

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

**Special Business Meeting Agenda – Thursday, May 30, 2019 – 5:00 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 5:00 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, Mrs. Wolak, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Chapman

Mr. Farinella arrived at 5:02 p.m.

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

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 May 24, 2019.

Please be advised:

Special Business Meeting  
 May 30, 2019

- 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. COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

VI. PERSONNEL

Motion by Member Mr. Pennisi, 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:

VI.A Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Diehl, Robert	Approve	Interim Principal	N/A	\$140,000 + \$2,430 TD + \$625 TA	High School	7/1/2019	6/30/2020	Acct.#11-000-240-103-01

DISCUSSION:

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the foregoing resolutions.

MOTION: Mr. Pennisi                      SECOND: Mrs. Miller                      VOTE: 7-0-2  
 Mr. Giannakis and Mr. Cassio abstained.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Boyle congratulated Mr. Diehl on his interim appointment. She said that it is well-deserved. She said that she knows that he put a lot of himself into this school district.

Mrs. Boyle said that in the future, when there is a special meeting called, protocol would be to contact all nine board members and ask their availability. There was a brief discussion between Mrs. Boyle and Mrs. Wolak about how notification was received.

Mr. Cassio congratulated Mr. Diehl. Mr. Cassio said that she has had a long experience with Mr. Diehl. He said that he has had an easy child and a rough child and he has done a great job with both of them. Mr. Cassio said that he will do a great job at the high school.

Mr. Cassio said that he had no problem with the business office sending out an e-mail to let us know that there is an emergency meeting. Mr. Cassio said that he has a baseball game in 20 minutes that he was going to go to and now he is scrambling but we have to get it done.

Mr. Pennisi congratulated Mr. Diehl. Mr. Pennisi said that he has known him for a long time, before he was in education. Mr. Pennisi said that he knows what a great job Mr. Diehl has done and wished him a lot of luck.

Mrs. Miller congratulated Mr. Diehl on his appointment. She said that she has known him a long time. She said that he had her kids when he was a teacher and he moved up to disciplinarian to Assistant Principal and then Principal.

Mr. Giannakis said that he wanted to echo everyone's sentiments and congratulated Mr. Diehl on his appointment. He said that as far as the special meetings go, they district always comes first. So if we need to have a meeting to appointment somebody because it is in the best interest of the district, then so be it.

Mr. Farinella congratulated Mr. Diehl. He said that he has the best job in the district.

Dr. Lishak welcomed Mr. Diehl back to South Plainfield High School as Interim Principal for the 2019-20 school year. As many of you may know, Mr. Diehl began his career in South Plainfield at the High School as a Social Studies teacher before becoming school disciplinarian and then Assistant Principal. Mr. Diehl moved from the High School ten years ago serving as principal of Roosevelt School only to return to his original home here in the High School in the next month. In speaking with Mr. Diehl

about the position, he shared his excitement on taking on the position and is looking forward to keeping the momentum going. He mentioned getting that number moved down from number 96<sup>th</sup> best high school in New Jersey into the mid-50's. Dr. Lishak said that she is confident that Mr. Diehl will be an excellent instructional leader for the high school ensuring the success of our students while supporting the faculty and staff. Dr. Lishak told Mr. Diehl that he is fortunate to lead such a wonderful group of students at the high school and we are fortunate to have him. Dr. Lishak wished him nothing but success in your new position and success in the 2019-20 school year.

Mr. Chapman congratulated Mr. Diehl. He said that he is very happy to have him serving in the Interim position and hopefully as the permanent principal in the future. Mr. Chapman said that he also had the pleasure of him having his child for four years and it has been a very good and productive relationship. Mr. Chapman told Mr. Diehl that he appreciates all that he does for the school, the community and for the district as a whole. Mr. Chapman wished Mr. Diehl the best in the high school and hopes that we have the great results that we expect.

Mr. Chapman addressed Mrs. Boyle's concerns about protocol for scheduling of meetings and meeting attendance.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the board, there was a motion to adjourn at 5:15 p.m.

MOTION:

SECOND:

VOTE:

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Benanti  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary