

SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

125 Jackson Avenue
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**Committee of the Whole Meeting– Wednesday, October 11, 2017 – 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 6:31 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. Giannakis, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Glover, Mr. Seesselberg

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

Also Present: Dr. Noreen Lishak, Superintendent; Mary Malyska, Assistant Superintendent; James Damato, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Stephen Fried, Assistant Business Administrator; Marc Zitomer, Legal Counsel; 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 the district began posting videos on the district website as well as on the individual school websites. All of the videos will provide information from the principal on various topics within the buildings.

The Middle School video of Roger Vroom, Principal and Kelly Richkus, Vice Principal was presented.

Dr. Lishak said that you can expect each of our buildings to post a video on their school website as well as our district website and Facebook page. She encouraged everyone to like and share the videos. Dr. Lishak said that if anyone has any topics they would like to see to please e-mail them to her. The more information that the districts gives to the public, the better it is for everyone.

Dr. Lishak said that Roosevelt School and the Administration Building were evacuated to Our Lady of Czestochowa this afternoon due to a nearby gas leak. Dr. Lishak thanked the students for the way they handled the situation, the faculty for their professionalism and Mr. Diehl for taking over as a true leader. Dr. Lishak said that they worked closely with the South Plainfield Police and Fire Departments to make sure that everything ran smoothly. She said that the parents were fantastic. Anyone that went to Roosevelt School was directed to go right through to pick up their children at the evacuation site. Dr. Lishak said that everything went well and the students were dismissed on time. She also said that she just received word from Mr. Wiggins that everything is clear at Roosevelt School so tomorrow will be a regular day.

Dr. Lishak said that the district participated in the National Walk and Bike to School program on October 4th. Students in all of our elementary schools, Grant School and the Middle School walked or biked to school to bring awareness to the importance of physical fitness and exercise as well as pedestrian and bike safety.

The first meeting of the Board of Education Referendum Public Reporting Committee will be held on November 1st. The committee will be discussing the next phase of the projects to be completed during the summer of 2018, as well as the timeline for bids and project completion. We will be reporting to the public during the November board meeting.

The district has scheduled a student assembly for October 25th for both Middle and High School students on the epidemic plaguing our state, the use of opioids and their devastating effects. Representatives from St. Peter's University Hospital, local law enforcement, including South Plainfield Chief of Police, Jim Parker, as well as a guest speaker discussing her family's struggles with opioid addiction, titled Barbara's Story. Parents will be sent an opt-out form and additional information on the program via e-mail. We are currently working to secure a date for our parent assembly on the topic so the parents are aware of the effects of opioids, the effects they have on children and families as a whole. We will also be providing information on how to get help for family members who may be struggling with this addiction.

On October 19th our Middle School students will participate in an assembly hosted by Senator Diegnan on Understanding State Government. The students are excited to meet with the Senator and ask questions about how our State Government runs.

South Plainfield High School Principal, Mr. Spring, along with Dr. Lishak and several guidance counselors attended a workshop at the Sayreville Policy Academy. The workshop, hosted by Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office, discussed ways to provide additional support to our students on alternative behavior programs within the schools. The district is currently working with the committee on alternative programs and will be presenting the options at a future board meeting.

Kennedy School will be implementing a program developed from their character education program. The program is based on a book titled, *Have You Filled Your Bucket Today?* This initiative will ask students to document their respectful behavior and fill their class bucket every week. In addition, Kennedy School held an assembly last Friday on Down Syndrome Awareness. This assembly highlighted information on disabilities and the importance of inclusion.

Dr. Lishak congratulated Kennedy School Nurse, Sheryl Lapp, who had an article published in the NJEA Review entitled, *Nurses Play Vital Roles in Student Health and Academic Success*. Dr. Lishak said it is a great article and we are very proud of Nurse Lapp. There is a link on our district website, as well as posted up on Facebook. Dr. Lishak encouraged everyone to read the fantastic article.

Dr. Lishak said that we have to give Ms. Lapp another accolade. In addition to not only being published in the NJEA Review, Ms. Lapp will be featured in *Classroom Close-up* on NJTV. It will feature important information on student attendance and the role that the nurses play in this progress. Dr. Lishak congratulated Sheryl Lapp.

