

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, December 13, 2017 – 6:30 P.M.
South Plainfield High School
200 Lake Street
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Glover called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

III. ROLL CALL- James Damato
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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

Mr. Seesselberg arrived at 6:52 p.m.

Also present: Dr. Noreen Lishak, Superintendent; Ms. Mary Malyska, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. James Damato, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. Marc Zitomer, Legal Counsel; Mr. Stephen Fried, Assistant Business Administrator; Mr. Thomas Wiggins, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds

IV. BOARD PRESIDENT

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 January 5, 2017.

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

Dr. Lishak said that the past couple of weeks have been busy in our district with numerous workshops held throughout our schools. Dr. Lishak asked Ms. Malyska to talk about the Parent STEM Night, the Middle School Algebra I Parent Meeting and the College Information Night.

Ms. Malyska reported that the STEM night on December 6th was a huge success. Annmarie Stoeckel and Shanti Kantha-Murray planned an event that included both students and teachers. There were approximately 35 parents present. Students from Kindergarten to 12th grade showcased and demonstrated their coding skills. Ms. Malyska thanked the teachers and student volunteers who were there and made the night an exciting hands-on event.

On Monday, December 11th, Anu Garrison held the 8th Grade Algebra I Graduation Requirement Program, which was also a success with 55 parents present. Ms. Malyska thanked all of the 8th grade math teachers for being there and for their support.

Ms. Malyska reported that last evening, the High School Guidance Department held a College Planning Parent Night with almost 100 parents present. Ms. Malyska said that it was really great and she thanked the guidance department for all of their efforts in these events.

Dr. Lishak thanked Ms. Malyska and provided the following school happenings:

Franklin School will have a, "dress for the holidays" school day, so dress in your holiday best. Santa is coming to visit on December 22nd.

Kennedy School will hold their holiday concert on Friday, December 15th at 1:45 p.m. Dr. Lishak said that Mr. Hajduk called earlier today and she wanted to make sure that she announced it. Kennedy School participated in various fundraisers to collect a total of \$572.00 for National Wreaths across America Day. That is occurring this Saturday, December 16th. 38 Wreaths will be laid in the Arlington Cemetery from the Kennedy School donations. So thank you very much. That is amazing.

Roosevelt School will hold their holiday concert on Tuesday, December 19th at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Riley School is having their holiday concert on December 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Grant School would like to report that the fifth and sixth grade chrome book initiative is up and running and all is going well and the students are loving having their chrome books with them throughout the day.

Middle School will hold their winter concert tomorrow night, December 14th at 6:30 p.m. The National Junior Honors Society completed a service project at the Senior Center here in South Plainfield. The members of the society helped decorate the center for the holidays. Thank you to all that helped. Middle School will be finishing up their toy drive tomorrow. If you are interested in donating a toy, toys will be accepted until the end of the day tomorrow. All donations will be sent to Borough Hall for distribution over the holidays.

Our High School Senior Citizen luncheon was held today in the High School cafeteria with over 100 seniors in attendance. Dr. Lishak thanked the high school and thanked Sodexo, our food service company, for their very generous donation. Our South Plainfield High School choir had the honor of performing at Radio City Music Hall last week. 48 of our students sang holiday songs prior to enjoying a performance of the Radio City Christmas Spectacular in New York City. Dr. Lishak congratulated the choir. The South Plainfield Holiday Spirit Week will take place next week.

The administration, faculty and students have many wonderful activities planned so please check the High School website so that you don't miss out on any of the fun. The South Plainfield choir will be caroling in all of our elementary schools over the next week, giving our students the opportunity to see how wonderful our high school choir is and hopefully entice them to want to join when they finally reach the high school. Lastly, this week, the South Plainfield High School Broadcast class debuted their morning announcements. The students prepare announcements each day and our students watch the presentation each morning in their first period class. Mr. Spring was kind enough to set up a demonstration for us this evening.

1. Presentation of the 2016/2017 Audit Report

While Mr. Spring prepared the presentation, Mr. Damato introduced Mr. Swisher from Supplee Clooney and Company, who completed our audit report and he is making his presentation, as required by law, to the Board and to the community.

Mr. Swisher thanked Dr. Lishak, Mr. Damato, Mr. Fried and the rest of their staff for the help that they provided during the audit. It's never easy going through an audit and the staff is always very helpful so that is appreciated.

Mr. Swisher said that there are three area that he would like to touch on for the audit. The first is the auditor's opinion. The main goal for the auditors is to render an opinion on your financial statement as to whether they are free of material misstatements and fairly presented. He said that he is happy to report that the district has once again received an unmodified onion. That is the best opinion that you can receive.

The second area that Mr. Swisher touched on was the findings and recommendations. Each year when we do the audit we review the district's internal controls in compliance with the law and regulations with the state of New Jersey and if we find anything that we feel needs to be noted, we will put it in the auditor's management report. This past year there was one finding and recommendation that deals with capital assets. The finding reads, "We noted several items on the capital asset ledger that were purchased by the district after June 30, 2017. Only items owned by the district as of June 30th should be recorded on the capital asset ledger". Basically, the district hires an outside company to perform the inventory for their assets. They picked up a few assets that were purchased after the balance sheet date. They did not belong on the ledger. That is the only comment and recommendation that for the year. Last year there were nine recommendations and they were all taken care of in 2017 so a lot of progress was done in the Business Office.

The final topic that Mr. Swisher reviewed was how the district did financially. He said that it is good news, once again. The district started the year out with a fund balance of \$6,052,900.50 and ended the year, June 30, 2017, at \$8,684,552.22 so once again the district is in good financial shape.

Mr. Swisher asked if anyone had any questions. Mrs. Miller asked Mr. Swisher if there are any other suggestions for management other than the Findings and Recommendations. She said that in the past there has always been two or three other off the side kind of suggestions for management. Mr. Swisher said that there was nothing that we included in the audit report. He said that there was a separate exit conference with Mr. Damato and Mr. Fried. Mrs. Miller asked if the board can received copies of those comments. Mr. Swisher said that he did not have them with him but that they will be forwarded to the Board.

Mr. Cassio asked Mr. Swisher how long he has been doing the audit in this district. Mr. Swisher responded that this is his second year. Mr. Cassio asked if he has the recordings of the years prior to that and what the district looked like as far as financially structured prior to those two years that Mr. Damato has been on. Mr. Swisher said that they would be the districts previous audit reports if you want to look at those.

Mr. Giannakis said that this is the best audit report that he can remember since he's been on the Board. He thanked Mr. Damato, Mr. Fried and Dr. Lishak as well as the Finance Committee because this is the best shape and the best audit that this district has received and he is sure that if you go back and look at the history, you are going to see that it's been a minimum of ten years that he can remember that we've had an audit report this good.

Mrs. Miller asked Mr. Swisher to briefly go over our gains and losses in the enterprise accounts. Mr. Swisher said that the district has four separate enterprise funds. The first is your food service. The food service ended the year with a fund balance of \$201,180. The latchkey program ended the year with \$409,939.00, the adult education program

ended the year with \$298,021 and the preschool program ended the year with \$250,142. That is on page 125 in the big report if you wanted to see that in a little bit more detail. Mrs. Miller asked if there were any losses in any of these funds. Mr. Swisher said that the food service started the year out with \$64,000 and ended the year \$261,000. The latchkey program started at \$501,000 and ended the year at \$409,000. The adult education started the year at \$268,000 and ended at \$268,000 and the preschool started the year at \$334,000 and ended at \$250,000.

Mr. Chapman said, just to summarize real quick on those number again, adult school broke even, preschool went down slightly, the latchkey went down slightly and the food service had a good jump from \$64,000 to \$200,000.

Mrs. Glover thanked Mr. Swisher for his presentation tonight and turned the chair over to Mr. Seesselberg.

Mr. Seesselberg said he was sorry that he missed the full presentation but he did look at the management report and he was very encouraged that there was only one minor notification this year. We are on a good track with the way the Business Office and the whole financial stability of the district is and that will help us when we are going for the bonds next year and all our other ongoing financial responsibilities. Mr. Seesselberg thanked Mr. Swisher for the presentation.

Mr. Spring said that several weeks ago we started broadcasting our AM announcements using our new broadcast studio which is really just phenomenal. It was one of those things where we wanted to get it going as quickly as possible but it was so much new technology that students really had to learn how to use it. The other issue is once they really started broadcasting, it was tough to continue the in-depth instruction because if they are filming every day to put up the announcements then to go back and basically reflect on it and look at what the changes are. Mr. Cassio really had to get the students up and running to a high level. The kids have been coming after school to work on it and it's really been amazing so we couldn't be any more proud. The kids love it, they get motivated, and they do advertisements for the classes when they are trying to sell stuff.

Mr. Spring said that he chose to present the announcement from December 7th because they did a reflection for Pearl Harbor Day. It's great and its student centered and they really love it. Hopefully you will be able to enjoy it as much as we enjoy it.

After the presentation, Dr. Lishak said that the morning announcement are available on the website. Mr. Spring said that if you go to Tiger TV you will find the announcements there.

Mr. Giannakis said that this is so fantastic and that it's just getting better and better. He said that Dr. Lishak brought this room and it is fantastic. He thinks that we are going to

be able to stream board meetings and other events such as football, live sometime down the road. He said that the only thing he would ask is if we look at starting to get new TVs for the rooms.

Dr. Lishak said we don't need TV's. Everything plays on the screen. It is all streamed. Mr. Giannakis asked if we can get rid of those old TVs then and Dr. Lishak said that we are in the process of doing that.

Mr. Spring said that any teacher can put it on at any time and you can put it on at home.

Mr. Seesselberg said that it is pretty impressive, not only considering the technology but these kids only saw this stuff from September and now they are doing their own shows and not only the new show but the interstitial programming that is going into it; the commercials and the opening, the sports and everything else. The students and Mr. Cassio are very enthusiastic. Mr. Seesselberg asked roughly how many kids are involved in the broadcast program. Dr. Lishak said that Mr. Cassio opened it up after school to not just the students that are enrolled in the class but to anyone who is interested in broadcast can now go and meet with the class, learn what they are doing, and be a part of the broadcast. Mr. Spring said that this is so new that the kids don't even understand and realize that it's something they can do. He said that one thing that he wanted to do was open up the broadcast studio after school. HE said that we need to have it continue from year to year and the students are bringing in their friends to check it out and build interest. There is a lot of buzz about it.

Mr. Seesselberg said that it's not just participation of the broadcast students but they can integrate the art department and do graphics, the industrial arts to build sets and the music department. Mr. Seesselberg said that he's seen a few of them from day one and you can see how they progress and get better as they get more confident. He wished them good luck.

VI. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Mr. Zitomer said that we need to add resolutions to the agenda, one regarding residency and two HIB resolutions. The residency resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGARDING THE RESIDENCY HEARING OF STUDENTS A.B., B.B., E.F., E.M.,
F.S. and J.S.

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2017, a plenary hearing was held before the South Plainfield Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 *et seq.* and N.J.A.C. 6A:22-1.1 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, on that date, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above-referenced students did not attend the hearing despite having been apprised of their right to do so, and having been further advised that the hearings would proceed in their absence; and

WHEREAS, the Board, after having heard and considered all of the proofs and testimony presented resolves to order the removal of the above-referenced students from the District because the required proof of residency in South Plainfield has not been provided in accordance with law;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board having considered all the information presented, hereby adopts the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, on this 13th day of December, 2017, that the Board finds that the above-referenced students have not provided the required proof of residency in South Plainfield and, therefore, are currently ineligible to attend the South Plainfield Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, pursuant to statute, the Board hereby removes the pupils from the District within 21 days pursuant to law and hereby assesses tuition for each student's ineligible attendance; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that each family shall receive notification of the Board's determination and their right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education.

Mr. Seesselberg said that it will be under Item XI. B.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Boyle said that she has a statement. We went right from the hearing into the residency and nobody brought Mrs. Anesh back in but the information that you just gave is exactly what you discussed. Correct? Mr. Zitomer said it is.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 8-0-1
Mr. Seesselberg abstained.

Mr. Zitomer read the second resolution:

1. Resolved, that the Board hereby reverses the HIB determination for C.O. matter adopted by the Board at its meeting on November 15, 2017 based upon insufficient evidence.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Boyle asked if this is just to add, just as the one for residency before was just to add. Mr. Seesselberg said yes.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 8-0-1
Mr. Seesselberg abstained.

Mr. Zitomer read in the following resolution.

2. Resolved, that after consideration of the information presented by the parent during this evening's executive session, the Board of Education hereby affirms the administration's H.I.B. determination pursuant to Board Policy and applicable law; and

Be it further resolved, that the Superintendent is hereby directed to provide written notification to the parent of the Board's decision.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 7-0-2
Mrs. Anesh and Mr. Seesselberg abstained.

Mrs. Boyle asked Mr. Zitomer if the one that he read on the hearing, were those the people that were not present. Mr. Zitomer asked Mrs. Boyle if she was talking about the residency resolution. Mrs. Boyle said no, the residency one was first, you did two more hearings. Mr. Zitomer said that the last one that he just read was the one that we heard tonight in closed session where the parent did attend. The first HIB resolution was the one that Dr. Lishak spoke to us about that is to be reversed. Mrs. Boyle said, ok, so it's not the third of the people that were going to attend tonight. Mr. Zitomer said that was not a resolution for tonight. Mrs. Boyle said thank you.

1. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

VII. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Curriculum Update - Administration

Ms. Malyska said that Dr. Lishak touched on this in her Superintendent's Report but she just wanted to expand upon our computer one-to-one program. This has been fully up and running at Grant School and the Middle School since the start of the school year. She said that she was able to talk to the principals and get some insight from the teachers on the program. The teachers reported out on a few key positive aspects of the program, including more time on task now that students have a device throughout the day instead of retrieving devices at the start of each period. More technology usage in the classrooms because computers are available at all times and a seamless process for device pickup and drop-off. Overall the students are very happy with the program, as are the teachers and it's been a great initiative for grades 5-8. Also, tomorrow, we are testing for the Fall Block PARCC administration. That testing will be Thursday and Friday. If there is a delayed opening tomorrow, testing will be pushed to Friday and Monday. Make-up testing is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday but that would then be pushed to Tuesday and Wednesday. Thank you.

DISCUSSION

VIII. 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 all salary placements are pending receipt of college transcripts verifying degree status and letter stating years of service in other districts, *denotes mentoring required.) ***Indicates subject to change contingent upon contract settlement.**

VIII.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#:5298	Terminated	Bus Aide	Transportation	11/13/2017	
2.	Cefalo, Andrew	Retirement	Science Teacher	Middle School	02/15/2018 or sooner	
3.	Gallo, Elaine	Retire	Director of Guidance	District	02/01/2018	

VIII.B Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1	Kaszetlan, Christopher	Approve	Computer Technician	N/A	\$61,298	District	12/14/2017	06/30/2018	Once Criminal History is Archived Acct#:11-000-252-100-14
2	Colon, Stephen	Approve	Payroll Coordinator	N/A	\$51,000	District	12/16/2017	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-251-100-12
3	Phillips, Margaret	Approve	Special Education	Step 5 MA	\$57,405	Middle School	01/03/2018	06/30/2018	Or when released from her district Acct#: 11-213-100-101-18

VIII.C.Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1	Both, Michele	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 7 3.9 hrs. per day 19.25 Per hr.	\$14,564.55 (Prorated)	Roosevelt School	12/14/2017	6/30/2018	Revised—Increase in Hours from 3 hrs. per day to 3.9 hrs. per day Acct#:11-213-100-106-18

Committee of the Whole Meeting
December 13, 2017

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
2	Hartmann, Tracey	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 10 \$21.65 per hr.	\$86.60	Middle School	12/14/2017	12/14/2014	Supervising Special Education Students @ Middle School concert for up to 4 hours Acct#: 11-401-100-100-02

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Boyle said that she thought we were going to discuss this when we went into executive session so we are voting on some of these items that weren't discussed. Dr. Lishak said that she needs to do one public because the employee has been RICED and asked for it to be done in public.

Dr. Lishak said that the employee has waived their right and asked for it to be discussed in public. It's the termination of Kathleen Reilly as a bus aide. Dr. Lishak asked if there were any questions or discussion.

Mrs. Anesh asked if this is the information that was in the Friday packet. She asked what our standard procedure is when letting a new hire know when to start and where to report. That seems that it wasn't handled very well on both sides because she should have been provided with a location and the start date and time.

Dr. Lishak said that she was provided with a location, a start date and time. Mrs. Anesh said that it doesn't say that in anything that we were given.

Mrs. Boyle said, in the information that we were given, she made phone calls and tried to her best ability to get the information while there was no school or the person was not available. She asked how else she could have gotten that information.

Dr. Lishak said that her understanding is that she was provided with the information on when to report and the time to report, the information was given to her on Wednesday, and she did not return the call until Friday when the district was closed. She then says in a statement that she sent an e-mail to me that she turns off her phone and wouldn't be receiving messages for reasons that are her own. She made a phone call to the district after we made a number of phone calls to her that morning after her shift had already passed. The Transportation Director reached out to her, there was not answer and when she did return the call to the district, the morning shift was already over. Remember, she's applied to be a bus aide, that's what she was hired to be. There was an exchange which I also provided to you, as per the transportation director, where some comments were made and subsequently the phone call ended and she did not no show up for the mid shift or the afternoon shift on that first day.

Mrs. Anesh said that it seems to her that when she knew she was hired that she did not have the information as to where to report because why would she continue to call and leave messages to find out information that was already provided to her. Dr. Lishak said that she can't answer that, she can only tell you, after speaking to the transportation director and human resources they said

that the information was left to her on who to contact, when she was supposed to arrive, when she was supposed to report to work that Monday, the time to report to work, she was reporting to transportation where she interviewed so that information was there. It was subsequent when she sent the e-mail that stated she herself turns off her phone because she is getting whatever phone calls she is getting that has nothing to do with us and then she doesn't not return the phone calls after she has left a couple of messages by the transportation director. She does not return the phone call until later in the morning when the first shift would be over.

Mrs. Boyle asked what her reasoning was for not reporting to the second shift. Dr. Lishak said that her understanding is that there was an exchange between the employee and the transportation director. She said that she sent you the information of what the transportation director reported that was stated to her that the conversation over the phone that ended abruptly, which Dr. Lishak said she is assuming that means that she hung up the phone and then there was no report at all. There was no other conversation between her and the transportation director.

Mr. Giannakis said that if you are starting a new job, you know the job starts on Monday, even if you don't know where to report, you get up and go to the office and say that nobody told me where to go or what to do. If it is a job that you really want you don't sit home with your phone turned off. Mr. Giannakis said that is his opinion and his ethic.

Mrs. Anesh said that she agrees with that and has no problem with decisions. She wants to know, for personal understanding, when we hire somebody, is it just a verbal communication with them. Do we provide written communication? What is our procedure for when we hire somebody for when they start? Dr. Lishak said that when we hire somebody it has to do with the clearance. In this particular case, her fingerprints were cleared for her to come to work, they were cleared on that Wednesday, that's when we were notified so then we make a phone call and let them know you can begin. It is a verbal communication.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 9-1
Mr. Giannakis abstained on A.3.

IX. FINANCE

Finance Update – Administration

1. Receipt and Acceptance of the Audit Report and Corrective Action Plan for the School Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017

WHEREAS, the South Plainfield Board of Education has caused an audit of its financial records to be conducted by a public auditor pursuant to N.J.S.A.:18A-23.1; and

WHEREAS, the firm of Suplee, Clooney and Company has filed such report prior to the date required by state statute; and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary has prepared a synopsis or summary of the above

mentioned report and made same available to the public pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:23-4;
and

WHEREAS, the findings and recommendations of the auditor as found in the Management Report have been discussed by the Finance Committee of the Board of Education at a meeting held on November 14, 2017; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education does hereby acknowledge receipt of the Audit Report for the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the Corrective Action Plan for the 2016/2017 School Year Audit in accordance with the Independent Auditor's Management Report of Administrative Findings – Financial and Compliance – as shown in Tab IX.1

DISCUSSION

Mr. Giannakis said that he wants to reiterate and say thank you, again, because this audit was so good. They did have that one remark but that one remark was so miniscule in nature, Mr. Giannakis thanked Dr. Lishak, Mr. Damato and the business office for a fantastic job. He also thanked the Finance Committee for being so supportive and helpful to the business office.

Mrs. Boyle thanked Suplee Clooney for the outstanding job reading the report. In years past, there have been numerous recommendations and there year there was only one. Mrs. Boyle thanked Dr. Lishak, Mr. Damato and Mr. Fried for the report and the information that you were able to work with them.

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

2. Accept Gift Donation

Accept the donation of a cherry wood entertainment center, valued at \$150.00, from Carol Ullom to be used in the Middle School Life Skills Classroom to house their television and accessories.

3. Approval of Contract with Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield of NJ to Implement the Omnia Medical Plan effective January 1, 2018

Approve the contract with Horizon Blue Cross/Blue Shield of NJ to implement the Omnia Medical Plan beginning January 1, 2018. The monthly rates for the period of January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 are as follows:

	<u>Omnia Medical Plan</u>
Single	\$646.57

Committee of the Whole Meeting
December 13, 2017

2-Adults	\$1,579.79
Family	\$1,831.11
Parent & Child(ren)	\$1,113.02

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 9-0
Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Cassio and Mr. Giannakis abstained on #3

4. Resolution Determining the Form and Other Details of \$28,094,000 Aggregate Principal Amount of School Bonds, Series 2018 of the Board of Education of the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey, Providing for their Sale and Determining Other Matters in Connection Therewith

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The \$28,094,000 School Bonds, Series 2018 of The Board of Education of the Borough of South Plainfield in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) authorized by virtue of a proposal adopted by the Board on January 18, 2017, and approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the legal voters present and voting at a special School District election held on March 28, 2017 pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:24-1 et seq., as amended and supplemented, shall be issued as School Bonds (the "Bonds"). The Bonds shall mature in the principal amounts on September 15 in each of the years as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>
2019	\$ 800,000	2029	\$1,600,000
2020	825,000	2030	1,600,000
2021	875,000	2031	1,600,000
2022	1,600,000	2032	1,600,000
2023	1,600,000	2033	1,600,000
2024	1,600,000	2034	1,600,000
2025	1,600,000	2035	1,600,000
2026	1,600,000	2036	1,600,000
2027	1,600,000	2037	1,594,000
2028	1,600,000		

The Bonds shall be subject to optional redemption prior to maturity as set forth therein. The Bonds shall be nineteen (19) in number, with one certificate being issued for each year of maturity and shall be numbered SCH-1 to SCH-19 inclusive. The Bonds are entitled to the benefits of the New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act, 1980 N.J. Laws c. 72, as amended and supplemented.

SECTION 2. The Bonds will be issued in fully registered book-entry only form, without certificates. One certificate shall be issued for the aggregate principal amount of

Bonds maturing in each year. Both principal of and interest on the Bonds will be payable in lawful money of the United States of America. Each certificate will be registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), which will act as securities depository for the Bonds (the "Securities Depository"). The certificates will be on deposit with DTC. DTC will be responsible for maintaining a book-entry system for recording the interests of its participants or the transfers of the interests among its participants. The participants will be responsible for maintaining records regarding the beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds on behalf of individual purchasers of such beneficial interests. Individual purchases of the beneficial interests in the Bonds may be made in the principal amount of \$1,000 each or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required, through book entries made on the books and the records of DTC and its participants.

Individual purchasers of the Bonds will not receive certificates representing their beneficial ownership interest in the Bonds, but each book-entry Bond owner will receive a credit balance on the books of its nominee, and this credit balance will be confirmed by an initial transaction statement stating the details of the Bonds purchased.

The Bonds will be dated their date of delivery and will bear interest from such date, which interest shall be payable, commencing September 15, 2018 and semi-annually thereafter on the fifteenth day of March and September in each year until maturity or prior redemption, at a rate or rates per annum, expressed in a multiple of one-eighth (1/8) or one-twentieth (1/20) of one per centum (1%), as proposed by the successful bidder in accordance with the Notice of Sale authorized and defined herein. The principal of and interest on the Bonds will be paid to the Securities Depository by the Board on the respective maturity dates and due dates and will be credited on the respective maturity dates and due dates to the participants of DTC as of each next preceding September 1 and March 1 (the "Record Dates" for the Bonds). The Bonds shall be executed by the manual or facsimile signature of the Board President under the official seal (or facsimile thereof) affixed, imprinted, engraved or reproduced thereon and attested by the manual signature of the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary. The following matters are hereby determined with respect to the Bonds:

Date of Bonds:	Date of Delivery
Principal Payment Dates:	September 15, 2019 and each September 15 thereafter until maturity or prior redemption
Interest Payment Dates:	Semiannually on each March 15 and September 15 of each year beginning September 15, 2018 until maturity or prior redemption
Place of Payment:	Cede & Co., New York, New York

SECTION 3. The Bonds shall be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, with such additions, deletions and omissions as may be necessary for the Board to market the Bonds in accordance with the requirements of DTC.

SECTION 4. The Notice of Sale (the “Notice of Sale”) and the Official Form of Proposal for Bonds shall be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit B with such additions, deletions and omissions as may be necessary for the Board to market the Bonds in accordance with the requirements of DTC.

SECTION 5. The Bonds shall be sold upon receipt of electronic bids on January 23, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. by the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary of the Board on i-Deal’s Bidcomp®/PARITY® electronic competitive bidding system (“PARITY”) in accordance with the Notice of Sale authorized herein. The use of the services provided by PARITY and the fees associated therewith are hereby approved. The Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary or Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel (“Bond Counsel”) is hereby authorized and directed to arrange for the publication of the Notice of Sale, such publication to be not less than seven (7) days prior to the date of sale, in summary form in The Bond Buyer, a nationally recognized local government bond marketing publication devoted to financial news and municipal bonds, and the full text of such Notice of Sale in The Star-Ledger. The Board hereby delegates to and designates the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary as the officer authorized to sell and to award the Bonds in accordance with the Notice of Sale authorized herein, and the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall report in writing the results of the sale to this Board as required by law. **Furthermore, the Board hereby delegates to the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary the authority to postpone and reschedule the sale of the Bonds, upon consultation with Bond Counsel, without readvertisement in accordance with the Notice of Sale authorized herein and to adjust the maturity schedule of the Bonds up to twenty-four (24) hours prior to the date of sale indicated herein, which adjustment shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the principal amount of any maturity or in the aggregate, the overall issue.**

The Board President, the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Bond Counsel, the Municipal Advisor, Phoenix Advisors, LLC (the “Municipal Advisor”) and the Board Attorney, are each hereby further authorized and directed to do and accomplish all matters and things necessary or desirable to effectuate the offering and sale of the Bonds.

SECTION 6. The Bonds shall have affixed thereto a copy of the written opinion with respect to the Bonds that is to be rendered by Bond Counsel to the Board.

SECTION 7. The Official Statement to be distributed in preliminary form on or about January 16, 2018 (the “Preliminary Official Statement”), prepared in connection with the offering and sale of the Bonds, is hereby “deemed final” for the purposes of Rule 15c2-12, as amended and supplemented (the “Rule”) promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the provisions of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and supplemented, with the exception of certain information permitted to be omitted thereby and is hereby approved and authorized for the information of purchasers of the Bonds, with such changes and corrections not inconsistent with the substance thereof, including those required to reflect the effect of the sale of the Bonds, as are

deemed necessary and advisable by the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary in consultation with Bond Counsel.

SECTION 8. Bond Counsel is hereby authorized and directed to arrange for the printing of the Preliminary Official Statement and the Official Statement. Bond Counsel is hereby authorized and directed to arrange for the distribution of the Preliminary Official Statement on behalf of the Board to those financial institutions that customarily submit bids for such Bonds. The Board President or the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to deliver the Official Statement to the purchaser of the Bonds for its use in connection with the sale, resale and distribution of the Bonds, where and if applicable. Bond Counsel is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the Preliminary Official Statement and the Official Statement as necessary in connection with the issuance of the Bonds, and the Board President or the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Official Statement and any certificates necessary in connection with the distribution of the Official Statement. Bond Counsel is hereby further authorized and directed to arrange for the printing of the Bonds.

SECTION 9. The Board hereby covenants that it will comply with any conditions subsequent imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), in order to preserve the exemption from taxation of interest on the Bonds, including, if necessary, the requirement to rebate all net investment earnings on the gross proceeds above the yield on the Bonds.

SECTION 10. The Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Bond Counsel, the Municipal Advisor and the Board Attorney are hereby authorized and directed to make representations and warranties, to enter into agreements and to make all arrangements with DTC, as may be necessary in order to provide that the Bonds will be eligible for deposit with DTC and to satisfy any obligation undertaken in connection therewith.

SECTION 11. The Board reasonably expects to reimburse itself from the proceeds of the Bonds for certain costs of the school project paid prior to the issuance of the Bonds. No funds from sources other than the Bonds have been or are reasonably expected to be reserved, allocated on a long-term basis or have otherwise been set aside by the Board, or any member of the same "Controlled Group" as the Board, within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1(e), pursuant to their budget or financial policies with respect to any expenditures to be reimbursed. This Section 11 is intended to be and hereby is a declaration of the Board's official intent to reimburse any expenditures toward certain costs of the school project, as described above, to be incurred and paid prior to the issuance of the Bonds in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2, and no further action (or inaction) will be an abusive arbitrage device in accordance with Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-10 to avoid, in whole or in part, arbitrage yield restrictions or arbitrage rebate requirements under Section 148 of the Code. The proceeds of the Bonds used to reimburse the Board for any expenditures toward certain costs of the school project to be financed by the Bonds will not be used directly or indirectly (i) to "refund" an issue of governmental obligations within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1(d), (ii) to create or increase the balance in "replacement proceeds", within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1 of the Bonds, or any other Bond issue, with respect to any obligation of the Board or to replace funds or (iii) to reimburse the Board for any

expenditure or payment that was originally paid with the proceeds of any obligation of the Board (other than borrowing by the Board from one of its own funds or the funds of a member of the same "Controlled Group" within the meaning of Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1(e)). The Bonds used to reimburse the Board for any expenditures toward certain costs of the school project, as described above, will be issued in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000. The costs to be reimbursed with the proceeds of the Bonds will be "capital expenditures" in accordance with the meaning of section 150 of the Code and Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-1. This section shall take effect immediately, but will be of no effect with regard to expenditures for costs paid outside the permitted reimbursement period set forth in Treasury Regulation Section 1.150-2(d)(2).

SECTION 12. In the event that DTC may determine to discontinue providing its service with respect to the Bonds or is removed by the Board and if no successor securities depository is appointed, the Bonds which were previously issued in book-entry only form shall be converted to registered Bonds (the "Registered Bonds") in denominations of \$1,000, or any integral multiple thereof with a minimum purchase of \$5,000 required. The beneficial owner under the book-entry system, upon registration of the Bonds held in the beneficial owner's name, will become the registered owner of the Registered Bonds. The Board shall be obligated to provide for the execution and delivery of the Registered Bonds in certified form.

SECTION 13. The Board hereby covenants and agrees that it will comply with and carry out all of the provisions of the Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the "Certificate") which will set forth the obligation of the Board to file budgetary, financial and operating data and notices of certain enumerated events deemed material in accordance with the provisions of the Rule. The Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Certificate evidencing the Board's undertaking with respect to the Rule. Notwithstanding the foregoing, failure of the Board to comply with the Certificate shall not be considered a default on the Bonds; however, any Bondholder may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance to cause the Board to comply with its obligations hereunder.

SECTION 14. The Board President and the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary are each hereby authorized and directed to determine all matters in connection with the issuance of the Bonds by the Board not determined by this or a subsequent resolution, all in consultation with Bond Counsel and the manual or facsimile signature of the Board President or the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary upon any documents shall be conclusive as to all such determinations. The Board President and the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary and any other Board representative, including but not limited to, Bond Counsel and the Board Attorney, are each hereby authorized and directed to take such actions or refrain from such actions as are necessary to consummate the transaction contemplated by the issuance of the Bonds by the Board and any and all such actions or inactions heretofore taken by the Board President and the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary and any other Board representative, including, but not limited to Bond Counsel and the Board Attorney, are hereby ratified and confirmed. Wherever herein the Board President is authorized and directed to act or execute and deliver documents, including the Bonds, the Board Vice President is hereby authorized and directed to do same in the Board President's place.

SECTION 15. After a process seeking proposals, the Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with the Financial Advisor is hereby authorized to appoint an investment agent to invest the proceeds of the Bonds and provide arbitrage/rebate services.

SECTION 16. The Bonds will not be designated as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” for purposes of section 265(b)(3)(B)(ii) of the Code.

SECTION 17. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote on December 13, 2017.
Exhibits shown in Tab IX.4

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

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Seesselberg said that if you look on the breakdown, the first three years of payments is less than the remaining years and that’s to help the taxpayers since those are the three years that we will be paying off some of the existing bonds that were from 2003. Mr. Seesselberg thanked Mr. Damato for working with our Bond Counsel and anybody else involved to keep the taxpayer in mind as you are structuring these bonds going forward and with the sale of these bonds. With the excellent audit report, we should get a good rate on that. He said that the bid notice for the HVAC was posted last week and there has already been some preliminary meetings.

Mrs. Boyle said, through this entire referendum, this was always discussed as being able to save the taxpayers money because of the funds that are due, the bonds that are due from years past from Roosevelt School so thank you.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mrs. Glover

VOTE: 9-0

X BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Buildings & Grounds Update – Administration

Mr. Damato said that we are in frantic preparation for all of the bond projects that are going to be done this summer. We had a pre-bid meeting today for the HVAC and the electrical upgrades at the Middle School. That job has a lot of interest among bidders and we were very encouraged by the number of people that turned out for the pre-bid meeting so he thinks that means we are going to get some good numbers. Mr. Damato said that in talking to the people that were there, they are very encouraged and anxious to bid so this is a job that is coming out at a great time of the year and it guarantees the successful

winner work for the summer and the timing of it couldn't be better so he thinks that we are going to do really well there. The rest of the projects will be coming out to bid in very short order so I think by March we will have all of the numbers on all of the projects that are being done this summer so we are in really good shape there.

DISCUSSION

XI. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Giannakis said that it was deemed not necessary to have a meeting this month so we are going to hold off on a meeting until January. He said that he needs to take a step back for a second and just add something. We talk about how great this business office is and the stability that this district is gaining is fantastic but he said that he was remiss in talking about the business office because as we all know and behind every good man is a woman and he never said thank you to Amy Cicenian and to Debbie Schroeder. He said that he is sure you guys do so much of the work and he really wanted to say thank you to you guys as well. Mr. Seesselberg said he seconds that.

Curriculum

Mrs. Glover said that Ms. Malyska gave the curriculum report this evening and pretty much recapped what we talked about at the last meeting.

Finance

Mr. Chapman said, just to dovetail a little bit on what Mr. Damato was saying about how it is a great time right now for the projects that are getting bid, January is typically a great time to bring Muni Bonds out to the market place. It's usually a light period of time for them to come to market which means that we generally get a much more favorable interest rate. He said that he is going to take an educated guess that the taxpayers are going to be rewarded in January and that he wanted to bring that to everyone's attention.

Policy

Mrs. Miller said that there was a policy meeting and she will briefly go over all of the policies.

1240 – Evaluation of the Superintendent – We removed the word, 'written', from the Annual Written Performance Report to adhere to administrative code and how they describe it.

1511 – Board of Education Website Accessibility – Several districts in New Jersey have been cited by the US Department of Education Office of Civil Rights for its website

content and functionality not being accessible to people with disabilities. The resolution agreement requires the school district to adopt a policy that addresses this. This policy that we are approving in the next two months was accepted by the OCR. There are requirements in this policy are acceptable for public school district websites.

2700 – Services to Non-public School Students – Extensive revisions based on administrative code which requires replacement of the existing policy.

Policy and Regulation 3126 – District Mentoring Programming – We changed the Core Curriculum Content Standards to NJ Student Learning Standards. The regulation clarifies the length of time new non-tenured teachers shall be employed in their first year of employment to receive support.

Policy and Regulations 3221, 3222, 3223 and 3224, which all address the evaluation of staff members. In the regulations, there was some clarification on training that requires annual updates and refresher training for the supervisors, complete evaluations, there was information on co-observation, DIAC committee, SGOs, Corrective Action Plans and Principal Practice and Administrative Goals.

Policy and Regulations 3240 - Professional Development for Teachers and School Leaders – Professional Development Plans have to be developed by October 31st. If hired after October 1st they must be developed in 25 working days of hire.

Policy and Regulations 5610 – Suspension – There is a new statute that says that no out-of-school suspension for Kindergarten through Grade 2 except for violent behavior or sexual behavior that endangers others. There is no out-of-school for preschoolers except as pursuant to zero tolerance for gun act. Establishment and improvement, early detection and prevention program to identify students in preschool through grade 2 who are experiencing disciplinary problems and provide behavioral support.

Policy 5620 – Expulsion - The same exact thing that was just described applies to this policy.

Policy and Regulation 7100 – Long Range Facilities Planning – The verbiage of the policy was removed and added to regulation. The policy refers to administrative code. The regulation has been completely rewritten and replaced with a new regulation.

Policy and Regulation 7101 – Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects - This has been revised again to adhere to administrative code. The regulation is a replacement of the old regulation. Almost a complete revision based on the revisions of the administrative code, comprehensive guidance is provided on the process for a school district to receive, approval for capital projects. There was a section added for capital projects not subject to educational adequacy and review.

Policy and regulation 7102 - Site Selection and Acquisition - The policy was a complete

replacement of the old and the regulation is brand new.

Policy 7130 – School Closing – Updated to provide more detailed information on the assurances that the school district must provide the NJ Department of Education and the Executive County Superintendent to receive approval to close a school permanently.

Policy 7300 – Disposition of Property – There were minor revisions to the procedure to dispose of scrap or waste of school district personal property after there are no bids for the property after a public or private sale.

7300.1 – Disposition of Instructional Property – This was abolished and it was added to 7300.3 – Disposal of personal property.

7300.2 – Disposition of Land – Additional details of procedures to be used to dispose of real estate has been added.

7300.3 – Disposition of Personal Property – We added a procedure for disposing of textbooks. Procedure to dispose of scrap or waste school district personal property and the board approval needed for the sale of any personal property at private sale after a public sale.

7300.1 – Disposition of Federal Property – Added revisions and the federal requirements to dispose of property purchased with federal funds and used in federal programs. Uniform Grant guidance is the current source of the federal requirements for disposition of federal property in schools.

Policy 8505 – Local Wellness Policy – Nutrient Standards for Meals and other Foods – NJ Department of Agriculture has not published a model NJ Wellness Policy yet. This policy has been revised based on the US Department of Agriculture documents and model policies. The policy has been accepted by the NJ Department of Agriculture, the Superintendent will designate a District Wellness Policy Coordinator and this coordinator and building principal will designate a School Wellness Policy Coordinator, there will be a District Wellness Committee instead of one in each school. The Annual School Progress Report for each school will be given to the Superintendent before May 1st instead of June 30th. The District Coordinator, instead of the Superintendent, will compile the Annual Summary Progress Report to be presented to the Board of Education before May 30th instead of the beginning of the school year.

Policy 8550 – Unpaid Meal Charges – Outstanding Food Services – If students breakfast or lunch bill is in arrears but the student has the money to purchase lunch or breakfast, the student will be given the lunch or breakfast and the money will not be used to repay unpaid charges. Food Service program will prevent the identification of the children through the method of payment whose bill is in arrears. In the event of a student's school lunch or breakfast bill is in arrears in excess of \$25.00, the student will continue to receive lunch or breakfast and their account will be charged accordingly. If a bill is in arrears in

excess of \$50.00 a phone call will be made to the parents in addition to the notification letters and if in excess of \$100.00 a certified letter will be sent from the Business Administrator. This Board does have to decide what to do. According to the law, this alternate meal will be provided until the bill in arrears in excess of a certain dollar amount at which time the student will not be served school lunch or breakfast. We do have to make a decision on that because the law does say that in event that a school district determines that a student's school breakfast or lunch bill is in arrears the district shall contact the student's parent or guardian to provide notice of the arrearage and shall provide the parent or guardian with a period of ten school days to pay the amount due. If the student's parent or guardian has not made full payment by the end of ten school days, then the district shall, again, contact the students parent or guardian to provide notice that school breakfast or lunch, as applicable, shall not be served to the student beginning one week from the date of the second notice unless payment is made in full.

Bylaw 0169 – Board Member Use of Electronic Mail – When board members communicate via e-mail regarding board business, the Board of Education e-mail address will be used.

Policy 3216 – Dress and Grooming – We added in some information about reflective vests to be worn by transportation employees as directed by the district business administrator.

7510 – Use of School Facility - Allows for service charges and rental fees to be charged. These charges can be found on the district website. It will allow for commercial or profit-making organizations to use our facilities. We also made a change that allows alcoholic beverages only with the approval of the Superintendent.

9120 – Public Information Program – The release of student names, photographs or other information is defined as directory information as it relates to the law which may be released regarding to a student's participation in extracurricular activities, awards, the yearbook, and other public relation purposes. The district may release this information unless an opt-out form is returned by a parent or the adult student. Failure to return the opt-out form will be considered as giving permission for the release of the information.

9150 – School Visitors – Visitors must be accompanied by a staff member in the building.

Policy 9120 – School and Student Support Organizations – There was a title change and a definition expansion.

Bylaw 0155 – Board Committees – The committee decided not to put this into place but instead do a six-month trial as we did with the e-mails. The committee chairperson would be responsible for providing an agenda, creating a detailed accounting of the meeting in the form of minutes, provide a review of minutes at the COW meeting. All board members are entitled to receive a copy of the agenda, minutes and all committee

handouts within 30 days of the meeting. We will do a six month trial period and after the six month trial period or possibly before that, if it is found that the above is not being adhered to, it will be added in under bylaw 0155.

Mrs. Boyle said you missed the support organization. Mrs. Miller said that she did that. She said that we had a title change in definition. She asked Mrs. Boyle if she wanted her to go into more detail. Mrs. Boyle said yes and that she has other questions as well.

Mrs. Miller said that what we have changed is, instead of being titled, Parent Organizations, it is now called School and Student Support Organizations and the definition is, "In South Plainfield, any organization whose activities compliment and support or raise funds for school and student academic, athletic, music or other extracurricular activities must be a board approved voluntary organization." Then, throughout the document, we also changed the title anywhere it was relevant.

Mrs. Boyle said that she has a question on that. There is also a part in there where the Board can meet with the presidents of these organizations and discuss communication. She said, don't you think that that is interfering with the operations of these volunteer groups who do fundraising? I mean you have the golf association who fundraises, does a trip for students that want to go and also adults. They buy uniforms. That's not interfering with those kinds of groups. When will there be a list of what groups fall under that category?

Mr. Seesselberg said that it is not interfering, it is coordination. For instance, if the Golf Association wants to order uniforms or buy clubs, they need to make sure they get the proper ones for the students. They need to coordinate with the school to ensure they use their funds in a responsible manner to get what they need rather than buy the wrong sizes or something that is not regulation for that sport. It is no interference, it is cooperation and coordination.

Mrs. Boyle said that if it is uniforms you are buying, it is the Athletic Director that you would need to coordinate with so she doesn't understand why the board would have any say in any type of thing like that when they could go to the Athletic Director

Mrs. Boyle said if you are saying that the school being, if it was golf uniforms, the athletic director, but that says the board but I don't understand why the board would have any say in any type of thing like that when that could go to the Athletic Director or the music director. Also, at the end, it has, 'no board member can be a member of the executive board committee'. Could you please list the committees that will be involved in that policy?

Mr. Seesselberg said that we are going back to the board vs. the athletic director. He said that Mr. Zitomer can correct him if he's wrong, but any donation by any group has to be accepted by the Board. The board can designate a representative, either the principal or athletic director, an advisor, a stipend position to work with this group to coordinate to

get the proper things. Any donation from any group has to go through the Board for acceptance so that's why the board is stated in that policy.

Mr. Zitomer said that we can always add language to the policy that says, 'the board or designee' if or 'the administration or designee'.

Mrs. Boyle said that she would like to see it say 'a designee from the administration'. In the past, the Superintendent has always met with some of these groups just to pass along information that they can bring back to their groups but they didn't interfere or give directives. She believes that's what this policy is, giving directive by the Board.

Mr. Giannakis said that he wanted to touch on that charged meal policy. He said that this is becoming an epidemic in a lot of school districts. Especially in districts similar to ours where we don't have a ton of free and reduced kids but we have quite a few. It is becoming where we are put in a really bad position here because if a child comes to the line, a little first grader or second grader, even a kindergartner comes to the line and they don't have any money in their account but they want lunch, the way that the USDA sets the guidelines has it set up after x amount of letters being send home, you can literally take that food away from that child and that's horrible, how do you do that? He said this is something that the policy committee spent a lot of time talking about but how do we fix this? Do you give this child a cheese sandwich or a tuna sandwich instead? He said he doesn't have an answer because who wants to see a little child not eat? The parents are really putting us in precarious position with this because the longer they don't pay the bill the harder it becomes and our debt is starting to rack up a little bit as far as negative balances and that's a genuine issue and we're not alone in this. Mr. Giannakis said that a lot of school districts surrounding us have similar problems with this but there really is no good answer and we really don't want to not feed our students. He said that he is not sure where we ended this and this really still requires further discussion.

Do we give them an alternate sandwich and for how long do we give them an alternate sandwich. Do we stop them from eating? Mr. Giannakis said that in another district, at one point, the balance was so high they actually implemented USDA regulations, stopped them from eating, and suddenly those parents were paying that bill. That Board, just like us, said that taking food out of the child's hand is a really, really tough thing. Mr. Giannakis said that this is probably one of the hardest things he's had to deal with since being on this Board but we do have to deal with this and he believes in his heart that we need to figure out a way to feed these kids.

Mr. Zitomer said, maybe one of the things the Board may want to consider is adding some language to the policy that says, in consistent refusal of the parent to make their balance in the black or respond to our letters would be reported to DCCP because to him, that is child neglect. Mrs. Miller told Mr. Zitomer that we do have that.

Mrs. Boyle said that she has a question on the committees. That is going to be a six month trial but in that policy it says that there are chairs of the committees but if a

majority of the member want to call a meeting, which has been done in the past , does that mean that we supersede the chair and you just call a meeting or do you reach out and advise the chair that you would like to set up a meeting.

Mrs. Miller said that the way the policy is written right now, yes, that can happen. A majority of the committee members can overstep the chair and call their own meeting so if that is something we want to look at getting rid of we can look at getting rid of that. We can make the change, there is no statute that says one or the other has the authority, it's just whatever we decide. Normally it has been the chair is the one who calls the meeting. Mrs. Boyle said that she would like to see it added that if the majority of the committee would like to have the meeting that they reach out to the chair. Why bother to have a chair if you are going to step over the chair and just call the meeting. Again, everybody has to work together and by doing this type of activity where you just call a meeting and you overstep the chair, she doesn't think it is right and she doesn't think it's fair. Mr. Chapman asked if that happened. He was told that it has.

Mr. Seesselberg said that he would think that in a committee, the committee chair shouldn't, for no good reason, just say you can't have a meeting. If it's something valid that the committee should discuss, the chair, as a good leader, should just say let's get together and discuss it.

Mr. Giannakis said that at the same time, he thinks the chair has a responsibility to make sure that they have meetings and respond to the people that are on their committee as well. When that doesn't happen then, sadly, other things have to happen.

Mrs. Boyle said she's not done. She said that under the student information with pictures, there has always been, since her kids were in the district, a form that is given out and sent home to the parents during the first week of school. The form asks if you want to opt out of your child having their picture taken. Mrs. Boyle asked if we are going back to that again or have we always done that.

Dr. Lishak said that we have a form that went out at the beginning of the school year. The students have it but it was a little bit too narrow. This makes it broader because now that form that you are talking about that you signed for your kids is probably worded the same way as the kids today so now it addresses media, website, Facebook, etc. Mrs. Boyle said that's a good thing.

Mr. Giannakis asked if it is possible to have the parents, and he doesn't know if we do this now, but have the parents fill out all these forms before they get their child's schedule. Dr. Lishak said that they do. This year, in order to move forward in Genesis, you had to fill out the forms first.

Mr. Seesselberg asked if there were any other questions on the policy committee report. Mrs. Anesh said that she is a little lost on the one about the committees. Mrs. Miller said that it shouldn't have been included in there because we weren't making the adjustment,

we were going to put the procedure into place first but now it will be added. She said that Mrs. Boyle had asked for that change to be made so now we'll make that change and it will be on for next week.

Mr. Giannakis said that he doesn't think that we can just make a change because one board member says to. He said that we need to discuss it.

Mrs. Boyle said that is correct. She asked if she can make the change and is not taking the power to say that she wants it. She said that we are not voting on this tonight. It will be on for first reading next week.

Mrs. Anesh said that she didn't realize that it would possibly be added back. She said that if we are going to revise that particular policy, we should add something similar to what the Borough has in their bylaws. It says that each councilperson shall be chairperson to one of their committees and each councilperson shall be members of two additional standing committees. She that makes sure that everybody has a significant role in the council and she thinks that the Board of Education should also try and make something like that where every board member has the opportunity to be chairperson of at least one committee and the rest of the committees are distributed evenly and everybody has the same information and the same opportunity as everyone else to participate in the Board.

Mrs. Miller asked for Mrs. Anesh to provide her with a copy of the bylaw and she will have it added to 0155 so that it can be voted on by the entire board next week.

Public Relations

Mr. Seesselberg said that signs have been ordered and will be placed in front of all the buildings that are having work done under the referendum.

The referendum review committee has scheduled a meeting for January 16th which is a week before the bond sale. We will be able to discuss some more of the bids and where we stand on the projects. At that time there should be more of a timetable of when things will be happening.

Shared Services

Mrs. Boyle mentioned that residency is not on here. There was a residency meeting held with Dr. Lishak regarding the fourth grade enrollment. There were approximately 15 families who did not enroll at that time. Eighth grade will be re-enrolling next.

A Shared Services meeting was held on November 28th with regards to NJ School Sustainability. In attendance was herself; Mr. Damato, Business Administrator; Sharon Miller; Robert Bengivenga, Council Liaison for Shared Services; Dr. Alice Temple, South Plainfield Environmental and Green Team Commission; Robert Longo, Chair of

the Green Team; and Tommy Walsh, Vice Chair of the Green Team. The guest speaker was Mr. John Henry whose expertise is in STEM, STEAM and Sustainability. He gave a PowerPoint presentation on ways for a school district and borough department work together with cost saving programs. Mrs. Boyle said that we already do some of them, including the automatic lights. She said they talked about solar energy and the cost savings with the referendum. That will entail HVAC at the Middle School and the brand new windows which will save a big cost in energy.

Mr. Giannakis said that you had somebody there from the Green Team so that's about saving the environment and such? Mrs. Boyle said yes. Mr. Giannakis said that this is an ideal opportunity to suggest that we go paperless as a Board and get some laptops and tablets because look at all of this paper. All of the paper that some of us get in our Friday packets are a waste of money and a waste of energy. Mr. Giannakis said that we get some chrome books or tablets for those that need it and move from there. Mrs. Boyle said that there was only one board member who took advantage of that. It was offered hesitantly. Mrs. Boyle said that it was also discussed that you have at least 20 agendas sitting out for the public when the public can go onto the website and view the agenda with all of the attachments or you can post one here for the public to look at.

Mr. Giannakis suggested that we all go green right after the January reorganization meeting. Mrs. Boyle said as long as we can get chrome books. Mr. Giannakis said that he would like to make a motion to go green for the first meeting after reorganization. That means no more printed Friday packets and no more paper. Mr. Chapman said that he will second that. He said that if we are going to expect the public to go onto our website and look at the agenda, he thinks that we can follow the same thing that we expect of them. He said he thinks it is a fantastic idea.

Mr. Seesselberg said that he agrees on this, too. We have a Motion and a Second. He said that we need to structure it, beginning January 2018, the sole delivery of Board Information Packets will be electronic. The Board will provide devices for those that need them. Mr. Seesselberg asked if there is any discussion.

Mrs. Anesh said that while she is all for no more paper and going green, she said that she cannot go through these agendas on-line. She said that she doesn't have the time to sit in front of the computer. She said that half of the time she has the packet opened on her kitchen table and she goes back to look and make notes on the paper. She said that for her, personally, she doesn't understand why it can't be a personal board member decision. She asked why it has to be all or none. She said that she would never get the chance to see half of information that is provided because she doesn't have time throughout the day to sit in front of her computer.

Mr. Seesselberg said that one of the goals for the State Board of Education is that all the districts should start to be future ready and he thinks one of the things to be future ready is to use electronic technology as much as possible. Even though the Board packet is delivered electronically, you always have the option to print it at home but you don't have

to print everything. You can just print what you want. Mr. Seesselberg said that he looks at most things electronically but he prints a few things out because it is easier to read while at work or things like that. Mr. Seesselberg said that this is about three reams of paper tonight and we are going to get the same thing next week. He said that there is also a program that School Boards talks about called Board Docs where the Board can see things, annotate comments and questions and everything is done electronically. Mr. Seesselberg said that we are expecting our students to do their assignments on-line. We are teaching all this stuff and here we are still printing this on paper. He said that the schools are going to come back to us in late May to say that we are out of paper. Mr. Seesselberg said that he would like to see this go forward. He said it will be a change of approach to some current and possibly incoming board members but we are leaders in the educational system in town and he believes that we should set an example and use as much electronic technology as we can. He said it would be great if we could eliminate paper entirely.

Mrs. Boyle said that we have to get the chrome books and they have to be set up. She said that she would like to see this take place the first meeting in February so that when everyone gets their chrome books they have the chance to go through it and see if this works. It should be a trial for January and then actually go into it in February.

Mr. Seesselberg said that January may be too short of a time frame. We have a couple of policies that are going on a six month trial period so why don't we approach it that way and if we start in January we'll go to the July meeting and we'll get the chrome books set up and if people have issues I'm sure Mr. Estrada can help with that. We may even be able to pare down what we need to send out on paper and electronic. Rather than sending everybody everything that is needed they can go to a separate link on our website and download as needed. Is everybody okay with amending that to a July 2018 timeframe to set it up? Mr. Giannakis said July is a very long time. He suggested that they say as soon as practicable.

Mrs. Boyle said that March is the budget so we are going to be able to go through all of those pages and pages on a chrome book. Mrs. Boyle said that when every board member is entitled to every piece of paper and handout that every other board member gets, she asked Mr. Zitomer if there is personnel or documents that are not public will they be able to go on the chrome book.

Mr. Zitomer said that it is password protected. Mr. Damato said that the way this works in his previous experience has been that we actually use a software product. School Boards has one and there are various other ones out there that we can look at. It will take a little bit of time to get that in place but once that's in place, there will be some tutorials. We're not going to go live probably for two or three months, just so that everybody is comfortable using it. We won't have all of this paper in front of you up here. You'll have a laptop and it works great. He said that the tabs that you get now will have a link in each resolution. You will be able to immediately flip to the resolution backup which will provide you with the information you have right now. Mr. Damato said that it is a

valuable tool and said that once you start using it, you will love it and it will save you time.

Mrs. Boyle said ok, she just wanted to confirm with the attorney that these documents that are personal or personnel can go on this chrome book.

Mr. Seesselberg said that everything you are currently receiving goes onto the secure website that you log into.

Mr. Zitomer said that the key is that it has to be confidential and password protected so people can't hack into the information.

Mrs. Boyle said she is asking that publically, thank you.

Mr. Giannakis said that we get them on the website now so how will it be any different?

Mrs. Boyle said she doesn't know and that is why she is asking the attorney.

Mrs. Miller asked if you would be able to make notes on a document on the chrome book so that you don't have to print it up.

Mr. Damato said that there are a variety of different software products available. He said that if that is what the Board wants, then they can probably find a product that will give you that. He said that once you get used to using this, you will find that it is very user friendly. If, during the course of the meeting, if you needed to refer to something, it will be right there in a link. Mr. Damato said that, as afar as making notes, if that is really important to the full board then we can figure out a way to do that.

Mr. Seesselberg said that if they are delivered as Word Documents you will be able to annotate them.

Mrs. Anesh said that she is all for having the chrome books at the meetings but asked if it is possible to choose to at least get their Friday packets printed. Mr. Seesselberg said that would defeat the purpose. As an example to the rest of the community, we should do it all as a unit.

Mrs. Miller said maybe it could be half and half. Maybe there are some things, for example, like our incident reports that we don't necessarily have to have printed out. If they are on a computer and you want to look at them, that's fine. So we may be able to cut down by more than half of what we get in our Friday Packet. Which isn't all that much anyway but maybe it could be a combination of maybe somebody needs to see a certain document and would like to have it printed out, we can get it as a print out.

Mr. Giannakis asked if you can just print out the pertinent pages yourself.

Mrs. Miller said that she's not going to be here but in regards to that, not everybody has sophisticated printers that will enable the printing of these documents. Some people do and some people don't so it might be fair, just to say for the couple of documents that Mrs. Anesh needs printed that the district print them. She said that with another board member, the district provided her with paper and ink to be able to print at home so she didn't need to spend her own money. Mrs. Miller said it is all about working together as a unit.

Mr. Seesselberg said that the goal is to get totally paperless. The procedure to get there may be a little rough but right now there is a motion and a second.

Effective, at the Committee of the Whole meeting in January and as soon as practicable, all board documents will be delivered electronically to all board members and administrators and attorneys in a paperless form. Any member who needs a device will be supplied one from the Administration as soon as practicable.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Chapman VOTE: 8-0-1
Mrs. Anesh abstained

Mrs. Boyle said yes, but given time to be able to acclimate to the device.

Mrs. Miller said yes, as long as board members are given time, as Mrs. Boyle said, to acclimate themselves with it and she said that she feels if Mrs. Anesh needs a couple of things printed out, it's not going to harm the district to do that for her.

Mrs. Miller said that one of the things that there was a lot of discussion on was the purchase of equipment for the referendum. We talked about choosing an environmentally friendly HVAC system and not something that is going to cost the district a lot of money. They also talked about using environmentally friendly cleaning supplies. There was a lot more that was discussed in this shared service meeting and it was a lot of that kind of thing and what else can the district do to become future ready and also become more environmentally friendly as a district, especially since we are going to be making some of these large purchases going forward we need to be aware of what we are purchasing and try to do it as environmentally friendly as we possible can.

Special Education

Mrs. Glover said that they had a committee meeting and they talked with Mrs. Castronovo regarding the Special Services Action Committee that Dr. Lishak had begun. Part II of that committee is still meeting and they are tackling some new issues that they brought to her attention in regards to resolving some concerns in the department.

Mrs. Miller said that we also talked about the need for an 18-21-year-old program which this district currently doesn't have. Although there isn't a need for it next year, there will be the following year. It would be for things like how to use medication, what services or agencies are available to the individual as an adult. There are also about six colleges that she said she had named that also have additional programs for special needs students. If

the parents want to, they can take advantage of these programs. Mrs. Miller said that Jackie Castronovo said that a couple of members from the district has already gone down to her old district to look at their 18-21-year-old program and over the course of the next year, this district will be developing a program for them.

Transportation

Mrs. Boyle said that we met two months ago. There was no need for another meeting at this time.

Traffic Liaison

Mr. Cassio said that there was concern with Grant School with cars speeding at the Wickford Road. He said that it was also brought to his attention that the parents are pulling out of the employee parking lot in their loop. Lieutenant DeLair agreed to put the electronic speed detectors there to do a study to see if there is a need to put in a speed hump prior to the turns to slow the cars down. Mr. Cassio said that they next thing we spoke about last meeting was with regards to the crosswalk by the park crossing to the PAL. He said that he was informed last week that it was approved to do some sort of electronic signage by the county. Mr. Cassio said that it was a group effort and partly done by Mike English, John Pulomina, Senator Diegnan, the Mayor and Council are on board with it and Glenn Cullen and Lieutenant DeLair. This is a collaborative effort, it will take a little bit of time but something will be done. They don't want to do a crosswalk because they have issues with snow plows damaging them but something with regards to a sensor that will light up to cross or a button to push, but something will be done.

SEPAC Liaison

Mr. Seesselberg said that he and Mr. Cassio attended the SEPAC meeting last week and Lori Gaines from Barger and Gaines spoke to the group regarding, What Does the School District owe my Child. It was a very good presentation on what classified students have a right to and what the responsibility of the school districts are to meet their needs. She talked for about an hour and a half. Mr. Seesselberg said that there were a lot of good questions and we both walked away with more information. He said that the parents learned some new information that he believes will help with some of the issues going forward in the district.

Mrs. Boyle said that at the same time as SEPAC there was a STEAM and STEM Lead the Way and Robotics Program at the High School that she and Mrs. Miller attended. When it was finished we went down to go to the SEPAC meeting but by the time we got there, there were three cars left in the parking lot so we weren't able to attend. We have always attended that in the past unless there was a conflict of another program.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Boyle said that there is a lot going on in Trenton right now and she will try to condense. As part of the legislation and a member of the State School Boards Finance Committee, there are multiple discussions going on. Dr. Larry Feinsod, Executive Director for the State School Board and Mike Barnick were both chosen to sit on the special task force committee for the newly elected Governor. They had to sign papers stating that they would not discuss details of what goes on in those meetings. Dr. Feinsod is extremely knowledgeable, a leader and Mrs. Boyle said she commends him for his constant involvement in all of the aspects of School Boards. She also commends the attorneys, Frank Belushi, John Burn and Cindy Yon. Instead of giving the governor an 18-page document on priorities of the State School Boards to represent every district in the State of NJ, they did a one page, double sided document which they are going to present to the Governor and, as a member of the Strategic Planning Committee, we have tried to touch on all areas in a condensed form.

The Governor is going to take a hard look at school funding. He is making it a priority without damaging any of the school districts. He is looking at special needs student funding. We'll review the local property taxes that will be affected by the new tax law that was sent out. There is a limited amount of property tax now that you can take off of your federal income tax. They talked about consolidation of sports teams when there is more than one high school in the same area to save money. There's a task force with the Governor and with Dr. Feinsod for the non-college bound students. They are going to be working on that, having programs available to the students that are not going to college. They are in review of classification of special needs students but that's being put on hold right now. The way that the food service operates with the Department of Agriculture, local boards are now going to be responsible for private schools when students from school district with disabilities are sent out of district and there is a HIB the parents will have to go to the student's home district to make the appeals and the local Board of Education is going to have to hear those appeals and the local Board of Education will be responsible for their attorney fees. We talked about the School Employee's Health Benefit program. They are looking at the State Health Benefits Plan. This is a bill that is put out by Senator Gordon. Not that they agree with this, they also stress the fact that they have a great repertoire with NJEA and the police and fire. We had a guest speaker, Tom Burns, who is the chair to the underfunded NJ State Investment Council. That pension fund needs 50 Billion to 150 billion in order to make it whole. In 2029, the teachers' pension will run out. The Police and Fire are the best funded because the Mayor's did their job in every town in the State of New Jersey. The judges will run out in 2023. The State did not do their job with the teacher pensions.

The governor is looking at a lottery as an asset into the pension system which would bring 13.4 Billion dollars. They talked about the Cadillac tax which is pushed back to 2020. Mrs. Boyle said she thinks that the Governor is going to look in depth at that. She knows that the governor has issues with the way that PARCC testing is being done. The effect on the teachers with their evaluations that the teachers should not be evaluated on any part of the PARCC. The new Governor will make his address in March. A copy of the

document that is going to be given to the Governor. Mrs. Boyle said she is going to read some of them:

Advocate for Amendments to School Funding Formula that advances New Jersey School Board policy on finance.

Advocate for full funding of the state school finance formula to meet the needs of all the students in a matter that is consistent, equitable, reliable and sustainable.

Educate the state and federal legislatures and the public on the need for full funding of all state and federally mandated programs.

Funding for mandated programs that are underfunded. Actively seek funding for charter school operations as to not to diminish the resources available to the regular public schools in that same district.

Oppose any reduction of school aid figures after the Commissioner of Education notifies school districts and their state of their state aids entitlements immediately following the governor's budget address

Eliminate statutory protection of absolute seniority, advocate for change in the last in-first out practice when districts face staff reductions.

Increase awareness of the district's responsibility of students with special needs under state and federal law

Advocate for direct state funding cost related to extraordinary special education transportation which weighs heavy on a lot of district budgets.

Advocate for full federal funding of IDEA

Advocate for reasonable limits on cost associated with placements of private school for the handicapped.

Advocate to enhance the opportunities to joint district vocational school community and college collaboration programs.

Mrs. Boyle said that these meetings are very informative, they are very lengthy and just as tonight's meeting is our Committee of the Whole, this was our work meeting. This is when the Board discusses all of the issues that come before it including things that the board wants to do to better the district and better the education for the students as well as work with the teachers and staff. Thank you.

Mr. Giannakis said that he has a couple of questions. He asked what kind of lottery will help fund the pension. He asked if she meant a State Lottery. Mrs. Boyle said yes.

Mr. Giannakis asked Mrs. Boyle that when she said to combine sports, did she mean combining a district that has two high schools. Mrs. Boyle said a district that has two high schools or a high school that has only a small amount of students that are attending so they can combine with another high school. Some of the high schools only have a couple hundred students.

Mr. Seesselberg said that he understands that the Governor elect has two members representing School Boards interest on this initiative. That's a good sign.

Mrs. Boyle said that she said that in the very beginning of her report.

Mrs. Miller said that she attended the Delegate Assembly along with Mrs. Boyle and Mr. Seesselberg was there as well. She said that Dr. Larry Feinsod, Executive Director of NJSBA reported on the strategic plan for 2015-2017. Their goals were student achievement, they collaborated with all entities involved in the advancement of public education, leadership and advocacy. They became the statewide voice for committed community leaders, effective governance through training and direct services. They provide training to school board members and all areas of board governance, not just mandatory training. They strongly urge board members to continue with ongoing training and they stressed the importance of this. Finance increased the awareness of the value of dues based and fee based services. They also went on to say that the workshop had 8000 participants for the eighth year in a row. There will be no increase in NJSBA dues. They have increased their non-dues revenue. Training is focused on student achievement. They urge more private and public partnerships to help the school boards, the local school boards and collaborative efforts outreach to advance public education. Their vision for 2018-20, their new strategic plan, the goals are wrapped around student growth, learning, well-being and success, direct and support services, advocating for public education, developing NJ School Board Members through training. They stress that is the heart of what NJSBA is to make sure that we are well-trained in all areas of governance and that we know what we are talking about when we are up here. Building future-ready schools is going to be another one of their goals.

Mrs. Miller said that there are two resolutions. The first one came from Middletown Board of Education. They believe that it was detrimental to student programs and local taxpayers to have the state reduced projected aid to school districts after school budgets have been adopted. What was adopted was that NJSBA believes that it is detrimental to students, school programs and taxpayers to have the state reduced projected school aid figures to school districts after the Commissioner of Education notified school districts of their state aid and entitlements by the statutory date of notification. This passed the delegate assembly 95% to 5%.

The second resolution that was brought before us was from the Bloomfield Board of Education. They want the State to fully fund all special education costs on a current year basis and limit the increases of out-of-district providers to the 2% levy cap that we are all

held to. This was revised. NJSBA believes Special Education providers should have a similar cap on their ability to charge local school districts for services local districts have on their ability to raise revenue. This also passed the assembly 81% to 19%.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diana Joffe, SPEA, said that she was really proud to see Mr. Spring give the presentation about Tiger TV. She said that she is glad that she gets to see it every day. We look forward to it. She said the only thing is that the Pledge should be done before and that's a little glitch. She said that the kids are amazing and behind those kids is a teacher. Mr. Chris Cassio is a brand new teacher to the district and he's done a fantastic job. Today, during our faculty meeting, Ronnie Spring held a short meeting and in it he read a letter from a student, paying this incredible tribute to one of our math teachers, Taryn Prybella. A student who doesn't have her as a teacher but comes to her every day for math help. She doesn't know him, she helps him anyway. She's a model teacher. Mrs. Joffe said that there are so many of us and what Ronnie Spring said was, she's just an example of how many great teachers are at the high school and the rest of the district. He really paid great tribute to us and what she said what she wants to talk about tonight is, and this cuts directly into the essence of what it means to be a teacher in South Plainfield.

Social Media can serve many positive purposes but it can also be used as a weapon to spear and slander our staff. This week, a parent used social media to do exactly that to one of our teachers. One of our STEAM teachers. This parent, on Facebook, ridiculed a teacher without using her name because the teacher gave her students a math problem for homework that she didn't approve of. By the way, this math problem came from Board approved curriculum and a Board approved text book. It was clear to whom she was speaking about and the parent could have, should have, expressed this directly to the teacher. There was no reason to do what she did. She chose to take a malicious, mean girl approach, she tried to humiliate the teacher, but let me assure you, she did not. She failed in her attempt. This is not the only example of what's going on in this district and not just this district. Mrs. Joffe said that she spoke with Dr. Lishak about it. It's all over. It's not an isolated incident of baseless attacks on our teachers. There seems to be a persistent attack by a few within our community. Last week a teacher was sent a threatening e-mail by a parent with baseless accusations. Another teacher was surprised with a swastika with her name on it in a text book in her classroom. A high school student, not a parent. Another teacher has been continually slandered by a parent at public meetings with accusations that are baseless. That teacher happens to be me. There are more incidents, too many to name. Mrs. Joffe said that in all her years teaching here, she would say 99% of the parents are respectful, supportive, they look to us with high regard. Are all teachers perfect? No. But most of us work very hard for your kids and we are proud of them. So these few assaults are few and she said that the primary function of the Board of Education is to create an environment that teachers can teach in and students can learn in. That environment takes a very long time to create and it can be destroyed in a minute. Mrs. Joffe is asking that the Board stand up, support your teachers. Mrs. Joffe said that you will not be alone and assured the Board that the South

Plainfield Education Association and the New Jersey Education Association will be fully engaged in this effort. Bad behavior by teachers is always punished. Bad behavior by parents and community members will also be responded to. Mrs. Joffe said that she reminds you that we are teachers, not political footballs or doormats. She asked for support in making sure that that happens. Thank you.

Tim McConville said that he was invited to an earlier meeting and that he was sorry, he was not expecting it to be that quick. He said that he didn't get home from work until almost 7:30 and asked if it could get reassigned to either after this meeting or another time. Dr. Lishak said that we will have to reschedule him for next Wednesday so it will be in private. We will reach out to you and will work out a time. She said that it will be whatever works for him during the course of the meeting next week.

XIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Cassio commended the Mayor's Wellness Committee and Mrs. Boyle for their opioid presentation that they put on last week. He said that he brought some of the cards of the speakers to Dr. Lishak and she is going to try to coordinate an assembly in the near future. Mr. Cassio also commended Mrs. Doyan for having the courage to get up there and speak. She graciously agreed to also speak to the students in the near future. Thank you.

Mr. Cassio attended the College Preparation Assembly the other night. It was very informative and he thanked them for putting that on.

Mr. Cassio also thanked the outgoing board members. He said that he won't be here next week but thanked Mr. Farinella, Mrs. Glover and Mrs. Miller for their time. He said that he learned a lot from them and he is sorry to see them go.

Mr. Cassio thanked Dr. Lishak and Mr. Damato for postponing the home side bleacher renovation until after graduation. Senior parents and students will be very happy that those adjustments were made.

Lastly, Mr. Cassio said that he knows that we talked about adding the auditorium HVAC to next year's budget. This was not included in the referendum and he thinks that it's great that we are able to budget for an expenditure of roughly \$350,000 and get this done without putting it out for any type of referendum. Thank you for being fiscally responsible.

Mr. Chapman said that he went to the STEM Academy as well. It was the same night as SEPAC. He said that he really wanted to learn about what is going on in the district as far as STEM is concerned because he is not a very technologically advanced person. He said that he couldn't have been more impressed with this stuff that our children are doing from elementary school all the way through high school. It is fantastic. He said that he sat down for a minute with the children from the High School who created their own iPad apps. He said that he asked the children how long it took them to create and they said

about a week of classroom time. Mr. Chapman said that he was blown away. He also said that some middle school children were programming robots and it was really cool to see. There was a good turnout of people.

Mr. Chapman thanked Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Glover and Mr. Farinella for all that they have done for him over the last two years. He said that they taught him a lot and that he doesn't think that he could ever catch up to you guys in knowledge, experience and wisdom but thank you so very, very much.

Mr. Chapman said that to him, it is unfortunate that our elections take place in November because he personally thinks that it is disruptive to committees and all that stuff that we have to bring in new board members in January. He wishes we could have left the elections in April but if you do that then you have to have the budget voted on and that is a mess

Mr. Chapman said that he is not going to be here next week either. He said that during this year he has complimented the Finance Committee many times but that doesn't mean that he doesn't think that every committee on this board has been doing a fantastic job. He said that is the one that he happens to be the chair of so he comments on it. He said that the board has had an extremely productive year and he is very proud to be a part of it. He said thank you and wished everybody Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Mr. Giannakis said that he wants to wish everyone a Happy Hanukah.

Mrs. Miller said that she wanted to let everybody know that we have completed the Van Drivers negotiations, however the MOA is being typed up and hopefully will be signed by the end of the week.

Mrs. Miller said, as Mrs. Boyle indicated, that she attended the STEM Parent Academy on December 6th and she thanked Ms. Malyska, Mrs. Kantha-Murray and Mrs. Stoeckel and all the staff and students who were there. She said that she was blown away by everything that was there including the Ozobots, Bluebots and coding apps. She said that she did the whack-a-mole, played with the calculator and did the guess the numbers. Everything was hands-on, fun and informative. Mrs. Miller said that she really wants to thank the district because she has been saying that we need more STEM. She said that she is very happy that we are finally heading in that direction and getting our kids back in gear with what some of the other districts around us have. Thank you to everyone that was involved in that.

Mrs. Miller said that the presentation of TigerTV was very impressive. The students do a great job. She congratulated them all and thanked the Mayor's Wellness and Mrs. Boyle for the opioid presentation. One of the high school teachers went up to two of the gentlemen who were there who are part of Honorable Bob Jones' drug court. They had gone through there. One graduated, one didn't but is on his way. And she is planning on having them come to talk to the high school students. Mrs. Miller said that Mrs. Doyan

was brave and she spoke wonderfully. She thanked her for what she is doing for all of the kids in this town. Mrs. Miller said she understands that we will be doing this again in another six months. It is wonderful and everybody should be going to this program.

Mrs. Boyle said that every board member should receive the negotiated van drivers' information in their packet on Friday. Mrs. Miller said that we are awaiting for the MOA to be typed up and once it gets typed up we will sign it and it will come out. Mrs. Miller said that she is hoping for it to be done by Friday so that they can ratify it and we will be able to vote on it on Wednesday.

Mrs. Boyle thanked Mrs. Joffe and Sandy Doyan for getting up and saying what you said. That needed to be done. Part of our ethics as school board members, she said she believes it is number nine or ten, is to protect the teachers and the staff. She said that we value the teachers and the staff, they do a tremendous job so thank you for that.

Mrs. Boyle thanked all the people and residents who participated in the anti-drug and alcohol conference hosted by Mayor Matt Anesh and the Mayor's Wellness Committee. Many parents and residents attended to hear Superior Court Judge Jones who is the judge for the drug court and a South Plainfield High School graduate and discussed what the drug court is all about. The drug court started in 2002 but is now in Middlesex County. We had first assistant prosecutor Kristopher Kubreight; resident and teacher Sandy Doyan; Carrier Clinic JFK Center for Behavior Health; South Plainfield Police Officer and Dare Officer, Lloyd McNelly and the recent graduates from the drug court, one of which just graduated on Monday. Mrs. Boyle said that she attended that graduation in the Middlesex County Court and the other one should be graduating in May of 2018. The message from everyone is that help is right here. An extremely frank and informative presentation was given by all of our guest speakers. Coach Zurkus spoke about the drug court graduates and requested that their powerful message be given at the high school health classes. Mrs. Boyle said that she knows that we are going to do this again in six months from now. The message also says that addiction for many begins at an early age. Once young man spoke about he started drinking alcohol when he was seven. It progressed to pre-teens starting with the use of alcohol progressing to prescription drugs, marijuana and when they can't get the prescription drugs anymore they are able to get heroin and it is two dollars, three dollars a bag. You don't necessarily have to have a car and be able to drive to get it, as Mrs. Doyan spoke about, the dealers come right to your house. Mrs. Boyle said she hopes that everybody will come out when we do this again in six months. It's such a powerful message to hear everybody talk.

Mrs. Boyle commended our high school football team and the coaches. They gave 100% on the field at the Thanksgiving Day game. Each one showed sportsmanship to both teams. Mrs. Boyle thanked our retired principal, Dr. Ken May for his continued support of the students, retired Assistant Superintendent, Tony Massaro for his continued supported along with Dr. Lishak, the Athletic Director, Kevin McCann, Principal Ronnie Spring, Mayor Matt Anesh, Council President, Derryk White, Councilmen Joe Wolak and Robert Bengivenga, CFO Glen Cullen, Bill Seesselberg and Tom Cassio. We were all at

that game. Hopefully they continue to show their spirit.

The parent academy at the high school on STEAM and STEM Lead the Way and Robotics was well-received. Our teachers and students from Kindergarten through 12th grade gave such technology oriented programming presentations. It was amazing to see all of the things that the students have created in such a short period of time.

Mrs. Boyle said that she also attended the 8th Grade Algebra Requirement for Graduation from High School which had about 55 parents that attended. All parents' questions were answered. Mrs. Boyle thanked the Assistant Superintendent, Mary Malyska; Mrs. Annmarie Stoeckel and Mrs. Anu Garrison. The Grant School Student Concert was amazing and a credit to the new principal Mr. Sarullo, Vice Principal Goman who is now Dr. Goman and all the music teachers who go above and beyond. Credit to Franklin School Principal Ralph Errico, the teachers and the students at Franklin School. The concerts are amazing when you watch the talents of these young students and how they progress.

Mrs. Boyle thanked the residents and students who participated in the first annual holiday caroling event. Everyone enjoyed the event and we look forward to next year. A special thank you to Bobby Stilo for taking care of lighting tree for the past 10 years to enhance the park.

The high school musical arts students presented a concert today for the South Plainfield seniors which was beautiful along with the luncheon that was served to all the guests. This was hosted by the student council, Mr. Encinas and the students on that committee.

January 23rd of 2018 is the 4th and 5th grade spelling bee event sponsored by the South Plainfield Suburban Women's club and the South Plainfield Cultural Arts Commission. All South Plainfield students whether in private schools or home school are welcome to attend but you have to register and it's only open to the first 30 students, which is a mandate by the national Suburban Women's organization. February 6, 2018 is the 11th Annual Blood Drive hosted by the Mayor's Wellness Committee and the High School Student Council. There was a flyer in our packet about South Plainfield Senior Center volunteers needed. This program began five years ago with Marla Vandemark and the peer leaders. There is a list of students that are willing to help the seniors shovel when there is a snow storm. Mrs. Boyle said she hopes that this will continue. They just need to reach out to Tree Olano at the Senior Center. Mrs. Boyle wished a Happy healthy holidays and a new year to everyone.

XIV. 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. Glover VOTE: 9-0

Following Executive Session, Mr. Seesselberg said that the first item of business is the three resolutions that we added earlier

RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION REGARDING THE RESIDENCY HEARING OF STUDENTS A.B., B.B., E.F., E.M., F.S. and J.S.

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2017, a plenary hearing was held before the South Plainfield Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:38-1 *et seq.* and N.J.A.C. 6A:22-1.1 *et seq.*; and

WHEREAS, on that date, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the above-referenced students did not attend the hearing despite having been apprised of their right to do so, and having been further advised that the hearings would proceed in their absence; and

WHEREAS, the Board, after having heard and considered all of the proofs and testimony presented resolves to order the removal of the above-referenced students from the District because the required proof of residency in South Plainfield has not been provided in accordance with law;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board having considered all the information presented, hereby adopts the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, on this 13th day of December, 2017, that the Board finds that the above-referenced students have not provided the required proof of residency in South Plainfield and,

therefore, are currently ineligible to attend the South Plainfield Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, pursuant to statute, the Board hereby removes the pupils from the District within 21 days pursuant to law and hereby assesses tuition for each student's ineligible attendance; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that each family shall receive notification of the Board's determination and their right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education.

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Boyle said asked if they are given until the 13th. Mr. Zitomer said that from the time they get notification from us, they have 21 days to appeal to the commissioner and if they do the student stays put during the appeal process and if they don't you have the right to remove them. Mrs. Boyle asked if they can still come in during that time with the required documentation. Mr. Zitomer said, absolutely.

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

Resolved, that the Board hereby reverses the HIB determination for C.O. matter adopted by the Board at its meeting on November 15, 2017 based upon insufficient evidence.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 6-0-3
Mrs. Anesh, Mr. Giannakis and Mr. Seesselberg abstained

Resolved, that after consideration of the information presented by the parent during this evening's executive session, the Board of Education hereby affirms the administration's H.I.B. determination pursuant to Board Policy and applicable law; and

Be it further resolved, that the Superintendent is hereby directed to provide written notification to the parent of the Board's decision.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Boyle said she is going to discuss her opinion and her vote. While Mr. Spring and Mrs. Green did interviews and reports and took student statements, she understands that the student felt harassed and intimidated but listening to the statements, she feels that there was no bullying. She said that she was going to abstain because she felt a conflict with the information but because she feels there was no bullying that took place by that statement, she is not supporting it.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 4-1-3
Mrs. Anesh, Mr. Giannakis and Mr. Seesselberg abstained.
Mrs. Boyle voted no.

XV. AGENDA APPROVAL

RESOLVED, that the agenda for the regular public meeting on December 20, 2017, as may have been modified, is hereby approved.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 8-0

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, there was a motion to adjourn.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mrs. Glover VOTE: 8-0

Respectfully submitted,

James Damato
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary