

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting– Wednesday, January 9, 2019 - 6:01 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- Mr. Nilkanth Patel
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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

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.

Mr. Chapman announced that board needs to go into executive session to discuss a confidential student matter.

The Board returned from executive session at 6:48 p.m.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Recognition of Fall Sports Awards-2018

The Board recognized the following student athletes and staff:

Field Hockey

All GMC

Lynda Farinella

Ashley Olson

Lauren Zultowski

Gymnastics

All GMC

Antonella Notino

Brianna Spadavecchia

Girls Cross Country

All GMC

Julianne Ferraro

Girls' Soccer

All Blue Division

Lauren Hutchison

Boys Soccer

Christopher Born- All Blue Division

Adrian Dominguez-All Blue Division

Marc Giordano- All GMC, All Blue Division

Ian McCoid- All Blue Division

Anthony Perfilio- Blue Division Coach of the Year

Girls Tennis

Jordan Lovett – All White Division

Football-

Ashwin deGroot-All Blue Division

Zachary DelVecchio-All GMC, All Blue Division

Brenden Hedden-All Blue Division

Thomas Massaro-All GMC, All Blue Division

Luke Niemeyer-All GMC, All Blue Division

Austin Scott-All Blue Division

Dondre Tate-All Blue Division

Following the presentation, Dr. Lishak reported that this past Monday, Deputy Commissioner Hasan and Middlesex County Superintendent, Mr. Anderson visited South Plainfield High School to observe a number of our classes and speak to our teachers and students. They visited Ms. Benson's Bioinformatics and Molecular Biology class where they spoke to the students and observed them duplicating DNA samples in hopes of identifying new information on proteins for future publications. They also had the opportunity to visit the broadcasting studio with Mr. Cassio and his students to observe preparations for future TigerTV segments. As they walked through the hallways they complimented Mr. Spring on the beautiful artwork from the classes along the walls, as well as the overall condition of the school itself. They also commented on the security measures they had to follow in order to get into the building. In addition, they made very positive comments on our numerous course offerings and the enthusiasm of all of our students as they visited. They are hoping to return in the near future to see more of our students and teachers in action in the classrooms. Dr. Lishak thanked them for coming to visit the South Plainfield School District. She said she would also like to thank our students, teachers, staff, and administration of the South Plainfield High School. She said that she needs them to know how proud she is of them and recognize their hard work. Some of the classrooms that were visited were completely random. They visited our Science lab and the Deputy Commissioner and County Superintendent commented on how engaged our students were in their lab. They said that they barely even noticed that they were in there. Dr. Lishak thanked everyone again for all of their hard work. She said that they do an amazing job every day.

Dr. Lishak said congratulations to 11 of our high school seniors who participated in the Seal of Bi-literacy assessment yesterday. The results are expected in the next couple of days. The Seal of Bi-literacy is distributed through the New Jersey Department of Education and it identifies graduating high school students who are able to demonstrate proficiency in English and in one or more world language. The Seal of Bi-literacy will be placed on the official high school transcript for submission to high learning institutions as well as opening opportunities in the workforce by identifying these students' capabilities in dual language.

Dr. Lishak reminded parents that we are planning our second Parent Palooza on February 12th here in the High School Information Center. We will have more information listed on our website in the next couple of days as well as an e-mail sent out so the parents know that they will need to RSVP. Our first one was a success and we are hoping to have more parents participate in the second Parent Palooza. This one will focus on understanding your child's social media presence and its impact on the classroom. Dr. Lishak said that if you have any interest to register early.

Dr. Lishak reported that our Referendum Reporting Committee has an opening for a member from the public for our Referendum Reporting Committee. Dr. Lishak said that we need to fill the position due to the untimely passing of Mr. English who was so involved in the referendum. If you have any interest in being part of the public reporting committee, please e-mail a resume to Theresa Tempe on or before January 19, 2019.

Applications will be considered for the open seat.

Dr. Lishak reminded the public that the South Plainfield Planning Board meeting is scheduled for February 26th at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Hall. Mr. Haber of Haber Consulting completed our demographic study and presented it here in November and he has been asked to present it again to the public during the public meeting on February 26th. If you would like to hear the presentation again or have the opportunity to present your information or have any questions or comments, please attend the meeting.

VI. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

1. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

Mrs. Miller said that on the second reading of Policy 0155, she would like to have the Board consider changing two words on this policy. She would like to change “shall be the President” to “may be the President”. She said that the reason for that is that she has been on the board for ten years and she doesn’t know of any president that wanted to be on every committee. She said that she thinks it should be the president’s choice. If they want to be on every committee then they can be on every committee but if they don’t want to be on every committee then they wouldn’t have to be.

Mr. Zitomer asked Mrs. Miller if she would like to make a motion to amend Policy 0155.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Giannakis said that he agrees and told Mr. Zitomer to change it to whatever the best wording is. Mr. Zitomer said to vote on the amendment first.

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Boyle VOTE: 9-0

VII. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

1. Overnight Trips

TBD chaperone for the SPSHS Wrestling Team trips to Virginia Duals January 10-13, 2019 and NJSIAA State Wrestling Tournament February 27 – March 2, 2019 previously approved on November 14, 2018 BOE agenda now confirmed as John Nye.

DISCUSSION

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 9-0

VIII. POLICY

A. Approval of Second Readings of Bylaws/Policies/Regulations

Approve the second reading of the following Bylaws/Policies/Regulations/Exhibits and hereby adopts them:

1. Policy #0155 – Board Committees – Revised - Tab VIII.A

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 9-0

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.)

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.	Angeline, John	Resign	English Teacher	High School	01/01/19	
2.	Dudak, Pamela	Resign	Duty Aide	High/Roosevelt School	01/11/19	
3.	Mackey, Donna	Resign	Substitute Paraprofessional Substitute Secretary	District	01/07/19	
4.	Piesche, Barbara	Resign	District Accountant II	Admin Bldg.	02/28/19	

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#: 4992	Unpd. FMLA	Bus Driver	Transportation			11/16/18		02/26/19	09/01/19	
2.	Employee ID#: 1800	Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	Roosevelt School			01/10/19			01/22/19	

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IX.C Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Castronovo, Jacqueline	Approve	Retiree Director of Special Services	N/A	\$664.	District	07/01/18	08/31/18	Retro Pay Acct#:11-000-240-103-18
2.	Lishak, Noreen	Approve	Affirmative Action Team Representative	N/A	N/A	District	07/01/18	06/30/19	N/A
3.	Brandon, Andrew	Approve	Affirmative Action Team Representative	N/A	N/A	District	08/13/18	06/30/19	N/A
4.	Brandon, Andrew	Approve	Special Ed. – Medicaid Initiative Co-Coordinator	N/A	N/A	District	08/13/18	06/30/19	N/A
5.	Patel, Nilkanth	Approve	Board Secretary	N/A	N/A	District	01/07/19	03/04/19	N/A
6.	Patel, Nilkanth	Approve	Qualified Purchasing Agent	N/A	N/A	District	01/07/19	03/04/19	N/A
7.	Patel, Nilkanth	Approve	Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.)	N/A	N/A	District	01/07/19	03/04/19	N/A
8.	Patel, Nilkanth	Approve	Custodian of School Records	N/A	N/A	District	01/07/19	03/04/19	N/A
9.	Patel, Nilkanth	Approve	Food Services Representative	N/A	N/A	District	01/07/19	03/04/19	N/A
10.	Patel, Nilkanth	Approve	Special-Ed – Medicaid Initiative Co-Coordinator	N/A	N/A	District	01/07/19	03/04/19	N/A
11.	Patel, Nilkanth	Approve	Affirmative Action Officer for Equity in Employment Practices	N/A	N/A	District	01/07/19	03/04/19	N/A
12.	Yazici, Murat	Approve	Wellness Committee Chairman	N/A	N/A	District	01/14/19	06/30/19	N/A
13.	McCann, Kevin	Approve	School Safety Specialist	N/A	N/A	District	07/01/18	06/30/19	N/A
14.	Malyska, Mary	Approve	Sponsor Representative of the Before/After Care Program	N/A	N/A	District	07/01/18	06/30/19	N/A

IX.D. Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Panzarella, Donald	Approve	Retiree (Phys. Ed. Teacher)	N/A	\$15,000	Middle School	N/A	N/A	Sick Day Payout Acct#: 11-130-100-101-02
2.	Brandenburg, Christine	Approve	Parent Community Event – What is a Digital Footprint & Why Is It Important	8 MA	\$41.00 per hr.	High School	02/12/19	02/12/19	4 hours total Acct#: 11-000-222-100-02
3.	Brandenburg, Christine	Approve	PD Presenter	8 MA	\$54.07 per hr.	Middle School	02/15/19	02/15/19	Dealing with Digital Distraction in the Classroom 2 hours total Acct#: 11-000-223-100-02

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Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
4.	Ullom, Carol	Approve	Registered Nurse	Step 14 R.N.	\$52.50 per hr.	District	09/01/18	06/30/19	Coverage at other schools beyond normal work day- not to exceed 30 hrs. Acct. #11-000-213-104-01

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mrs. Miller

VOTE: 9-0

X. FINANCE

1. Authorized Signatures

Approve the following schedule of authorized signatures, in addition to official bank accounts, for the 2018/2019 school year:

Certificate of Deposit	-	Board Secretary Superintendent
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2. Approval of Professional Development Expenditure

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.	Special Education Update: Policy and Practice	1/22/19	\$169.00 Registration \$30.00 mileage	Andrew Brandon

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

- a. Approve the Guarantee of Payment Agreement for Hospital School Services with Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia for one special education student for the 2018-2019 school year, effective January 7, 2019. Billing rate will be \$56.57 per hour. Student will be offered up to 2 hours of instruction per day, for a maximum of up to 10 hours per week. State ID No.: 7739531905.

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mrs. Miller

VOTE: 9-0

XI. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

XII. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Chapman said that committees have not been assigned yet so there are no reports at this time.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

XIV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS.

Mrs. Boyle congratulated all of our coaches and student athletes. She said that they did a great job.

Mrs. Boyle reported that one of the presenters at the planning board was the Fire Marshall and he talked about the timing from the fire department on Maple Avenue to be able to reach over to M&M's proposed site for the condos, etc. and talking about getting the rigs down the narrow roads. A suggestion was made to make the roads wider. Also, an issue was brought up about having the fire department have a control that will turn all the lights green or red and then they asked about having a fire house build over on that side of the town and the gentleman who presents from M&M Realty that sited a law that was mandated by the courts that no entity is allowed to ask for any type of amenities such as a fire house, etc. so they are not allowed to ask for that.

Mrs. Boyle reported that on February 5th, there is the 11th annual Mayor's Wellness and High School Student Council blood drive. The spelling bee for all 4th and 5th graders is Wednesday, January 30th at the Senior Center. That is hosted by the Suburban Women's Club and the South Plainfield Borough Cultural Arts. Only the first 30 students will be accepted and they can either live in South Plainfield or go to school in South Plainfield. The Middlesex County Unsung Heroes dinner is March 26th at Old Bridge High School. Also, on March 23rd, there will be a fundraiser clothing drive for the South Plainfield High School baseball team.

Mr. Chapman announced that next week's meeting will be moved to 6:45 p.m. because it is Senior Night at the wrestling match and it starts at 6:30 p.m. so we can have Dr. Lishak and any other board members go down there and wish them the best.

Mr. Chapman said that he also wants to comment on what Dr. Lishak discussed about the County Superintendent visit. He said that he spoke to Dr. Lishak after the visit and said that it was very exciting to hear all of the positive things that the County Superintendent had to say about our students, the experience they had in the building, and how impressed they were with our STEM labs and our teachers and it really felt good to hear Dr. Lishak say how well the teachers did. Mr. Chapman said that we all know how great of a job our teachers do but it nice to hear someone like the County Superintendent and Deputy Commissioner gets to see what is happening in our school district so that was fantastic.

Mr. Chapman encouraged everyone to sign up for the Parent Palooza coming up on February 12th. He said that he knows that the first Parent Palooza was very well received and he said that heard a lot of positive feedback. He said that hopefully the one on February 12th is going to be even better and more well-attended than the first.

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: Mr. Cassio VOTE: 9-0

The Board returned from executive session at 8:41 p.m.

Mr. Zitomer read in the following resolution:

RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby affirms the administration's finding that the appeal heard during this evening's executive session constitute HIB within the meaning of the law and board policy 5512.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Both VOTE: 7-2
Mr. Both and Mrs. Boyle voted no.

XVI. AGENDA APPROVAL

RESOLVED, that the agenda for the regular public meeting on January 16, 2019, as may have been modified, is hereby approved.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Cassio

VOTE: 9-0

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, there was a motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Farinella

VOTE: 9-0