Riley School will be opening a time capsule that was buried 25 years ago. The event is planned for late November. The capsule will be dug up and the contents revealed to students, faculty and parents. More information will be provided shortly on the actual date and we will be inviting the press and anyone else who would like to come. Dr. Lishak said that it would be great if we had any students who were attending Riley 25

years ago and might want to attend. Maybe we can get some ideas of what they remember might be in there.

In sports, the Greater Middlesex Conference for Boys and Girls soccer begins next week, as well as the Greater Middlesex Conference on gymnastics. The first meet will be held in South Brunswick. The cross country team will also be participating in the Greater Middlesex Conference as well as in their first meeting that will be held next week in Thompson Park in Monroe.

There is a home football game this Friday the 13th vs. Colonia. Students tailgate party will be held in the outside senior lounge area at South Plainfield High School. We are hoping for a large turnout for the game to show our Tiger Spirit. South Plainfield High School students are running a contest to see which homeroom will have the greatest participation. Information has been sent out on Twitter and Facebook. Please come and join the fun, join the game and show your spirit.

Dr. Lishak provided the following reminders: Senior Night Pep Rally is scheduled for October 27th following the homecoming dance. Football, Cheer and Band Senior Night will be held on October 20th at the home game vs. Carteret. Gymnastics Senior Night is October 17th at the home game against Union Catholic. Cross country is on October 23rd at the home game against North Plainfield and Girls' Tennis is October 25th at the home game vs. North Plainfield.

VI. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

1. Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

VII. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Curriculum Update – Administration

Ms. Malyska said that she would like to take a moment to thank all of our building administrators and district supervisors who planned a great professional development session for October 9th. Our teachers participated in some great programming. That included coding through robotics best practices and program pilots for mathematics. We had new STEM materials for our science initiatives, we created rubrics on visual and applied arts and we also had a mindfulness introduction for students that are counselors and SACs were able to attend. Across the board, we had a really great turnout for all different types of professional development. Ms. Malyska thanked our administrators with their work on SGO's, our student growth objectives are almost completed. The teachers have worked hard on that so we are moving in a great direction so far.

VIII. FINANCE

1. Approval for Professional Development Expenditures

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the following expenditures (registration, mileage, and conference fees), substitutes, and trips, which are compliant with State payment guidelines, employee job responsibilities and critical to the needs of the school district.

	<u>Name of Workshop</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Person Attending</u>
1.	International Dyslexia Association Fall Conference	10/13/07	\$230.00 11-000-223-580-11	Gina Capizola
2.	International Dyslexia Association Fall Conference	10/13/07	\$230.00 11-000-223-580-11	Anne Holtz
3.	Prompt Training - Introduction	10/19-21/17	\$755.00 registration \$115.00 mileage/tolls/parking Previously approved on August agenda, however, workshop location was rescheduled.	Peggy Monagle
4.	Legally Compliant IEP's	10/17/17	\$150.00 11-000-219-580-18	Stephanie Conway

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mrs. Glover

VOTE: 9-0

Finance Update – Administration

Mr. Damato said that the Finance Committee met and reviewed the bills. Mr. Damato reported that they made particularly good progress with negotiating with the architect firm to reduce their fees for certain projects. In doing so, they tried to retool some of the jobs that allowed some of the savings. They also changed the way these jobs will be bid. Mr. Damato said they plan to use alternate bids because they want to create a situation where they can control costs at the time of the bid where they can decide based on the budget and what they have and what they would like to provide. All of these things were done in the Finance Committee meeting and the savings on the architect alone were about \$145,000. The Board should be quite proud of this group for putting in the effort and getting that done.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Glover said that she wanted to talk about the Finance Committee and the efforts that their chair, Doug Chapman, who worked really hard at making a gallant effort to this cost savings. She said that she was blown away after hearing him try to maneuver our architects into the savings and when she saw the amount she was blown away. She said that under his leadership on the Finance Committee, she knows that he has probably saved the district close to \$100,000.

IX BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Buildings & Grounds Update – Administration

Mr. Damato said that the Buildings and Grounds committee discussed doing some geotech work and soil borings at Jost Field to get ready for the upcoming bids. He said that the Board of Education is going to have to discuss the concept plan or the location of the field house and then they will go back to the board with a full report, a full site plan and we are going to have to go before the Borough Planning Board to have that reviewed. That process will probably unfold in the next month and a half to two months.

Mr. Damato said that HVAC projects in the band and chorus rooms were recently completed. There is a lot of testing going on to make sure that those systems are working correctly and Mr. Wiggins has spearheaded that and has done a fabulous job.

The auditorium was one of the projects that we wanted to do as soon as possible and we've been hearing about the problems with the HVAC system in the auditorium since we came to South Plainfield. That was not provided for in the bond referendum so what we want to do and what we plan to do is to allocate money in this coming years' budget to address that problem. That work will probably take place spring and summer and be ready for the start of next school year.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Boyle asked if the Middle School HVAC system project came in over or under budget and asked if there will be funds available to finish the auditorium.

Mr. Damato said that the preliminary estimates are over budget, however, there are a lot of things that we can do to change the scope of the project and redesign systems so that the district does not suffer and gets a good product but, at the same time, saves money for the district. Mr. Damato said that he thinks this is a win-win for everybody and that is the direction that Dr. Lishak has asked us to pursue.

Mrs. Boyle asked if there are enough funds to do the rewiring.

Mr. Damato said yes, the rewiring and electrical upgrades at that school are budgeted for. He said that the problem is that these are projections, so we won't know exactly how much it is going to cost until the bids come in. Mr. Damato said that they are pretty confident that the allocations that were set forth in the bond are adequate to do the project.

Mrs. Boyle said that the original scope came from the past architect firm and asked if the original scope can change.

Mr. Damato agreed. He stated that the old architect firm did the projections for the budget for the referendum and did a preliminary scope of the project. As we look into it more and more, that scope can be and will be revised. We are pretty hopeful and in a lot of ways confident that we can manage with what we have and my goal would be to bring all of the projects in under budget and, at the end, have some money that the Board can reallocate for other projects that are in need.

Mrs. Miller asked what the original problems were with the HVAC in the band room and the faculty room. Mr. Damato said that the band and chorus rooms and that the systems were faulty. They were not functioning properly and they were beyond normal maintenance.

Mrs. Miller asked if the problem with the speakers at the football field have been resolved. Mr. Damato said that the speakers at the football field have been fixed. We did buy a couple of new speakers and installed them and everything seems to be working fine. They've been used at football games and we haven't heard any complaints or problems so he is assuming everything is a go.

Mrs. Miller said that she knows we have gotten an update about outside lighting. Mr. Wiggins was going through and replacing bulbs, repairing light fixtures but then he realized that there were some that PSE&G were responsible for. She asked if that was taken care of.

Mr. Damato said that we are still in the process of investigating the lights and figuring out what we need. Some have been repaired but not all of the ones that we would like to get repaired. There are areas where we want to add additional lights so all of that is expected to be done. Mr. Wiggins and his staff have done a lot of work investigating the type of lights that can be used there. We are trying to use or install LED lights which will save you a great deal of money and provide much better light. Mr. Wiggins has been working on it and he reported that he is almost ready to present something to Dr. Lishak.

X. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Giannakis said that Mr. Damato touched on quite a few things that they talked about, including the lighting. He said that Potter Architects were at the meeting and they explained that they did reduce their fees. Mr. Giannakis said that Mr. Chapman was really responsible for a lot of that. Mr. Giannakis said that they discussed the different options for the field house and bleachers. The architects are going to put together a drawing for the Board to see. Mr. Giannakis thanked Mr. Wiggins for putting all of the filters on a maintenance schedule, which is going to save the lifespan of a lot of our equipment. Mr. Giannakis reported that the track will be closed beginning June 9th but will reopen by September 4th. The track and bleachers should be installed between those dates. Mr. Giannakis asked Mr. Damato if we are on time and on budget with all of this. Mr. Damato said that as of the moment, we are on time and within our budget and he hopes that the rest of the jobs will run as smoothly. Mr. Giannakis said that he wants to reiterate and asked that we are 100 percent on time with everything and Mr. Damato said yet, that is correct.

Curriculum

Mrs. Glover said that she submitted the minutes from the curriculum meeting. There was a presentation by Ms. Garcia on the Holocaust curriculum that she wrote this summer to ensure our alignment with the standards. The writing of this curriculum was written in a way that can be taught at all grade levels across many courses. The committee approved all of the upcoming overnight trips. The district assessment calendar was provided and it is also available on the SPBOE website. The committee also discussed the High School graduation requirements. They reviewed and focused mainly on the difference between the requirements for the class of 2018, 2019 and 2020 and then there is a different requirement for the Class of 2021 and beyond.

The district has an approved list of movies to ensure that we are culturally sensitive. We also brainstormed some standards for the AP and honors criteria but no decisions were made. We are still in the discussion phases with Ms. Malyska. We were also notified that the State has made some changes to the standardized science assessment, however, the State has not made notification to the districts as to how we should be prepared. All we know is that it's going to be a computer based assignment and it's administered to grades 5, 8 and 11. The district has now streamlined the physical education departments, and grades are to be uploaded on Genesis regularly. Mrs. Glover said that all parents have been notified that they will have to incur half the cost for any AP test that their child would like to take.

It's also been reported by the administration that the new middle school schedule is working very well. The committee talked about the SAT prep class that we offer here in the district and there is going to be a follow-up on the data at the end of the year to see

how our students fare. The committee was also provided the curriculum rewrites for French III and IV and Italian IV.

Finance

Mr. Chapman said that he has nothing in addition to add to what Mr. Damato said but he wants to let everybody know that it's a team effort. Everybody participated and everybody shared their thoughts. He said maybe he was a mouthpiece but it was from the entire committee; Mrs. Glover, Mr. Seesselberg, Mr. Cassio, himself and Mr. Damato. The Finance Committee is having excellent results this year. He said that he is very proud of what they have done so far. We saved the community several hundred thousand dollars this year so we are pretty proud of that.

Policy

Mrs. Miller said that she and Ms. Tempe sat down and reviewed several policies. She has a meeting set up with Dr. Lishak to review and then a policy committee meeting will be scheduled. Mrs. Miller also reported that the van drivers' negotiations are going well. They have a proposal already prepared and they have a meeting with the association next week.

Public Relations

Mr. Seesselberg said that at their last meeting they talked about doing the videos for the schools and the principals. He said that you saw the Middle School video tonight and Franklin School's video is already up. Pictures of the ongoing projects are up on the district website and the public will be able to see, on a continuing basis, how the projects are moving along. Mr. Seesselberg reiterated that the Referendum Reporting Committee is meeting on November 1st and they will report back as to the progress of how the referendum funding is being spent.

Shared Services

Mrs. Boyle said that there is nothing to report at this time.

Special Education

Mrs. Glover said that she submitted the minutes in the packet. She said that our director talked about the different programs that they have at each school and how she is trying to manage that. They discussed the number of students moving into the district that are in out-of-district placements and we have to address the number of students needing programs that we don't currently offer. Mrs. Castronovo is currently addressing them. Mrs. Glover said that all of the non-compliant IEP meetings have been scheduled. They also discussed having a preschool IEP team. She said that this program continues to grow and the caseload for all the team members is very high. She said that Mrs. Castronovo is

handling now with the interim case manager but that it's not enough. Mrs. Glover said that she asked about the INRS process and Mrs. Castronovo said that she had just scheduled a meeting with the interim guidance counselor and supervisors and they are trying to streamline the INRS process. Mrs. Glover said that the preschool program is continuing to grow and they don't foresee any problems sustaining this program at this time. The growth of the program is the main reason why another CST is needed. They also talked about rebranding our preschool program, talking about the high quality teachers in our preschool program and still believes that although prices were raised a couple years ago they are still a lot lower than programs that do not have certified teachers so that will be discussed further. She asked about paraprofessional trainings and she talked about the professional development day that is planned for them.

Transportation

Mrs. Boyle said that the transportation committee met on September 27th at 2:00 p.m. Mrs. Miller, Mr. Giannakis, herself as chair, Mr. Damato and Marlene Steele, Director of Transportation, were in attendance. The committee discussed two new buses for the 2018-2019 school year and there are two buses scheduled for each year. The committee discussed the bus routes and Mrs. Steele said that everything is going as planned. There are currently 16 small buses and 14 large buses. Mrs. Steele stated that our district is driving for four towns and doing school trips which brings in revenues for our district and Mrs. Steele has been bringing in revenues for several years. The committee asked if there was anything that Mrs. Steele needed within the district and Mrs. Steele stated that everything is running smoothly.

Traffic Liaison

Mr. Cassio said that there is nothing to report.

SEPAC Liaison

Mrs. Glover said that she was unable to make the SEPAC meeting. She asked if Mr. Giannakis can talk about that

Mr. Giannakis said that SEPAC met last week. Mr. Both and Ms. McGuire were the ones that put the whole meeting together. He said that the meeting was basically a meet and greet. Mrs. Castronovo was there briefly to introduce herself. Basically, what Mr. Both and Ms. McGuire did was direct the SEPAC meeting as to where they can go down the road, different guest speakers they can have. It was a very well attended meeting with close to 40 people there. It was basically a "get-started" kind of meeting for the school year and they talked about setting up future meetings and having different kinds of speakers come in.

Mrs. Boyle said that the idea of having guest speakers, as they did in the past, is a really great idea. It gives people direction of the many questions that were asked so it is always

a good thing to have the guest speakers. She hopes that continues.

Mrs. Miller said that they also opened up the floor to parents to kind of talk about any questions or concerns they might have. Several parents that voiced some issues that they were having and Ms. McGuire was very good at providing the group with in-depth information about what they can do, where they can go, and what their next steps are. She said that it was nice because the parents were there in a group, they can sympathize with one another and they can talk about problems.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Boyle said that they are in the process of finalizing the five-year strategic plan. She knows that they are waiting for a Governor to be elected to continue on with legislative bills. For Junior Achievement, Commissioner of Education, Kimberly Harrington, will be giving a presentation on Finance Park. This is a free program to the school district. Ms. Malyska was there. We were able to view the different areas of the academics and she hopes that we can continue to move forward with Finance Park because it is a great program. Also, Middlesex County has 100% attendance for the third year in a row for the School Boards convention so kudos to Middlesex county and all of the boards of Ed.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

XII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Seesselberg said that as we move into board member comments he just wanted to take a couple moments to address the events of the last few weeks. The hurricanes that affected the areas including Houston, Florida and Puerto Rico, the earthquakes in Mexico, the fires that are currently going on in California and the shooting in Las Vegas. Some are natural disasters that we can prepare for and rebuild to some semblance of a normal life afterwards. Others come up without warning. Natural disasters can sometimes be explained rationally. Others, like the shootings in Las Vegas, can't. We must cautiously live our lives and not refrain from our opportunities in fear. As our children may ask us why, sometimes the answer is we don't know. Mr. Seesselberg said that last Wednesday he visited Franklin School for the Walk and Ride to School day. Just about all the students regularly walk to school and he was impressed by the discipline and respect these students had for others, especially seeing the safety patrol going up and down and keeping them all in line. He said he is sure the same was evident at the other schools. These students might not have been aware of the emotional events affecting the world right now but as they become aware we should teach them compassion and answer their questions the best we can. If we personally have the resources to aid those affected by those events we should do so. But at the very least we should foster the attitude of compassion, respect and how to go forth in the world.

Mrs. Boyle said that the Mayor's Wellness Walk and Bike to school is a National Walk and Bike to School day and it was well attended. She said that she was at Riley School

and Grant School. The bike rack at Grant School was the most filled on that day. Parents were encouraged to walk with their children. Everybody really enjoys that. We usually have over 1,000 students that walk and bike between all of the schools, which is a really good turnout.

This Saturday, October 14th, is the Mayor's Wellness Health Fair. There will be 100 free flu shots for adults and children. This is being hosted by St. Peter's and Aristacare is sponsoring the flu shots. Mickey, Minnie and Olaf will be there so please come out. This is called super Saturday because the Wellness Fair is 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., open house at the Fire Department is 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and the South Plainfield Library is hosting Octoberfest. So there are a lot of things for families to do and be involved in.

November 4th from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. downtown is the Zombie Fest hosted by the Borough of South Plainfield, Public Celebrations Committee. Please come out in your costume. There will be vendors and people doing makeup.

November 5th from 1:00 – 2:15 p.m. in the High School Parking lot is Trunk or Treat. That is also hosted by Public Celebrations. It is a shared service between the Borough and the Board.

December 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the Senior Center the Mayor's Wellness is hosting a drug and alcohol awareness program. We did that last year at the library and it was such a great program that people were out into the hallway. We had over 80 people there. There will be a judge from the new drug court. She knows that a lot of parents were interested in hearing about that so, again, please come out.

Mrs. Glover said that Mrs. Boyle always has a great list of all the upcoming events for South Plainfield but she added that the Meet the Candidates Night is going to be on Monday, October 30th at the Senior Center at 6:00 p.m. She said that we urge the community to come out with your questions for the candidates that are up for election for the school board this coming November 7th election. Mrs. Glover also extended her condolences to the family of Mr. Robert Conway, our math teacher who just recently retired has passed away. She wanted to publicly extend her condolences.

Mr. Farinella extended his condolences to the Conway family. He said that over the years he has been very confident in the emergency planning that he's seen go forward in South Plainfield but he wanted to take a moment to commend the administration and the faculty and the folks over the past six-eight months. Several issues that have arisen have been handled very, very efficiently, effectively and from a parent's vantage point, the information to parents about what's happening has been very clear, concise and a very thoughtful and considerate of all of the interested folks who are worried about what happens when an emergency occurs. He said to keep up the good work and he really is impressed with what you are doing. Thank you.

Mr. Chapman said that he participated in the Walk and Bike to School Day and it was fun. He said that he noticed a few things and he was wondering if we could put some effort in as a school district. He said that he thinks that we need a couple more crossing guards on Plainfield Avenue. He said that to get to the school from where he lives, it was a very inefficient route. They had to go all the way up to the Middle School. He said that it would be great if we can communicate with the town about potentially getting a couple more crossing guards on Plainfield Avenue. He said that another thing that bothered him was the amount of children that rode their bikes to school and not one of them had a helmet on. He said that when he was a kid, one of his friends was hit by a car. He made it okay but he had head trauma. He said that he thinks it's important and maybe our SRO can do something. There are a lot of encouraging things you can do such as give out certificates for ice-cream. Maybe the SRO can use a positive reinforcement to get the kids to wear their helmets.

Mr. Cassio told Mr. Chapman that was a great question. He said that a few weeks ago he spoke with Mr. Damato, Mr. Wiggins and Officer DeLair in regards to some of the crosswalks that were faded. He was told that Plainfield Avenue was going to be repaved shortly and they are going to redo some crosswalks there. He said that your concerns about the crossing guards will be taken into consideration and Officer DeLair is contacting the county to discuss some of the other roads that need to be restriped. Mr. Cullen is also in touch with Mr. Wiggins to get some of these other crosswalks taken care of.

Mrs. Boyle said that the Meet the Board of Ed Candidates is 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. on the 30th and then the Meet the Council Candidates is from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. They are both being held at the Senior Center.

Mr. Seesselberg said that he wants to commend the administration, the teachers, the principals and the students for their evacuation today and also the cooperation of OLC for housing them. He said that he knows that there was a glitch in the reporting but he understands that has been fixed. Like Mr. Farinella said, all of the planning does get put to use. Mr. Seesselberg said that he would like to personally invite everybody to the game on Friday night versus Colonia. It should be a nice night with the wonderful weather we are having. The band does a wonderful job, the athletic boosters do a great job with the concessions so let's try to pack the house. They've had a rough season but more people in the stands cheering them will be great. Also, he offered his condolences of the family of Robert Conway and also to the family of Ray Swidarski who not many of us know but he was a business teacher many years ago. He was 90 years old and not only was he a fabulous business teachers but he was a professional judge for the American Kennel Club. He traveled all over the world and was well-liked.

Mrs. Anesh said that she's not sure how authentic it is because she hasn't investigated too much but she does know that there has been some flack with Jost Field and the items and the things that have been allowed to be sold there from the different parent groups. She knows that the athletic boosters has the concession stand and the 50/50s and they sell

apparel. Starting just last year, the music boosters decided to start trying to fundraise for our students too because we no longer have the opportunity to have a home competition which used to be our big fundraiser. We had a really hard time trying to get some fried Oreos approved but we finally got that through and now she is understanding that there are some issues with other items that are being sold and she is just trying to understand who has the authority over the field. She said that it is her understand that it's the Board of Education. If those students are out on the field, same as any other student, the cheerleaders, the football team, athletic booster, music boosters, they should all have the same opportunities to be able to sell. She said that she would like some clarification on that.

Dr. Lishak said that when she received her text this morning, before the evacuation, she did have a few minutes to speak with Mr. Spring and she spoke with Mr. McCann and she thinks that there might have been some miscommunication with regards to the message she received from Mrs. Anesh and what might have been put out. The question wasn't about who can sell what, it's already been approved, the approval comes from the Board of Education. She said that you would go to her and as long as it's appropriate for a school event, there isn't any issue. The issue that came up was this, we were under the impression that Oreos would be sold and apparently at one game the Oreos couldn't be sold. She said that it was a windy night and the Oreos couldn't be sold so something else was sold in its place. She said that we are asking that prior to making any changes you make us aware of what is being sold.

The booster organizations do not give approval to sell at a game. If there are must students there, cheerleaders, football players, they can all sell but we also want to be cognizant of how much stuff we are selling at the same time. Dr. Lishak said that she's been to events in neighboring towns and they will be selling things from must, band, cheer and football. They just don't want it to become something where prior to entering a football game you are passing 17 different tables selling different things. Dr. Lishak said she thinks that's where the confusion came in. It wasn't about who is selling what it was we thought there was only going to be Oreos and Oreos weren't being sold. Something else was being sold. We'd like to be aware of what's being sold.

Mrs. Anesh said that maybe we need to come up with a policy for that on what needs to be done because she said she had a conversation about selling apparel and they have actually been selling apparel since the first football game. It wasn't new that night but that's all it was. A few t-shirts and a couple of sweatshirts and stickers. Mrs. Anesh asked how one would know that they need to contact the Board of Education or the Superintendent to get approval to sell whatever it is that one would like to sell.

Dr. Lishak said that she thinks what she is talking about and however it was communicated over the last 24-48 hours. She said she doesn't really think it is an issue but that we are making it more of an issue than it is. Dr. Lishak said that she is fine with it now that she is being told. There is no issue but you know, if you just want to, in the future, just send something that says we are also going to start selling whatever it is that

you might be selling so we just know.

Mr. Seesselberg said that in situations such as this, the issue that arises is competing products and not comparable. If one group starts selling or has been selling coffee and hot dogs and someone else starts selling coffee then the first group is going to be upset. You have band apparel vs. football apparel, you have band stickers vs. football stickers. There is a good point that if you are going to change what you sell every week due to whatever reason let someone know. He said to just be conscientious that you are not selling what someone else is selling.

Mrs. Anesh asked what makes it the athletic booster's right to have total control over the concession stands and total profits over the concession stand. Why not allow the cheerleaders to have one night to sell the concessions and make profits, why not have music boosters have one night to sell and make profits and then another night the athletic boosters sell and make profits. As far as apparel goes you are going to have competition in the sense that we're all going to sell t-shirts. As long as my t-shirts aren't exactly what yours are and mine don't say football or athletic boosters and yours don't say music. You are selling to different groups of people that just happen to be at the same event. Mr. Seesselberg said that those are good points but he thinks historically and he doesn't know where this started, it goes back to before he was in high school but the concession stands are equipped, staffed and the food and everything is provided by the athletic boosters. Whether they were given sole right to those buildings, he doesn't know. Mrs. Anesh said that we need to look at that. Mr. Seesselberg said that is something that we should look into. Mrs. Anesh said that they also run the 50/50 at every game. She said that she's not trying to fight for all of this but she said that if you are going to sit and argue about whether or not we have apparel because now we are selling two different t-shirts then we need some other way to be able to compensate for the same things that the other parent groups get.

Mr. Seesselberg asked Mr. Damato to look into that. Dr. Lishak said that's something that Mr. Damato, when we were talking about it this morning, brought up the same thing that maybe we should come up with a schedule and figure out who can sell what and whose turn it is and we'll figure that out. Mr. Chapman said to Mrs. Anesh that maybe they can collaborate together. Mrs. Anesh said no, that's been tried.

Mr. Farinella said that there are a lot of groups that need to earn money in high school and it's important that everyone has that opportunity. He said that to the extent that there is some concern about how that is going forward, he said that does not belong here at the board level. He said that he thinks that the High School Principal and the Superintendent can work with the groups and that's what they do. It is not the role of the Board of Education to be deciding whether or not cookies are sold. There is going to be a recommendation to us that we will approve. If that includes cookies we will approve it but to decide which shirt is sold and all of that is really something that should be recommended to us for approval after a discussion is had with the interested parties and it's up to the Principal and the Superintendent to develop a fair pathway to make this

happen. There are lots of folks who need to raise money and he thinks folks are sensitive to that but we, as a Board, are not in a position to figure that out. We have people in place to do that.

Mr. Seesselberg said to Mr. Farinella that is a very good point but in regards to food, the High School should have control over what is sold at the high school field. He said that he thinks it would come back to the Board level if there was a Board of Health issue or packaging issue or something happens at those concession stands.

Mrs. Miller said that it is very difficult at the High School level to do fundraising because you have a ton of parent groups. There are over 40 clubs and every athletic team that are selling items to fundraise. She said that it is very difficult at the high school level and she agrees with Mrs. Anesh. It should be fair. She doesn't understand why the music boosters can't sell a music booster t-shirt and the athletic boosters sell athletic booster t-shirts and the football parents can sell their football gear. Everybody should have an opportunity to be able to fundraise. One group shouldn't get more priority over another.

Mrs. Anesh said that as far as what Mr. Farinella said, she 100 percent agrees with the exception that Jost Field is a Board of Education field. It is not a High School field. Unfortunately, that does need more of a scope of participation from the Board when the High School wants to sell things then it should go through the High School Principal. The only events that overlap are the marching band, the cheerleaders and the football team. The other events have their own items sold at their own events. She said that she is not fighting for the concession stand and she's not fighting for the 50/50, she is just asking to let them be as long as the items are appropriate. She asked to be told what procedure to follow so that they notify the right people.

Mr. Seesselberg said that on top of that he thinks that all the groups could work together to sell things but let the people know who may be having the complaints or making the complaints that it's not their sole bailiwick to sell there. There are other groups that are interested in fundraising.

Mrs. Boyle said that she thinks it is great that at Back to School Night all the clubs all sell whatever they are doing, whether it is baked goods or t-shirts. She thinks the students are very respectful. They walk the halls with their goods and that is a great start doing it at Back to School night even though we only have one in a year but they all participate, they all work together and nobody tries to overshadow anybody else.

Dr. Lishak gave a special thank you to Sharon and Father over at Our Lady of Czestochowa. Dr. Lishak said that as soon as she made the phone call before she got over there, Sharon was already out in the parking lot with anything we needed. She had the keys to open up both the hall and the Parish for them. She made them feel very welcome. She thanked them for making it a very easy transition for our students.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLVED, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 47-:1A-1 *et. seq.*) that the Board meets in closed session at this time to discuss confidential matters pertaining to: (select one or more)

1. a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law
2. a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds
3. material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy
4. a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it
5. a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds
6. protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law
7. pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege
8. specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session.
9. deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in closed session shall be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

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

XV. AGENDA APPROVAL

RESOLVED, that the agenda for the regular public meeting on October 18, 2017, as may have been modified, is hereby approved.

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

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

James Damato
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary