

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

Committee of the Whole Meeting – Wednesday, January 10, 2018 – 6:30 P.M.
South Plainfield High School
200 Lake Street
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Seesselberg called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

III. ROLL CALL- James Damato

Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Present: Mrs. Anesh, Mr. Both, Mrs. Boyle, Mr. Cassio, Mr. Giannakis, Mr. Pennisi, Mrs. Wolak, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Seesselberg

Also Present: Dr. Noreen Lishak, Superintendent; Ms. Mary Malyska, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. James Damato, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. Stephen Fried, Assistant Business Administrator; Mr. Marc Zitomer, Legal Counsel

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 8, 2018.

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 due to the weather and snow closures, the district is adjusting the second marking period end date to January 31st. Report card distribution, through the Genesis system, will also be pushed back two days.

The South Plainfield Ski Club has cancelled the trip scheduled for this Friday, January 16th due to the predicted warm and rainy weather. The make-up date is scheduled for January 26, 2018.

Dr. Lishak reminded that Close-Up NJ is filming a segment entitled, "Health Leads to Academic Success," at Kennedy School on January 25th. The segment will focus on the importance of being in good health in order to be successful in school. Kennedy School Nurse, Sheryl Lapp, was chosen to be the focus by Close-Up New Jersey due to her published article on a similar subject in the NJEA Literary Magazine. The segment will air May 6th and June 3rd on NJTV so please make sure you tune in.

A meeting of the South Plainfield Public Referendum Reporting Committee is scheduled for January 16th. We will be discussing the referendum project timelines and updates from the meeting will be provided to the public by a committee member at our next meeting.

The district is currently working on building the 2018/2019 school year budget. Our projections include, the additional programs at the high school level for elective and core classes, as well as, a Pre-AP History class at the Middle School. New classroom materials, including technology, as well as, district auditing of personnel to ensure that we have the appropriate number of faculty and staff needed to ensure the success of our students. Additionally, we will be addressing facility issues throughout the district. A full presentation will be provided to the board and the public during our formal budget presentation later in the school year.

All spring student athletes will be receiving an NJDOE Opioid Fact Sheet that must be reviewed, signed and returned to the district in order to play sports beginning in the spring. We are proposing that all of the athletic forms be put on the Genesis system for September, however, the State of NJ is requiring our spring athletes to sign and return the form so please be on the lookout for that.

The District will be asking for parents to volunteer to serve as part of the District Wellness Committee to begin in February. Information will be listed on the district website this Friday, along with a link to e-mail a letter of interest. Two parents are needed to serve on the committee and the meetings will be held during the school day as

to accommodate all of the required personnel for the committee. Parents' names will be chosen from a lottery from all that apply.

Dr. Lishak provided the following school updates:

South Plainfield High School – On January 18th, the High School will hold their second annual College Financial Aid Workshop in the Media Center from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The Improbable Players Improv Troop from Massachusetts performed at the High School yesterday. They had two assemblies on opioid and alcohol addiction. Student response was very positive and we are currently working on scheduling more assemblies for our students in order to bring awareness to alcohol and opioid abuse. If any student is suffering from addiction or has a family member who is suffering, our counselors are available to provide assistance and resources. A tentative date has been set for the High School Winter Pep Rally for February 2nd in the High School Auditorium. The pep rally is a wonderful way for our students to show their tiger spirit.

South Plainfield Middle School - A Student Council fundraiser for their Washington DC trip, a spaghetti and meatball dinner, will be held on Saturday, January 13th at the South Plainfield Elks Club. Information is on the district website under community events.

Grant School is having their PTO Glow Dance on Friday, January 26th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Franklin School – Their 50th Rock and Roll Environmental Assembly will be held on January 11th. They will also be holding an assembly on Character Education and positive traits. January 23rd is the Kick-off to their Read-a-thon benefitting the Children's Specialized Hospital of New Brunswick. The Franklin Dine-out Day at Luigi's on Clinton Avenue in South Plainfield is scheduled for January 26th.

Roosevelt School – Dr. Lishak read what she received from Mr. Diehl: "Roosevelt School is holding the greatest ever elementary school Multi-Cultural Show. It's the greatest on earth." It will be on Friday, January 26th at 9:00 a.m. and it's going to be a cast of hundreds. The admission is free and he recommends that you car pool.

Riley School – Students enjoyed the 50th visit from Murphy the therapy dog. Murphy is a part of the assisted learning program that began here in our district in October. Students from both Riley and Kennedy Schools read and then interact with Murphy under the supervision of a trained handler. Murphy is a certified therapy dog. He is certified through the Bright and Beautiful Therapy Center and has successfully completed his training prior to visiting our school.

As a reminder for our student athletes, Senior nights will all start a half hour before the scheduled game times. Wrestling is January 24th, Co-ed Swimming is February 2nd, Boys Basketball and Competitive Cheer is February 2nd and Girls Basketball and Winter Cheer is February 6th.

VI. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Mr. Damato said that there are a couple of additions and we would like to have those voted on tonight. One is under personnel for an HVAC Technician for Mr. Wiggins' office. The second is an addition to the finance agenda and that is a bid rejection for the Middle School HVAC bids. The last is an addition to curriculum to appoint Ms. Malyska as the Latchkey Representative.

Mr. Seesselberg said that those are all included in the agendas you received in your folder tonight. If you printed it beforehand they weren't added but they are in tonight's agenda. Mr. Seesselberg told the board that they received the resume for the HVAC employee.

1. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only – There were none.

VII. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

1. Appointment of School Safety Specialist

Approve the appointment of Kevin McCann as School Safety Specialist for the 2017/2018 school year.

2. Approval of Revised 2017/2018 School Calendar

Approve the revised 2017/2018 school calendar as shown in Tab VII.2. February 16th & March 9th are now half-days for students in the a.m. and half professional days for staff in the p.m.

3. Designation of Sponsor Representative of the Latchkey Program

Hereby designate Mary Malyska as the Sponsor Representative of the Latchkey Program for the South Plainfield Board of Education.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Seesselberg said that he would like to commend Dr. Lishak and her staff for finding a way to fill in the two school days that were missed due to snow and hopefully that's all we have to do with this year.

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Pennisi

VOTE: 9-0

Curriculum Update – Administration

Ms. Malyska said that the new K-5 science curriculum which is called the Full Option Science System or FOSS, in addition to our Pearson Interactive Science Curriculum for grades 6-8 was implemented this past September and has been up and running successfully. These programs engage our students through active learning and seamlessly incorporate the New Generation Science Standards which fall under the New Jersey Student Learning Standards. The teachers have been doing an amazing job incorporating this new program. Ms. Malyska thanked all of the teachers.

Also, the ESL department is starting an English Language Learner Program to help non-English speaking families be more comfortable with their child's school experience. The first meeting is on January 17th at 6:00 p.m. in the Roosevelt Administration Building and all families and their children are welcome.

VIII. PERSONNEL

Motion by Member Mr. Giannakis, seconded by Member Mr. Pennisi, 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.	Miche, Mary Ann	Resign	Special Education Teacher	High School	03/16/18	Letter dated 12/19/17

VIII.B Leaves of Absence

Code	Name	Reason	Position	Loc.	Paid FMLA Start Date	Paid Leave (Not FMLA)	Unpaid FMLA Start Date	Unpaid NJFLA Start Date	Unpaid Leave without Benefits	Return Date	Discussion
1.	Employee # 1228	Paid Medical/ Unpaid FMLA	Science Teacher	Middle School		09/07/17	11/28/17			2/1/18	Revised Dates
2.	Employee # 4005	Unpaid FMLA	LDTC	Franklin School			2/1/18				
3.	Employee # 4005	Unpaid Leave	LDTC	Franklin School					5/7/18	9/1/18	

VIII.C Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Kasztelan, Christopher	Approve	Computer Technician	N/A	\$61,298	District	12/14/2017	06/30/2018	Revised Acct#:11-000-252-100-14
2.	Guastella, Casianne	Approve	Science Teacher	3 BA +15	53,855	Middle School	02/01/2018	06/30/2018	Replacing Andrew Cefalo Acct#: 11-130-100-101-02
3.	Cannon, Steven	Approve	HVAC Technician	N/A	\$65,000	District	02/01/2018	06/30/2018	Contingent Upon Successful Completion of Criminal History Background Check Acct#: 11-000-261-100-00
4.	David, Isaiah	Approve	Student Videographer	N/A	\$12.00 per hr.	District	01/11/2018	06/30/2018	A maximum of 2 hrs. per meeting Acct#: 11-140-100-101-01
5.	Salernitano, Amanda	Approve	Student Videographer	N/A	\$12.00 per hr.	District	01/11/2018	06/30/2018	A maximum of 2 hrs. per meeting Acct#: 11-140-100-101-01
6.	Sogbo, Amivi	Approve	Student Videographer	N/A	\$12.00 per hr.	District	01/11/2018	06/30/2018	A maximum of 2 hrs. per meeting Acct#: 11-140-100-101-01
7.	Rodger, Mary	Transfer	Elementary Teacher	20 MA	\$94,390	Franklin/Riley Schools	01/11/2018	06/30/2018	Will travel to Riley School 1 day per week Plus \$300 longevity Acct#: 11-120-100-101-04 & 11-120-100-101-06
8.	Johnson, Ann	Transfer	L.A./Reading Instructional Support Teacher	18 MA	\$86,390	Kennedy/Roosevelt Schools	01/11/2018	06/30/2018	Will travel to Roosevelt School 1 day per week Acct#:11-120-100-101-05 & 11-120-100-101-07

VIII.D. Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Schlem, Nyssa	Approve	Special Services	3 MA	\$45.75 per hr.	District	12/18/17	12/19/17	CPI Training for staff for a total of 11 hours over 2 days Acct#:11-000-216-101-18
2.	Curcio, Dana	Approve	CPR Instructor	10 BA	\$52.74 per hr.	Latch Key	1/27/18	1/27/18	CPR Training on 1/27/18 for Latch Key Staff Acct#: 61-993-100-101-19
3.	Cassio, Christopher	Approve	District Videographer Student Supervisor	N/A	\$35.00 per hr.	District	01/11/2018	06/30/2018	A maximum of 4 hrs. per meeting Acct#: 11-140-100-101-01

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Pennisi VOTE: 9-0
Mr. Cassio abstained on number three in section XVII.D.

Mrs. Anesh asked if it was too late to ask a question. Mr. Zitomer said that the vote has happened but she can ask the question. Mrs. Anesh said that she noticed that we are approving an elementary teacher one day at another school. She asked how we are able to do that. Ms. Malyska said that right now both of these positions that are listed in number

seven and eight are BSI support teachers. We are making sure that there is an equitable distribution of staff between the buildings so we are taking two teachers from the smallest schools and giving them one day at the larger schools.

IX. FINANCE

Finance Update – Administration

Mr. Damato said that you just voted on the rejection of the HVAC bid which was taken on the 5th. Those bids came in a little high. We think that by rebidding them, we can save so we are putting them out to bid again. They will be due on the 23rd and Mr. Damato hopes to have them approved on the 24th at the Regular Public Meeting.

Mr. Damato said that he went out for proposals for Investment Management. That involved taking the proceeds of the bond sale and investing that money so that the Board of Education can earn interest on that money while its projects are proceeding. There will be a period of time where we won't need to spend that money so we make up a schedule and based on that schedule we invest some of it and we try to maximize the return to the Board. In addition, there is a lot of accounting factors that need to be taken into account when we invest that money and we bring that money back into our budget. We are not capable of handling all of those arbitrage calculations in-house so that is why we are going out to RFP for investment management. The proposals are due on the 19th. They will also be awarded at the January 24th meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Boyle asked if more information will be provided on the company for investment management. Mr. Damato said yes, we sent out an RFP and the company will have to comply with all the rules for investing public funds but over and above that we are looking for a great deal of experience in that area.

Mrs. Boyle asked if you have to take the lowest amount or if you can take the most experienced. Mr. Damato said we don't have to select the person just because they have the lowest fee or the highest projected interest rate. We can choose them because they have more experience or they are better suited to those types of investments and have a track record in those investments. Things of that nature all go in the mix and it is all spelled out in the RFP.

Mr. Giannakis asked Mr. Damato to very briefly explain to some of the new Board members what the difference between an RFP and a Bid is.

Mr. Damato said that an RFP stands for a Request for Proposal. There are certain circumstances where you can use an RFP and there are other circumstances where you are required to use a bid. In a bid situation, as long as all of the paperwork and everything is in order and correct, you are required to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder.

In an RFP situation and a competitive contract situation, you are allowed to award contracts to companies that have qualitative benefits that are spelled out in the RFP.

1. Approval of Tuition Agreement Between the South Plainfield Board of Education and the Union County Educational Services Commission (UCESC)

The UCESC agrees to provide a program of home instruction for one general education student while student is enrolled in a rehabilitation program at Children's Specialized Hospital. Home instruction will commence upon Board approval and is anticipated to end in June 2018. Cost of program will be \$362.00 per week. State ID No.: 6715543189.

2. Reject Bids for Bid #18-04 – Proposed Electrical/HVAC Upgrades for the South Plainfield Middle School

WHEREAS, the South Plainfield Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:18A-1 (et seq.) advertised for sealed bids for Bid #18-04 – Proposed Electrical/HVAC Upgrades for the South Plainfield Middle School on December 6, 2017; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with that advertisement, the bids were received, publicly opened and read aloud in the Conference Room of the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Avenue on January 5, 2018. A total of ten (10) bids were received.

WHEREAS, all bids received were over the architect's estimated cost for the project and over the district budgeted amount.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that all bids be rejected and the Board Secretary is hereby directed to re-bid the project.

DISCUSSION:

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Pennisi

VOTE: 9-0

X BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Buildings & Grounds Update – Administration

Mr. Damato said that the Buildings & Grounds Committee discussed the track specifications and talked about coming up with a suitable bid for the new track that will be installed at Jost Field. He said that they are looking to spend around \$300,000 to

resurface the track. There was a lot of geotechnical work and core samples done at Jost Field. Those tests revealed that the base under the track is in really good shape. There is plenty of asphalt base there so we don't need to mill and add pavement. All we need to do is replace the rubber surface. That will save a fair amount of money over what we would have had to pay if we didn't have those tests done and we didn't have those assurances. The project, as far as the bleachers go, is in the works. The purchase order has been given out to a company through the Middlesex County Consortium. They have an extremely good track record in building athletic facilities so we are confident that all of those improvements are going to be done in a timely manner and in a very professional way.

XI. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Seesselberg said that the committees were just made on Monday so some of them might not have met yet. If you have a meeting scheduled please let us know.

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Giannakis said that they met yesterday and they discussed the HVAC in the Middle School and the turf field. They also discussed the great job that Mr. Wiggins and his crew did with the snow and the wind drifts. It was very difficult in extremely cold temperatures and he thanked Mr. Wiggins and his crew for taking care of that.

Curriculum

Mr. Pennisi said that the committee hasn't met yet but he did meet with Ms. Malyska. He said that the only thing that is on the next agenda, which they didn't meet about, is the annual trip for the wrestlers for the State Tournament. He said to Ms. Malyska that he doesn't think there is a problem to put it on and if there is a problem then people can discuss it. He said that he knows that Ms. Malyska also has the program of studies that is coming up and he said that he asked her to distribute that to the Board members prior to being released to the kids so they can see the courses, including any new ones that were approved by the board. The committee will be meeting the Wednesday before each Committee of the Whole meeting. Mr. Pennisi said that he just set the schedule for the rest of the year at that time at 4:00 p.m.

Finance

Mr. Chapman said that the Finance Committee was able to have a meeting yesterday. They spoke about the bids that we are rejecting. They went over what was received and also discussed the upcoming bond sale which he thinks the district will do very well with. He said that was pretty much it except for a few ancillary little things.

Policy

Mr. Pennisi said that the Policy Committee didn't meet yet. Instead of a set schedule, the Policy Committee meets only when the district receives Strauss Esmay's reviews or when the Board, as a whole or as a majority, wants a policy looked at. The committee will meet as needed. There are about 36 policies that Strauss Esmay has given us. The Board will receive copies of those policies with the track changes.

Two policies that were removed from being revised are the committee policy that the Board discussed last month and since the committees are already set if that is something that the board want to address later in the year for the following year, we can. The other one that was removed from the list is the School and Student Support Organization which the Board passed a few months ago. That policy is being left alone. We are going to have to work on a policy that addresses organizations that are kind of connected but not really connected so that we can find a way to make sure that we receive the Certificate of Insurance and those things that are necessary. Mr. Pennisi said that he is not sure if we will meet before the regular meeting but we will meet as needed from Strauss Essmay and also as we decide to look at any policy changes.

Mrs. Boyle said that the policy for Support Organization wasn't passed. Mrs. Boyle said that it was removed. Mr. Pennisi said that they were looking for some revisions to it and it was decided to leave it as it was and to address the other organizations that don't fall under that as a separate policy because there is a difference between what the board can put in policy and what they can't, depending on how related they are to the school. We are going to distinguish between. For example, the Education Foundation, we still need Certificates of Insurance and those types of things so it will be a separate policy but it is not going to be as comprehensive as the current policy for booster clubs and so forth.

Mr. Seesselberg said that there is a policy in place at this point. The change that was pulled was the revisions.

Public Relations

Mr. Chapman said that they have not had a meeting yet. He said hopefully they will have one in the next couple of weeks and can present some pretty exciting ideas to the Board.

Shared Services

Mr. Cassio said that he spoke to Councilman Bengivenga this afternoon and we will be scheduling a meeting soon.

Special Education

Mr. Chapman said a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17th at 9:00 a.m.
Transportation

Mrs. Anesh said that Transportation Committee meets as necessary and generally has been about once per year.

Traffic Liaison

Mr. Cassio said that there is nothing to report at this time.

SEPAC Liaison

No Report

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Boyle said that she has a letter that she talked about for our safe schools which was dated June of 2014. It was to Mayor Matthew Anesh from Stephen Genco who was the Superintendent. He talked about expressing gratitude to the South Plainfield Borough for their application for grant funding through the NJDOT Safe Routes to School Grant Program. The Borough requested grant funding to install raised, lighted crosswalks near a number of Borough Public Schools, including Roosevelt, Grant, Kennedy, Riley, South Plainfield Middle School and the South Plainfield High School. Currently, most of the roadways near those school lack adequate crosswalks creating a hazardous environment for the children who walk or bike to school. She said that she discussed that the Borough did put an application but later found out there was no available funding.

Mrs. Boyle said that these bills were signed by both houses and whatever action the governor takes on these bills will be reported in the upcoming legislative meeting. Cooperative Sports Programs and Student Athlete Participation allows public schools to let certain students not enrolled in the school to participate in high school interscholastic athletics. Specifically, the bill permits but does not require school districts to allow students who attend non-public schools to try out for and participate in a high school interscholastic athletic team in the student's district of residence. If the district is unable to field a team due to decline in interest or participation in this sport which impacts the ability of the district to safely field a team or squad. The bill also allows public schools in the same district to enter into a cooperative sports program under certain conditions. It requires that the NJSIAA allow public high schools in the same school district to enter into a cooperative sports program for any sport at the varsity level. If either of the schools demonstrate an inability to field a team at the varsity level due to a decline in interest or participation in one or more sports. Mrs. Boyle said that she talked about that before so now the bill is signed.

Electronic Procurement authorizes local units of government, subject to local public contract laws and public school contract laws to use electronic procurement technologies. This bill authorizes local units to use electronic procurement practices for such purposes as may be authorized by the governing body of the local unit. They would be allowed to

use electronic procurement systems to continue to publicly advertise bids and requests for proposals in the local unit's official newspaper.

Combating Chronic Absenteeism requires the Education Commissioner to include the number and percentage of students who are chronically absent and the number and percentage of students who receive disciplinary suspension on school report card data. The bill also requires that in the event that ten percent or more of the students enrolled in the public school are chronically absent, the school must develop a corrective action plan to improve absenteeism rates.

Smokeless Tobacco Ban prohibits the use of smokeless tobacco in any area of any building or on the grounds of any public school. Every Board of Education would be required to place a sign at each public entrance of the public school building indicating that the use of smokeless tobacco is prohibited. The Board is also required to direct anyone in violation of the act to comply and the bill imposes a fine on anyone who continues to use smokeless tobacco after being ordered to comply with the prohibition. \$250.00 for the first offense, \$500.00 for the second offense and \$1,000 for each subsequent offenses.

Regulating the use of restraints and seclusion establishes various requirements and restrictions regarding the use of physical restraints and seclusion on students with disabilities in public school districts, Educational Services Commission and approved private schools for students with disabilities. This bill also requires that the NJDOE establish guidelines to ensure a review of processes in place for school districts.

Computer Science Course Requirement requires school districts to offer a course in computer science for the NJDOE to adopt changes to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards in Computer Science no later than the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. Each public school enrolling students in grade 9-12 shall offer a course in computer science. The course shall be informed by the review undertaken by the NJDOE pursuant to the 2015 law that requires the department to review core curriculum content standards.

Computer Science Endorsement directs the State Board of Education to authorize the Computer Science Education Endorsement to the instructional certificate. The endorsement will authorize the holder to teach computer science in all public schools and would require to teach computer science in grades 9-12 beginning at such time as the State Board determines that there is a sufficient number of teachers holding the Computer Science Education Endorsement.

Pedestrian Safety Driver's Education requires driver education courses, new driver brochures and the driver's license written exam to include cyclists and pedestrian safety information. This bill requires the curriculum for approved classroom driver education courses and the information brochure distributed to the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission to the parents and guardians of beginning drivers to include information concerning operating a motor vehicle in a manner that safely shares the roadway with

pedestrians, cyclists, skaters, riders of motorized scooters and other non-motorized vehicles.

Dual Language Immersion requires the New Jersey Commission of Education with the approval of the State Board of Education to develop a program to award grants to school districts and charter schools to develop Dual Language Immersion Programs. Under the program, the commissioner will provide grants to school districts and charter schools to develop Dual Language Immersion Programs in Chinese, Spanish, French or any other language approved by the Commission. A school district or charter school may be eligible to receive funds. If it uses an instructional model that provides at least 50% of its instruction in English and 50% of its instruction in another language.

Local Government Investment Pools permits local units and school districts to invest in local government investment pools managed in accordance with applicable Governmental Accounting Standards Board guidelines. NJSBA supports that bill.

Fire Safety Initiatives directs the Department of Community Affairs to conduct a survey of fire suppression systems in all public and non-public school buildings in New Jersey and to provide those results to the New Jersey Department of Education. According to the sponsor's statement, many school buildings in New Jersey were constructed decades ago and do not have adequate fire suppression systems installed, and many other systems that are not fully operational.

School Bus Driver Safety establishes that crimes of operating a school bus with suspended or revoked driving privileges and being involved in an accident causing bodily injury. The bill permanently prohibits passenger and school bus CDL endorsements for persons convicted of those crimes. NJSBA supports that bill.

Safely Transporting Students in Wheelchairs requires school buses transporting students using wheelchairs to be equipped with a four-point securement system. In addition, students using wheelchairs are required to be secured using the four-point securement system at all times while on the bus.

Financial Literacy directs the State Board of Education to require that a school district incorporate financial literacy instruction for pupils enrolled in grades K-8. Such instruction would provide these students with the basic financial literacy necessary to sound financial decision-making. The instruction must meet the requirements established by the State Board of Education and must be appropriate to, and reflect the age and comprehension of, the students enrolled in the particular grade level.

Mrs. Boyle said that last year she held her county meeting at the Student Achievement Building which hosts all these different types of financial literacy. Also, it's been touted by the former State Board of Education President, Mark Bierdron.

School Panic Alarms requires school buildings to be equipped with an emergency light

and panic alarm that is linked to local law enforcement. Specifically, the legislation requires that all public schools be equipped with a panic alarm for use in a school security emergency, including but not limited to, a non-fire evacuation, lockdown, or active shooter situation. The panic alarm, which will not be auditable when in the school building, must be directly linked to law enforcement authorities and must immediately transmit a signal or message to the authorities upon activation. The bill also requires that all public schools be equipped with a red emergency light that is affixed to the exterior of the school building in a highly visible location above or near the front entrance visible from the nearest public roadway.

Celebrating Career and Technical Education is an approved bill that designates the month of February 2018 as “Career and Technical Education Month” in New Jersey in order to recognize and promote the many benefits of career and technical education in this State.

The South Plainfield Business Association, for multiple years, has hosted a career day at the high school for the 11th grade in conjunction with Elaine Gallo. Mrs. Boyle said that she spoke to Dr. Lishak about a meeting with the new Interim so that should take place shortly and they will pick a date for the career day.

On Monday, Governor Christie took action on several pieces of legislation. The first is domestic violence policies that requires public employers to implement certain policies for handling and responding to reports of domestic violence. The Civil Service Commission will develop a uniform domestic violence policy to be adopted by all public employers and distributed to their employees.

Breastfeeding Rights in the Workplace expands certain civil rights protections under the “Law Against Discrimination” to include breastfeeding and expressing milk or related medical conditions. Under the law, it would be a civil rights violation for a working woman to be fired or otherwise discriminated against because of breastfeeding or expressing her milk during breaks. The law also requires an employer to provide reasonable break time each day and a suitable location for an employee who is breastfeeding to express her milk in private.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diana Joffe, SPEA, said that she wanted to remind the board of what an incredible job the maintenance people did on the snow days. She said that she knows Dr. Lishak was out there driving around in the snow, blinded, and she also talked to Jeff Anderson and they are worth their weight in gold and she said that she doesn’t know how to thank them enough. They surely are underpaid and undertreated and she wanted to pay tribute to them. They worked around the clock. Thank you.

XIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Anesh asked if the symbol on the revised calendar should be half day symbols for the 16th and the 9th. Dr. Lishak said that they should be and she will ensure that the change is made before it is posted.

Mrs. Anesh said that her children came home and talked about the assembly that was discussed earlier this evening. They said that the previous presentation were more PowerPoint driven which doesn't keep their attention the same as the one that they had recently. Mrs. Anesh said that she is not sure who picked that one out but her children said it was very good.

Mrs. Anesh asked what happens to a student's record when they are founded of an HIB. She asked if it goes into their record and if it has any effect on college applications. She said that she knows that it doesn't but she wanted it to go on the record.

Dr. Lishak said that it does not follow them. There are some colleges that do ask for your disciplinary record. For example, a military college may ask for it. When you apply, you sign a release that you are allowing the school to release those. In general, colleges do not ask for it. They are not forwarded anywhere and anybody who has an HIB, the only thing that would be tied to an HIB is if an HIB is founded, the action was disciplines, the action will be in their discipline record but it has nothing to do with the HIB so it doesn't follow them.

Mrs. Boyle sent her condolences to Dennis Little's family. He was a former Councilman, a County Clerk and a mentor to many people in South Plainfield. She also reminded everyone that the 4th and 5th Grade Spelling Bee will take place on January 23rd at the Senior Center, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The Mayors Wellness Blood Drive, in conjunction with the High School Student Council, is February 6th from 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the High School auditorium. All are welcome to donate. There is an extreme shortage of blood at this time due to the storms.

Mr. Seesselberg said that all of the board members received something from the business office in regards to either a Samsung Galaxy Tablet or an Acer Chromebook. He said that all of the documents that are being distributed can be put online very quickly. He told the board members that they are welcome to acquire these through the Business Office. Dr. Lishak said that she has only heard from four members on what they want. Everyone needs to respond. Mr. Seesselberg said to respond either way. If you are going to use your own devices, let the business office know. If you want us to get one and have Mike Estrada set it up for you, let the business office know. February 1st we will go as much electronic as we can.

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: Mr. Chapman VOTE: 9-0

XV. AGENDA APPROVAL

RESOLVED, that the agenda for the regular public meeting on January 24, 2018, as may have been modified, is hereby approved.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Chapman VOTE: 9-0

The Board adjourned to a second executive session at 7:55 p.m.

MOTOIN: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Pennisi VOTE: 9-0

The Board returned to public session at 8:47 p.m.

Committee of the Whole
January 10, 2018

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business of the Board, there was a motion to adjourn at 8:49 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Chapman

VOTE: 9-0

Respectfully submitted,

James Damato
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary