consultants, Inc. for Special Inspection & Testing Services Relative to the Jost Field House Project

Accept the proposal from ANS Consultants, Inc. for Special Inspection & Testing Services relative to the Jost Field House Project as outlined in the proposal, at a cost not to exceed \$20,000.00.

D. Approval for Professional Development Expenditures

Approve the following expenditures (registration, mileage, and conference fees), substitutes, and trips, which are compliant with State payment guidelines, employee job responsibilities and critical to the needs of the school district.

	<u>Name of Workshop</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Person Attending</u>
1.	NJSHA Annual Convention	5/2-3/19	\$80.00 Registration plus mileage/tolls 11-000-223-580-11	Gillian Velmer
2.	NJ Future Problem Solving State Bowl	3/23/19	\$45.00 11-000-223-580-11	Jillian Tortora

Committee of the Whole Meeting
 March 13, 2019

3.	Designing for the Vinyl Cutter	3/21/19	\$85.00 11-000-223-580-11	Carolyn White
4.	Sewn Circuits and Digital Fabrication	3/28/19	\$85.00 11-000-223-580-11	Carolyn White
5.	FLENJ Annual Conference	4/5/19	\$130.00 11-000-223-580-11	Aura Salazar
6.	Designing for the Vinyl Cutter	3/21/19	\$85.00 11-000-223-580-11	Christine Brandenburg
7.	NJ State High School Wrestling championships	2/28/19	\$230.00 Hotel/mileage/tolls/meals 11-000-223-580-11	Noreen Lishak
8.	Good Ideas in Teaching PreCalc	3/22/19	\$175.00 Registration 20-270-200-500-11 Title II	Scott Mangieri
9.	Good Ideas in Teaching PreCalc	3/22/19	\$175.00 Registration 20-270-200-500-11 Title II	David Knarr
10.	Good Ideas in Teaching PreCalc	3/22/19	\$175.00 Registration 20-270-200-500-11 Title II	Anu Garrison

E. Approval of In-Service Presentation

Approve the expenditure of \$350.00 for an in-service presentation by NJ Center for Tourette Syndrome and Associated Disorders, Inc. on March 21, 2019 for parents and staff.

Account No.: 20-250-200-300-18-00

F. Approval to Discard Obsolete Technology and A/V Equipment

Authorize the disposal of obsolete technology and A/V equipment from the High School, Middle School and Grant School. New Teck Recycling will pick up the equipment for recycling and provide us with a full list of items discarded and certify destruction of any data devices, should they exist.

G. Approval of Home/Bedside Instruction Contracts for both General and Special Education Students for the 2018-2019 School Year

1. Approve the bedside instruction contract with Silvergate Prep for one general education student for the 2018-2019 school year, effective February 25, 2019. Rate is \$41.00 per hour. State ID No.: 9856719166.
2. Approve the home instruction through Educere for one special education student, effective 2/11/19. Total cost will be \$2,523.00 (2/11-4/20/19=\$1,218.00; if extended, 4/21-6/21/19=\$1,305.00). State ID No.: 3711410337.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the foregoing resolution:

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Both

VOTE: 7-0

XI. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

DISCUSSION

XII. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum

Mr. Pennisi reported that the Curriculum Committee met on March 6th. In attendance were himself, Ms. Malyska, Mr. Cassio, Mrs. Wolak, and Mr. Both. They discussed the band trip in August. They also discussed the training and the test schedule that Ms. Malyska discussed earlier. There is a preschool open house on March 26th. The committee talked about the how recess is not counted as part of the PE requirement but they are counting the character education as part of the health curriculum. The committee also discussed elementary conferences for next year because it depends on the grading committee and what is determined as far as whether we have trimesters or we go

back to quarters so those conference will be based on that decision.

Mr. Pennisi reported that they also discussed the upcoming parent academy as well as the Make it Stop program to address issues of bullying and substance abuse. He said that the PBA is also bringing in a speaker.

Dr. Lishak said that Officer McNelly brought that in to her this morning and he was talking about it. She said that they are looking to raise money for the PBA and they are saying that the speaker that they have is dynamic and sells out immediately. Mr. Pennisi said that he is the Seal that the movie, Lone Survivor, was based on.

Finance

Mr. Cassio said that the Finance Committee met yesterday. In attendance were himself, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Both, Mr. Benanti, Mr. Giannakis, Mr. Yazici, and Dr. Lishak. The committee discussed the bills list and legal invoices. They also discussed current bank accounts and potentially consolidating the accounts. Mr. Cassio said that we are waiting on County approval to use the Enterprise funds as the Board sees fit.

Mr. Cassio said that the committee also discussed updates on the ball fields. They are in the process of getting quotes to fix the fields.

Mr. Cassio reported that Mr. Giannakis was advised by Mr. Zitomer to leave the meeting when they discussed Maschio's. They discussed the current and future contract status.

Policy

Mr. Pennisi reported that they did not meet. The only item was already brought to the table for discussion.

Special Education

Mr. Both reported that they met on Wednesday, March 6th. In attendance was himself, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Wolak, Mr. Brandon and Ms. Ryan. We visited the MD class at the Middle School and got to see the students in action. It is another class, similar to the high school, where there is a life skills program. They have a kitchen and washing machines. These are all things that most of us take for granted. For children with special needs, this is something that really has to be taught and emphasized throughout their life so this is a great opportunity to introduce this to them. I think this was introduced about six years ago in the district and the program has been going on ever since. We spoke about the ED class moving and coming to Franklin School and the impact it could have on the district.

We had a general discussion about the Special Education department and the direction that they are going this year which is in a good direction.

Traffic Liaison

Mr. Cassio reported that the committee met on February 22nd. Officer Delair, Councilman Bengivenga, Councilwoman Faustini, Dr. Lishak, Mr. Chapman and himself met at Borough Hall. They discussed crossing guard locations, possibly moving a few around where there was some need or concerns. Officer Delair also discussed traffic flow issues on Lake Street at the Middle School location with parent parking conflicting with busses moving in and out. They also discussed the Middle School side parking lot with traffic flow and child safety of children getting in and out on the passenger side and the flow of traffic. Mr. Cassio said they are looking into possible traffic flow issues and making changes. He said that will be discussed at a later date.

SEPAC Liaison

Mr. Both said that the Board was supposed to meet tonight but due to illnesses the meeting is postponed. Mr. Both announced that there is a breakfast fundraiser scheduled for Sunday morning, April 7th at Applebees in Piscataway. The athletes and other volunteers will be serving. That money will go toward SEPAC and the special athletes for their gear and uniforms. SEPAC will use it to give scholarships to students with IEPs. He said that they asked him to ask the whole Board to participate and all are welcome.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Boyle said that she has two resolutions that she would like Dr. Lishak to add to the agenda for next week. She said that one resolution creates a tenure-like protection for non-teaching staff and the other is undermining a School Board's ability to subcontract services because if we are not allowed to do that it would cost us thousands of dollars. Mrs. Boyle said that as soon as this is done, it has to be sent to Assembly Speaker Conklin, Senate President Sweeney and Governor Murphy. She said she hopes that they can discuss these. Mrs. Boyle said that she also has a copy of Chapter 67 which Dr. Lishak gave everyone this evening.

Mrs. Boyle reported that she was in Trenton on Saturday for Legislation and that she is on the State Finance Committee. She said that they discussed that Assembly Speaker Coughlin pulled two bills from last Monday's assembly voting. The bills would have ended the parents ability to refuse tests. Mrs. Boyle said that they also discussed the Superintendent's salary cap and that they are still trying to pass a bill that would take that cap away. Mrs. Boyle said that the State Board is reviewing job descriptions for auto mechanics and plumbing certifications so that they can come into the schools and add on those programs.

Mrs. Boyle said that John Burn, the attorney for the State Board talked about proposing a CTE flexibility requirements so that the State Board of Examiners can possibly consider prevalent work experience that can qualify for the expertise rather than the last ten years and current academic teachers can get on the job training to get a CTE teachers certificate, especially those teachers who tag team with other teachers. Mrs. Boyle said

that they also talked about assistant teachers to help students in the classroom.

Mrs. Boyle said that another bill would adjust the State of Limitations for child abuse and sexual abuse. She said that the age would be 18 to 37 because the feeling is that we must protect the well-being of every student. The only thing with that is the insurance claims can be increased due to the claims that could come out of these claims.

Mrs. Boyle said that they discussed the School Funding Reform Act. She said that there were three towns in Middlesex County, including South Plainfield, that had money taken away based on student population, if you had a decrease, the changes in wealth of the district which deals with ratables, our budget, and funding for every student in the district. Mrs. Boyle said that in order to make up the funding we would have to exceed the 2% cap and we would have to put that on the ballot in November as the second questions for the voters to approve. She said that they are trying to have a bill that says you don't have to go to the voters if you lost money. Mrs. Boyle said that they also talked about charter schools and the fact that they should be funded by the State and not local Boards of Education. She said they also discussed that Special Education money should be 100% funded by the State and not individual districts. Mrs. Boyle said that the property assessment and income are at least two years behind and those are the figures that were used to figure out the SFRA.

Mrs. Boyle also reported that there is a pilot bill that will be going to the Governor's desk to make the high school start time later but there are a lot of ramifications to that including the bussing, athletics, and more data is needed.

Mrs. Boyle said that they talked about the fact that the SFRA is a political reality and shortfall is the only way to change things. The senate republic and minority has put forth a proposal for fair funding. Again, for districts that lost money, they would be able to exceed the 2% cap to make up the difference of the funds that we lost.

Mrs. Boyle said that the Governor is talking about consolidation of districts, especially those that only go K-8. There are currently 500 operating school districts in New Jersey.

XIII PUBLIC COMMENTS

XIV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Cassio congratulated the tenure recipients as well as the wrestlers in Atlantic City. He also congratulated Mr. Cochran who was named Elk's Man of the Year.

Mrs. Miller congratulated the tenure recipients.

Mr. Giannakis congratulated the tenure recipients. He also said that Mr. Fierra did a great job at last week's college fair. He said that the fair was smartly set up and was done tremendously.

Mr. Pennisi congratulated the tenure recipients. He also said that the career day was impressive. He said that it was the first time that it was set up that way and it went very smoothly. He said that it was impressive walking around and listening to the variety of people that were there and he congratulated everyone that was involved.

Mrs. Boyle congratulated all of the tenured employees. She thanked Dr. Lishak and Grant School Principal, Mr. Sarullo, for granting permission to the South Plainfield Green Team to video the contest winners of the Environmental Week projects.

Mrs. Boyle said that the Middlesex County Student Recognition Dinner will be held on March 26th at Old Bridge High School. Two students from each Middlesex County School District will be honored.

Mrs. Boyle thanked Mr. Damato and Mr. Haber on the presentation to the planning board for the proposed M&M Realty development.

There will be a used clothing and accessory fundraiser for the South Plainfield High School baseball team on March 23rd from 7:30a.m. – 3:00p.m. located in the parking lot at the PAL behind the community pool.

The Cultural Arts talent show will be on March 24th from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Boyle said that we have a lot of our own students that will be showing their talent.

March 30th is the Cultural Art Murder Mystery. There is no charge for those tickets but you have to register on the Cultural Arts website.

March 31st is the Education Foundation Top Golf event.

On April 7th the Mayor's Wellness Committee will present the Second Annual Autism Awareness event at the Senior Center from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

April 29th is the South Plainfield Business Association Taste of South Plainfield.

Mrs. Boyle said that the Grandparents Day at Riley School was very enjoyable.

Mrs. Boyle said that was the 8th Annual Career Day for the South Plainfield Business Association. She said that they had a variety of different speakers, some were non-college bound professionals and some weren't. She said that it was great and in the end the student came up and talked to the people that were involved in that. Mrs. Boyle thanked everyone that was on the panel.

Mr. Cassio said that he would be remiss not to mention the College and Career Day as well. He said that the format for the kids to predestine what speakers they wanted to meet was critical because they weren't bored and they got to pick a topic that they like. Mr. Cassio commended Dr. Lishak for putting that together and making it worthwhile for the kids.

Mr. Giannakis said that there was a lot of talk about the tenure recipients but that since July we have had four Business Administrators. He thanked Debra Schroeder and Amy Cicenica for holding the office together through all of the transitions.

Mr. Chapman echoed all of the congratulations on the tenure recipients. He said that his involvement is mostly with the Business Office. He said that this is his fourth year on the Board and Amy and Debbie have been the only constants. He said that the knowledge that they have is so critically important because if we didn't have them to know what was going on between all those things, things would get lost and fall through the cracks so thank you very much.

Mr. Chapman said that Parent Palooza was a great evening with superb content but that he was disappointed with the attendance. He said that we cannot continue to run events that take such a high level of commitment from our staff. He said that they aren't going to stop their quest to help parents but they will have to figure out a different way to try to do it that is more accommodative to the volunteers who come.

Mr. Chapman said that the College and Career day was also great. He said that he received a list of colleges from Mr. Fierra that some of the students have been accepted to. He said that they are just starting to come in and he asked Mr. Fierra about the ivy's and he said that those are expected to come in over the next couple of weeks and he said that we have a good shot with a good number of students going to ivy league schools. Mr. Chapman said that this is a stressful time for many students and we are pulling for them to get into the schools that they want.

Mr. Chapman said that he wants to talk about the cut in funding for our budget. He said that if we, as a community, do not slam these people with letters and our protests, they are going to think that we don't care. Mr. Chapman also discussed the trend and if it continues, the trend forecasts us to be down 1.2 Million dollars over the next four years. He said that the public is going to be mad at the Board because they think that the Board is not doing a good job. He said that we have to tell them that they can't do this. We are going to be in a financial bind in a couple of years if this continues so we have to all get together and do what we can. We have to make sure that they know that we are serious and that they are really hurting our children.

Mrs. Boyle said that she is setting up a meeting through the County with Senator Diegnan, Assemblywoman Pinkin, Assemblyman Karabinchak and Assemblyman Zwicker from South Brunswick. She said that they are looking for answers of what happened on Special Education and on the school funding.

Mr. Chapman said that some towns got millions of dollars in increases. He said that he was talking to Mr. Farinella today and Rahway received 1.8 Million dollars in increased funding and it's just not right.

XV. 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 at this time to discuss confidential matters pertaining to: (select one or more)

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 funds
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: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 7-0

XVI. AGENDA APPROVAL

RESOLVED, that the agenda for the regular public meeting on March 20, 2019, as may have been modified, is hereby approved.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Pennisi VOTE: 7-0

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, there was a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 7-0

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Benanti
Business Administrator/Board Secretary