

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

Regular Public Meeting – Wednesday, February 21, 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 of Schools; Ms. Mary Malyska, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. James Damato, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary; Mr. Marc Zitomer, Legal Counsel; 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 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. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Mr. Seesselberg asked Mr. Zitomer to read the resolution for Personnel item XI. E. into the record. Mr. Zitomer read in the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the settlement agreement and release with employee ID# 5245, in accordance to the terms and conditions thereof and be it further RESOLVED that the Board President is authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Mr. Zitomer asked for a Motion to add the above resolution. The vote is as follows:

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

Mr. Damato said that other additions are in bold on the agenda.

VI. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

VII. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PRIOR BOARD MEETING MINUTES/COMMITTEE MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Board of Education meetings, held on the dates indicated, as transcribed, be received and filed.

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| 1. Organization Meeting | January 3, 2018 |
| 2. Executive Session | January 3, 2018 |
| 3. Committee of the Whole Meeting | January 10, 2018 |
| 4. Executive Session | January 10, 2018 |
| 5. Executive Session 2 | January 10, 2018 |
| 6. Executive Session | January 24, 2018 |
| 7. Regular Public Meeting | January 24, 2018 |
| 8. Public Relations Committee Meeting | January 30, 2018 |
| 9. Special Education Committee Meeting | January 31, 2018 |
| 10. Finance Committee Meeting | January 9, 2018 |

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Boyle said that she has an amendment to the January 10th Executive Session. Mrs. Boyle said that the second paragraph says, "She stated" and she would like clarification on who is being referred to.

Mr. Zitomer said that we have to be careful about what we are saying in public about closed session minutes.

Mrs. Boyle asked him if he saw the minutes. Mr. Zitomer said that he did see the minutes but that we can't discuss them in public so be careful about what you say about what is in those minutes because they are obviously confidential. Mr. Zitomer said to Mrs. Boyle that he doesn't know what she is going to say so he wanted her to be careful.

Mrs. Boyle asked how she amends it. Mr. Zitomer asked her if she is getting into specific details about what was discussed in closed session. He said that he recommends tabling those minutes this evening, talk to Mr. Damato, go back to the notes and see if we are all in agreement and then just put them on the next agenda.

Mrs. Boyle said okay, it's not about what was in agreement it was about what was said that was left out but that is fine. She asked if she should make a motion to table January 10th.

Mr. Seesselberg said that we will pull both of the executive session minutes from January 10th because the minutes that Mrs. Boyle is referring to did not have a time on them so they were unsure of which session she was referring to.

The vote to table the January 10, 2018 executive session minutes is as follows:

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

The vote to approve the minutes, with the exception of the January 10, 2018 executive session minutes, is as follows:

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

VIII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Lishak said that before we go into our recognitions and presentations, she said that she would like to discuss the safety concerns in our district. As a district, like all school districts in our country, we've been placed in the spotlight as a result of another horrific act of school violence. Dr. Lishak said that she has spoken with a number of parents who have voiced their concerns and worries about the safety of their children while in our schools. She said she wanted to take the time this evening to ensure parents of the South Plainfield School District that our district takes the safety of our students, faculty and staff very seriously.

As a district, we meet with local emergency service providers to review our school safety and security plan often. Our district works closely with the South Plainfield Police Department on all safety and security issues within the district and outside the walls of the school. Dr. Lishak said that she realizes, as parents, we want to know exactly what is happening in the schools in regards to safety, however, all safety measures cannot be

discussed with the public. Dr. Lishak said that she understands that it is frustrating. She said that she has a child in a public high school as well. We continue to review our security plans, most recently as this afternoon, with Chief Parker from the South Plainfield Police Department, Captain Seidenberg, Borough Business Administrator, Glenn Cullen as well as the Deputy Chief Abbruzzese. We have made adjustments to our plan during the school year and will continue to make adjustments as needed.

Dr. Lishak said that she wants everyone to know that we are as concerned with the safety issues that face our school today as you are. We have reiterated with the administration the importance of following protocols already in place in our district. They have spoken to their faculty and staff about the importance of following procedures for visitors who enter our school buildings ensuring all doors are locked to the public at all times as well as continuing safety drills. In addition, the administration is aware of the importance of quick responses to reports of unusual activity in the school buildings, outside of the school buildings, and on social media. Although it's been said many times before, "See something. Say something." In many cases, as in the Florida incident as well, warning signs were there and we as a School District, Police Force and Community need to make the authorities aware so that incidents like this can be handled before another tragic event happens.

In addition, Mr. Spring will be meeting with the members of the Student Council to discuss activities that will be planned for March 14th, National School Walkout. Activities will focus on school safety and the process for change. The events scheduled for the day are meant to have a positive impact on the students through their involvement in the process. Student organizations will be invited to take part in the activities held during the school day.

Dr. Lishak said that we also have another issue that is facing our schools and that is our flu epidemic. We wanted to also let you know we are continuing to focus on cleaning our schools and disinfecting each night and this includes the cleaning and disinfecting of our buses as well. We are still in the height of flu season so we ask that everybody take precaution. Together as a school community, we all have the responsibility to keep our students safe.

1. Recognition of Sodexo Employee Mary Cameron

Dr. Lishak invited Mr. Damato to the podium. Mr. Damato said that he had the privilege to work with Ms. Cameron for a year and a half and he has gotten to know her pretty well because they worked closely. She is the Director of our food service program. She has worked with the South Plainfield Board of Education for over twenty years. She is now retiring and Mr. Damato said that we are so proud of her and for all of the things that she has done. She has actually worked her way up from cafeteria worker up to Food Service Director so she has been a tremendous asset to the district. She is also a resident of South Plainfield and she will be missed a great deal. Her kind spirit has done wonders for the moral of the organization and of course her enthusiasm for South Plainfield Public

Schools. Thank you for your service.

2. Presentation of Tenure Certificates

The following staff members have been recommended to receive tenure:

Tara Martinetti	Roosevelt School
Chelsea Walsh	Roosevelt School

Dr. Lishak invited Mr. Diehl, Roosevelt School Principal, to present Certificate of Tenure to Mrs. Martinetti and Mrs. Walsh.

Following the presentation of the Certificates of Tenure, Dr. Lishak invited Mr. English of the Referendum Reporting Committee to review what was talked about at the most recent meeting.

Mr. English reported that a meeting was held on February 6th. In attendance was the Superintendent, Business Administrator, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds and Board Members Seesselberg, Chapman, Cassio and Giannakis. The meeting agenda included; closing of the bond with Citibank on February 6th, synthetic track bid opening of February 6th, Kappa Construction timeline for the Middle School Electrical and HVAC upgrades, and summer facility usage for Roosevelt School and the Administration Building.

Mr. English said that the bids came in under what we expected to redo the track at Jost Field, and the fence around the track will be replaced in-house. The bid specs for Franklin and Kennedy roof replacements are in. There is good news in regards to the pricing of the toilet rooms. We thought they were going to be outrageously expensive because when you convert a regular bathroom into a handicapped accessible bathroom you have to cut through walls to make everything wider. We found that the process is not going to be as costly as we originally thought.

The bond sale has already been publicized and was fantastic. We got an interest rate that will, over the course of the life the bond, save the Borough 3.9 million dollars.

Mr. English said that he asked a number of questions about other improvements going on at Jost Field. The renovations will start with the visitor bleachers being removed prior to graduation. Over the summer, we will be renovating the home team bleachers and replacing the visitor side with brand new bleachers. The track will be replaced during the summer. They will also be putting together the construction and bids for the field house next summer.

The committee briefly discussed the improvements that were done over last summer and he said that he is very happy to see the signs in front of all the schools that list the projects and the timeframe for completion. He said it is important to keep the public informed.

There will be a lot of work done in three of the elementary schools over the summer so the Summer Parks Program will be asked to use Roosevelt School and the Administration Building gym. A lot of stuff will also be brought back to the PAL. Mr. English mentioned that he believes that the program should be held in the parks because it is called a Summer Parks Program.

Dr. Lishak congratulated the South Plainfield Wrestling Team for winning the District XIV Championships for the 34th year in a row. Eleven wrestlers are moving on to the Region IV Tournament in Union that began this evening so we wish them all the best. The top four will be moving on to the State Tournament in Atlantic City.

Dr. Lishak said that this last thing shouldn't be done in public but she is. She said that she has a bone to pick with Mr. Diehl. She said that he asked her if she would like to play in a charity game of The South Plainfield Teaching Tigers vs. the Harlem Wizards. She said that she was told it's nothing, you don't have to worry about it, and you only have to play for a couple of minutes. Dr. Lishak said that she received a video of what exactly the Harlem Wizards are and she joked that she is not going to live through it. She said that if you want to see her last day, it will be on March 24th at the Harlem Wizards vs. The South Plainfield Teaching Tigers at 6:00 p.m. in the Middle School. Tickets are on sale and can be purchased online at www.harlemwizards.com. Dr. Lishak asked everyone to please come out and support. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Mr. Diehl added that there is a cheerleading squad made up of staff members, including Mrs. Doyan who was in attendance at the meeting.

IX. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

1. Acceptance of Anti-Bullying Report

Approve the Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying Reports from January 25, 2018 – February 21, 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following cumulative data regarding HIB incidents from September 6 – February 21, 2018 reported as of this agenda.

School	Number of Alleged Incidents September 6 – February 21, 2018	Number of Verified Incidents September 6 – February 21, 2018
High School	6	1
Middle School	10	6
Grant School	15	4
Franklin School	5	4
Kennedy School	1	0
Roosevelt School	1	1
Riley School	1	0

2. Acceptance of the Fire and Security Drill Reports for January 2018

Accept the Fire and Security Drill Reports to the Board of Education for January 2018.

3. Approval for High School Spring Athletics Schedules – 2018

Approve the High School Spring Athletic Schedules as shown in Tab IX.3

4. Approval for Middle School Spring Athletics Schedules – 2018

Approve the Middle School Spring Athletic Schedules as shown in Tab IX.4

5. Approval for Teen PEP Retreat

Approve the following trip for students:

Target Group: South Plainfield High School Students

Camp Johnsonburg
Johnsonburg, NJ
May 31 – June 2, 2018

Number of students: 30

Trip Proposal: Ms. Vicki Uniacke, Ms. Tammy Zurka

Chaperones: Ms. Vicki Uniacke, Ms. Tammy Zurka, Mr. David Spayder

6. RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the ultimate goal of the South Plainfield Board of Education is to provide a high-quality education to the students of the South Plainfield School District; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that one aspect of such an education is to address, investigate and eradicate instances of harassment, intimidation and bullying (“HIB”) in the District’s schools, particularly in light of the current school climate and necessary focus on ensuring student safety and all students’ right to attend school free from HIB; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey law contains a definition of HIB that includes numerous aspects and steps necessary to determine whether an act constitutes an incident of HIB, with such definition codified in the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act (“ABR”) at N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14; and

WHEREAS, the definition of HIB groups the terms “harassment,” “intimidation” and “bullying” into the same category, such that a substantiated act may include one or all of those terms; and

WHEREAS, the definition of HIB also includes a requirement that in order for an act to be considered HIB, it must be based on an “actual or perceived characteristic,” including, among other things, race, color, religion, gender identity or expression, or “any other distinguishing characteristic;” and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that more clarification in the definition of HIB is necessary in order to allow District administrators to properly address, investigate and respond to HIB reports, particularly because the terms harassment, intimidation and bullying are not differentiated in the definition set forth in the law; and

WHEREAS, the Board further believes that an act or instance of such conduct may not necessarily fall within the meaning of all three terms – harassment, intimidation or bullying, and further believes the ABR should be amended to include specific definitions for all three terms in order to better allow District administrators to determine whether an act falls within the confines of each term, if not all three; and

WHEREAS, the Board further believes that greater detail should be included in the definition of HIB regarding the term “other distinguishing characteristic,” or, in the alternative, greater clarification with regard to what does not constitute an “other distinguishing characteristic,” as there is significant confusion between school districts and even investigators within a single district as to whether an investigated incident is based on such a characteristic; and

WHEREAS, the Board further stresses that the ABR’s requirement to investigate and determine whether an act constitutes HIB, while necessary and supported by the Board, places a large burden on school districts and takes valuable resources from the overall mission of the District, helping students learn, and in many cases, comes with increased costs or manpower needs which are not sufficiently funded by the State of New Jersey despite the requirement that Districts respond to each and every report of HIB made in the District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education finds that, the definition of HIB contained within the ABR is insufficient, in that the law does not allow for a differentiation between the three aspects of HIB nor does it adequately define an “other distinguishing characteristic” to aid District HIB investigators in their mission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board further finds that the law and its implicating regulations should be amended by State legislators and/or the State Board of Education to properly define these terms and better effectuate the law’s implementation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board also finds that the State of New Jersey should allocate additional, sufficient funds to each school district to accomplish the State-mandated requirements attendant to the law’s investigation requirements, including, but not limited to, State aid to support the hiring and training of necessary staff members and the cost associated with the law’s administrative burden; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board hereby petitions the New Jersey School Boards Association to lobby New Jersey's State legislators and/or the State Board of Education to introduce, approve and implement a modified definition of HIB in the ABR as soon as possible, as well as to allocate additional funds for the State mandates set forth in the law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be presented at the next Delegate Assembly of the New Jersey School Boards Association by the District representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board urges other New Jersey school districts and municipalities to adopt a similar resolution in an effort to convince their State legislators to introduce or co-sponsor legislation to address the issues raised herein; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board Secretary shall forward a copy of this Resolution to our State Representatives, the New Jersey School Boards Association, local municipal leaders, the board secretaries of each school district in the county, the Governor's Office, the County Office of Education and the Office of the Commissioner of Education.

DISCUSSION:

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

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Seesselberg asked Mrs. Boyle to give a little background on Item VI., the resolution that was added tonight. Mr. Seesselberg said that he knows it was time sensitive to get it on tonight for approval.

Mrs. Boyle said that the resolution was under curriculum and she didn't realize that. She said that she would have made the Motion because she is the one that asked for it. She said that this will go to the delegate assembly. Mrs. Boyle said that she doesn't believe that the definition for HIB is detailed enough. She said that it was discussed in Trenton two weeks ago that this is a mandate that is not funded which should be funded. It takes a lot of hours for the Board to review and to listen to the appeals so there should absolutely be funding for it but she also thinks that the bullying part needs to be more defined. She said that she understands that HIB has to go together but she doesn't think that it should go together if there is no bullying involved in the issue. This will be on for the Delegate Assembly in May and she asked Mr. Zitomer if he will be sending that out to Cindy Yon, the attorney for the delegate assembly. It has to be received by March 5th at 5:00 p.m. Mr. Zitomer said absolutely yes and that the final paragraph also refers to some other folks as well. Mrs. Boyle thanked Mr. Zitomer for doing that and she also thanked Dr. Lishak.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Pennisi

VOTE: 9-0

X. POLICY

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

Approve the first reading of the following Bylaws/Policies/Regulations in accordance with Tab X.A.

1. Bylaw 0169 – Board Member Use of Electronic Mail/Internet (Revised)- TAB X.1.
2. Policy 1240 – Evaluation of Superintendent (Revised)- TAB X.2.
3. Regulation 1240 – Evaluation of Superintendent (Revised)-TAB X.3.
4. Policy 1511 – Board of Education Website Accessibility (New)-TAB X.4.
5. Policy 2700 – Services to Nonpublic School Students (Revised)-TAB X.5.
6. Policy 3126 – District Mentoring Program (Revised)- TAB X.6.
7. Regulation 3126 – District Mentoring Program (Revised)-TAB X.7.
8. Policy 3216 – Dress and Grooming (Revised)-TAB X.8.
9. Policy 3221 – Evaluation of Teachers (Revised)-TAB X.9.
10. Regulation 3221 – Evaluation of Teachers (Revised)-TAB X.10.
11. Policy 3222 – Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators (Revised)-TAB X.11.
12. Regulation 3222 – Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators (Revised)-TAB X.12.
13. Policy 3223 – Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals (Revised)-TAB X.13.
14. Regulation 3223 Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals (Revised)-TAB X.14.
15. Policy 3224 – Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals (Revised)-TAB X.15.
16. Regulation 3224 – Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals (Revised)-TAB X.16.
17. Policy 3240 – Professional Development for Teachers and School Leaders (Revised)-TAB X.17.
18. Regulation 3240 – Professional Development for Teachers and School Leaders (Revised)-TAB X.18.
19. Policy 3437 – Military Leave (Revised)-TAB X.19.
20. Policy 4437 – Military Leave (Revised)-TAB X.20.
21. Policy 5420 – Reporting Pupil Progress (Revised)-TAB X.21.
22. Regulation 5440-Honoring Pupil Achievement (Revised)-TAB X.22.
23. Regulation 5460.1 – High School Transcripts (Revised)-TAB X.23.
24. Policy 5516.01 – Student Tracking Devices (New)-TAB X.24.
25. Policy 5533-Pupil Smoking (Revised)-TAB X.25.
26. Policy 5610 – Suspension (Revised)-TAB X.26.
27. Regulation 5610 – Suspension (Revised)-TAB X.27.
28. Policy 5620 – Expulsion (Revised)-TAB X.28.
29. Policy 7100 – Long-Range Facilities Planning (Revised)-TAB X.29.
30. Regulation 7100 – Long-Range Facilities Planning (Revised)-TAB X.30.
31. Policy 7101 – Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects (Revised)-TAB X.31.

32. Regulation 7101 – Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects (Revised)-TAB X.32.
33. Policy 7102 – Site Selection and Acquisition (Revised)-TAB X.33.
34. Regulation 7102 – Site Selection and Acquisition (New)-TAB X.34.
35. Policy 7130 – School Closing (Revised)-TAB X.35.
36. Policy 7250-School and Facility Names (Revised)-TAB X.36.
37. Policy 7300 – Disposition of Property (Revised)-TAB X.37.
38. Regulation 7300.2 – Disposition of Land (Revised)-TAB X.38.
39. Regulation 7300.3 – Disposition of Personal Property (Revised)-TAB X.39.
40. Regulation 7300.4 – Disposition of Federal Property (Revised)-TAB X.40.
41. Policy 7425 – Lead Testing of Water in Schools (New)-TAB X.41.
42. Policy 7440 – School District Security (Revised)-TAB X.42.
43. Regulation 7440 – School District Security (Revised)-TAB X.43.
44. Policy 7441 – Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds (Revised)-TAB X.44.
45. Regulation 7441 – Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds (Revised)-TAB X.45.
46. Policy 7510 – Use of School Facilities (Revised)-TAB X.46.
47. Policy 8505 – Local Wellness Policy/Nutrient Standards for Meals and Other Foods (Revised)-TAB X.47.
48. Policy 8507 – Breakfast Offer Versus Serve (OVS) (Revised)-TAB X.48.
49. Policy 8550 – Unpaid Meal Charge/Outstanding Food Service Charges (Revised)-TAB X.49.
50. Policy 8630 – Bus Driver/Bus Aide Responsibility (Revised)-TAB X.50.
51. Regulation 8630 – Emergency School Bus Procedures (Revised)-TAB X.51.
52. Policy 9120 – Public Information Program (Revised)-TAB X.52.
53. Policy 9150 – School Visitors (Revised)-TAB X.53.
54. Policy 9210B-School and Student Support Organizations (New)-TAB X.54.
55. Policy 9242 – Use of Electronic Signatures (New)-TAB X.55.

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Boyle asked if all of the policies that were received from Strauss Esmay were presented to the Board. Dr. Lishak said that she doesn't know the answer to that. Mrs. Boyle said only because there was a policy that was being worked on in Trenton and it was also being worked on by Strauss Esmay when we were at the School Boards Convention in Atlantic City. In October we were told by Strauss Esmay that it was going to be with reference to social media and Board Members. She said that she guesses that was not received since it is not part of this.

Dr. Lishak said that the one on social media was discussed in committee. She said that it was recommended but not mandatory so she doesn't know if there is going to be further discussion but it was determined at this point it wasn't going to go on.

Mrs. Boyle said that it is very important. It is being worked on in Trenton so hopefully we will eventually receive that and adopt it.

Mrs. Boyle said that she has questions on Policy 9210B - Student Support Organizations. She asked if 9210B takes the place of 9210. Dr. Lishak said that 9210 remains unchanged. 9210B is only requiring that school and student support organizations be approved so they have their paperwork and their insurance. It has nothing to do with who can be on it.

Mrs. Boyle said that she knows but at the last meeting it was discussed that this affected groups or organizations that survive because of the schools and that is not true. The Education Foundation is a 501C-3 and it has its own bank account. They have their own bylaws. Dr. Lishak said that the statement that was made was that it exists because we exist. For example, if South Plainfield no longer existed as a school district there would be no need for the South Plainfield Education Foundation. The idea is that they exist because we exist. Mrs. Boyle said that is not true because the Education Foundation, as UNICO, can fundraise. It doesn't necessarily have to be done here. We do fundraising and we can still give scholarships. They can be done at a separate ceremony. They don't have to be done here. Dr. Lishak said that is not what they are saying. What we are saying is, all we want is for these groups, prior to the start of each school year, present their paperwork and insurance so that they will not have to submit anything other than a building usage form. Dr. Lishak said that we are approving the use of our buildings and we do not have any say over what and where you fundraise. Mrs. Boyle said that she is just asking for clarification.

Next, Mrs. Boyle asked about Regulation 7441 - Electronic Surveillance. She said that it says that, "surveillance devices may include but are not limited to sound/video cameras" and then it says, "Recording may be used to monitor and preserve the conduct of school district staff, students, and community members." Mrs. Boyle said that is different than what they discussed as far as tracking.

Dr. Lishak said that her understanding is that it had to do with tracking and the ability to track somebody in school. Dr. Lishak said, in her case, she can use an app to track her daughter but there can be no recording or audio. The purpose is just for tracking. Mrs. Boyle said that this one is different. This one talks about the use of audio to be able to monitor and observe the conduct of the school district staff. Dr. Lishak took a moment to review the policy.

Mr. Chapman said that was discussed and it was in reference to surveillance cameras that also record audio. Mrs. Boyle said she thought audio would not be used. Audio can't be used to record students in the hallway or teachers talking because the first day of school last year there was a major concern from the teachers that there was going to be audio and Mrs. Boyle said that Dr. Lishak stood up and spoke and assured the staff that it was not audio, just video. She asked if this policy changes that.

Mr. Zitomer said that we do have to be careful about talking about what our video and surveillance capabilities are in public. He said that there is no expectation of privacy via audio to the extent that we have it in common areas like hallways. Mr. Zitomer said that

he absolutely believes that if we had the capability and he's not going to comment whether we are doing it. In certain common areas there is no expectation that a conversation would be private. He said that he agrees that a faculty room, a restroom and a locker room is a totally different story but to the extent that we can pick up audio and video he doesn't think there is anything illegal about that and whether we are doing it or whether we have that capability is not something we should discuss in public due to safety and security reasons.

Mrs. Boyle said that she understands and she asked to table that until it can be reworded. Mr. Pennisi said that this is only the first reading. Mrs. Boyle said that the way it is worded is not what was discussed the first day of school. Whether or not it's due to security they were told that there was not audio, it was only video.

Mrs. Boyle said she has questions regarding 9120 – Public Information Programs. She asked if parents are allowed to record a student receiving an award at a public meeting. Dr. Lishak said that is in regards to information and media releases so we can, if a parent agrees, use their picture on our website. This just makes the policy broader than it originally was.

Mr. Seesselberg said that he is going to read his suggested changes into the record and we will send it in the packet. These are just minor terminology changes. He said that sometimes the verbiage gets a little backwards. Regulation 5440 – The heading was changed from “Athletics” to “Athletics and Co-curricular” but none of the other verbiage refers to music teachers or art teachers, it just has all of the verbiage regarding coaches so he would like to see that modified. Mr. Seesselberg said that policy 5116.01 is still using the word taping. Nobody tapes anything anymore so he would like to suggest changing that to recording. 9210B only references insurance certificates but he would also like to see the addition of the words “valid and current organizational documents”. Some of these organizations may have the insurance but they haven't filed the proper tax returns or the department of state or the 501C-3. Just to let us know that they are still an organization and he knows that some people think it's there but it's not and you may not be able to get the insurance if you don't have the organizational information. Mr. Seesselberg said that he will send those home in the packet, we can look at them and discuss them before the second reading. Mr. Seesselberg asked if there was any other discussion on the first reading.

Mrs. Boyle said that you are not adding that in now, correct? Mr. Seesselberg said that he is going to send it in Friday's packet. It's not specifically just income tax, it's just any valid organizational documents that let them know that they are a viable organization in the State. Mrs. Boyle said that she thinks that most post it on their website. Mrs. Boyle said that there was a policy that was brought up when Mrs. Miller was policy chair and it was 0155 - Board Committees that Mrs. Anesh requested. She asked why that is not part of this group of policies. Mr. Pennisi said that their meeting a month ago, we said that there was no reason to have that policy right now because the committees are already set by the President for this year. He said that we could look at that policy toward the end

before the new election comes out and see if we want to make the change then. That's the only reason why that wasn't made. Mrs. Boyle said that can come back up again. Mr. Pennisi said yes.

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
Mrs. Boyle voted no on Policy 7441, the electronic surveillance with the audio/video.

XI. 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.**

XI.A Resignations, Retirements, Terminations

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:

Code	Name	Action	Position	Location	Date Eff.	Discussion
1.	Primmer, Peter	Retirement	Industrial Arts Teacher	Middle School	06/30/2018	
2.	Mackey, Donna	Resign	Substitute Secretary/Paraprofessional	District	02/15/2018	
3.	O'Keefe, Stacey	Resign	Special Education Teacher	Middle School	04/09/2018	Letter Dated 2/9/2018

XI.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# 5047	Paid Medical/ Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	Franklin School		3/6/18	4/24/18			9/1/2018	Revised
2.	Employee# 4273	Paid Medical/ Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	Roosevelt School		3/29/18	5/23/18			11/01/18	
3.	Employee# 4004	Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	High School			4/9/18			5/21/18	

XI.C Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	DeLucia, Nicholas	Approve	Special Education	1 BA	\$51,755	Middle School	03/01/2018	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-213-100-101-18
2.	Harris, Arielle	Approve	Occupational Therapist	3 MA	\$55,405	District	04/12/18 or sooner	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-216-101-18
3.	Vitasble, Sheri	Transfer	Paraprofessional	Step 1 \$17.75 per hr.	\$13,429.65 (pro-rated)	Roosevelt School	01/31/2018	06/30/2018	Transfer from Grant School 19.5 hrs. per week Acct#:11-213-100-106-18
4.	Whalen, Janet	Transfer	Paraprofessional	Step 9 \$20.65 per hr.	\$24,037 (pro-rated)	Roosevelt School	02/20/2018	06/30/2018	Transfer from Grant School Acct#:
5.	Abbate, Maureen	Approve	Substitute Paraprofessional	N/A	\$9.25 per hr.	District	01/25/2018	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-240-105-01
6.	Spina, Jessica	Approve	Substitute Paraprofessional	N/A	\$9.25 per hr.	District	09/01/2017	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-262-107-00
7.	Leonard, Wendy	Approve	Substitute Duty Aide	N/A	\$9.25 per hr.	District	02/22/2018	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-262-107-00
8.	Sims, Patricia	Approve	Home Instruction	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	District	0222/2018	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-150-100-101-18

XI.D. Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Piwowar, Cathy	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 10	\$21.65 per hr. + \$900 long	High School	02/01/2018	06/22/2018	Accompany Special Education student to bus at the end of day from 2:20 pm to 2:35 pm Substitute for N. McKee when needed Acct#: 11-212-100-106-18
2.	Capizola, Michael	Approve	Teacher	N/A	\$10,170.00	Middle School	N/A	N/A	Sick Day Payout Acct#: 11-213-100-101-18
3.	Jewkes, Barbara	Approve	Teacher	N/A	\$5,718.00	Middle School	N/A	N/A	Sick Day Payout Acct#: 11-213-100-101-18
4.	Gallo, Elaine	Approve	Retiree (Director of Guidance)	N/A	\$20,234.43	District	N/A	N/A	Vacation Day Payout Acct#: 11-000-240-103-21
5.	Vitabile, Sheri	Approve	Paraprofessional	N//A	\$88.76	Roosevelt School	02/06/18	02/07/18	CPI Training 2.5 hrs. each day Acct#:11-213-100-106-18
6.	DeFort, Phillip	Approve	Co-Stage Director	Step 2	\$1,449.00	High School	02/22/2018	06/30/2018	(1/2 of \$2,898) Acct#:11-401-100-100-00
7.	Cassio, Christopher	Approve	Co-Stage Director	Step 1	\$1395.50	High School	02/22/2018	06/30/2018	(1/2 of \$2,791) Acct#: 11-401-100-100-00

*NOTE: All salaries, longevity, stipends & hourly rates for NJEA members or the Small Van Drivers' Association and non-affiliated staff are subject to change upon settlement of the agreement for the 2017/18 school year.

E. Approval of the settlement agreement and release with employee ID# 5245

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the settlement agreement and release with employee ID# 5245, in accordance to the terms and conditions thereof and be it further RESOLVED that the Board President is authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis SECOND: Mr. Pennisi VOTE: 9-0
Mrs. Boyle said that she abstained on herself. Mr. Cassio abstained on XI.D. Number 7

XII. FINANCE

1. Accept Gift Donation

Accept the donation of \$1400.00 from the South Plainfield Education Association to be used to purchase new uniforms for the Girls' Soccer Program at the High School.

2. Approval of the Amended FY18 IDEA Preschool and Basic Grant Awards Application

Approve the acceptance of the amended FY18 IDEA Preschool and Basic Grant Awards Application.

3. Approval of Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program Purchase Order for Al-Minhaal Academy

Approve the Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program purchase order through the Educational Services Commission of NJ for Al-Minhaal Academy in the amount of \$6,965.00 shown in Tab XII.3

4. Approval of Line Item Transfers

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the line item transfers for December 2017 shown in Tab XII.4

5. Receipt of Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the receipt of the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports as of December 2017, and acknowledge the following certification of the Board Secretary:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2-11(c)4, the Board Secretary certifies that after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's monthly financial reports in the minutes of the Board

each month that no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b).

=====

James Damato, Board Secretary

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Date

6. Approval of Bill List for February 2018

Approve payment of bills and claims that have been certified by the Board Secretary and filed in the Business Office. The following is a list of payments being approved:

<u>Checks</u>	<u>Payroll Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Payroll		\$ 1,708,907.67
Payroll		\$ 1,615,932.92

<u>Checks</u>	<u>Check Numbers</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Hand Checks		
Preschool		\$
Latchkey	400019 - 400024	\$ 2,044.68
Adult Ed		\$
Cafeteria	200013	\$ 129,846.45
Trust and Agency	100001 - 100028	\$ 183,375.97
FICA	901151800	\$ 96,006.91
	901311800	\$ 95,654.46
Unemployment		\$
Machine Checks	1423 - 1740	\$ 1,961,903.72
FUND 30	700035 - 700038	\$ 140,681.45

MOTION:

SECOND:

VOTE:

7. Approval for Professional Development Expenditures

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.	Executive Function, ADHD and Stress in the Classroom	3/21/18	\$99.99 11-000-223-580-11	Heather Hearne-Pascale
2.	NJSBGA	3/12-14/18	\$405.00 Registration, Lodging,	Tom Wiggins

			Mileage 11-000-223-580-11	
3.	Regional Networking Meeting	2/13/18	\$5.89 Mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Shanti Kantha-Murray
4..	Crosscutting Concepts	3/8/18	\$9.49 Mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Shanti-Kantha-Murray
5.	Best Current Practices for School Medical Emergencies	2/26/18	\$259.00 11-000-223-580-11	Amelia Heller
6..	FLENJ Conference	4/13/18	\$110.00 11-000-223-580-11	Lizbet Arriola
7.	The Role of the School Climate Team	3/14/18	\$8.68 11-000-223-580-11	Robert Richkus
8.	Timesaving Strategies to integrate your OT Interventions into classrooms	3/19/18	\$259.00 11-000-219-580-19	Kathryn Raber
9..	Timesaving Strategies to integrate your OT interventions into classrooms	3/19/18	\$259.00 11-000-219-580-19	Izabela Paschall
10.	Engaging and Teaching Diverse Learners	2/12/18	\$10.60 mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Bob Diehl
11.	Engaging and Teaching Diverse Learners	3/12/18	\$10.60 mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Kevin Hajduk
12.	PARRC Test Coordinator Training	3/1/18	\$15.56 mileage/fees 11-000-223-580-11	Robert Redmon
13.	Hazard Community Training	3/19/18 3/21/18 3/23/18	\$52.82 mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Shanti Kantha-Murray
14.	School Social Workers- Utilizing Collaborative Strategies	3/16/18	\$125.00 11-000-219-580-18	Karen Milano

8. Board Member/Staff Member Conference/Travel

The following individuals have registered for conferences, seminars, etc., which are

compliant with State payment guidelines; with Board Bylaw 0147; employee/Board Member job responsibilities and critical to the needs of the school district. (Account 11.000.230.585.12)

<u>Participant</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date and Location</u>	<u>Cost/Mileage</u>
Debbie Boyle	Legislative Committee Meeting	February 10, 2018 NJSBA 413 West State St. Trenton, NJ 08618	Cost: \$ 0.00 Mileage: \$29.14

9. Approval for Related Services Providers – 2017/2018

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following related services appointment for special education students for the 2017/2018 school year:

Feeding and Speech Therapy

1. Ms. Lieba Picker
212 East Eighth Street, Lakewood, NJ 08701
February 21, 2018 through June 30, 2018
Speech Therapy/Evaluation Services \$80.00 per hour

Child Study Team Assessments Providers

1. Ms. Yvonne S. Beyer, M.Ed., SLS
Speech and Language Specialist/Consultant
HYSJR Educational Solutions
225 Grant Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904-1809
February 21, 2018 through June 30, 2018
\$600.00 per speech evaluation
\$100.00 per hour for meeting attendance

10. Approval of Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program Purchase Order for Al-Minhaal Academy

Approve the Nonpublic School Technology Initiative Program purchase order through the Educational Services Commission of NJ for Al-Minhaal Academy in the amount of \$768.00 shown in Tab XII.10

11. Authorize Disposal of Personal Property No Longer Needed

Authorize the Board Secretary to dispose of the following personal property no longer

needed for public use. If no bids are received, property can be disposed of for scrap.

2001 Ford S250 White Pick Up Truck with 8' Plow

12. Approval of Withdrawals, Placements, and Tuition Adjustments of Special Education Students for the 2017-2018 School Year

Approve the withdrawals/placements/tuition changes for the following special education students for the 2017-2018 school year:

- a Placement of one special education student in the Lincoln Elementary Achievement Program, Cranford Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year. Start date will be February 20, 2018. Tuition cost will be \$52,429.00 (pro-rated) plus speech related services at the rate of \$1,440.00 (pro-rated)
State ID No.: 9412275016.

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Boyle said that she has a question on the attorney's bill list. She said that for the past two months, we have been billed for an investigation regarding board members possibly being conflicted for the vote on the van drivers. She said that as far as she knows there is no conflict for any board member with regards to the van drivers. They don't belong to NJEA and she said that she knows that Mr. Seesselberg requested that investigation or an opinion from the Ethics Commission so why wasn't the rest of the board informed about that.

Mr. Seesselberg said that he asked for an opinion and it came out a month ago and we let everybody know that everybody can participate in the final vote. Mrs. Boyle asked why they wouldn't be able to participate. Mr. Seesselberg said that he just had a question since they were being represented by a member of the NJEA Uniserv whether there would be any conflict with an NJEA member.

Mr. Zitomer said that it's not necessarily dispositive about whether they are an NJEA affiliate. One of the issues could be that if the contracts were linked in some way, shape or form that could also create a conflict. In other words, the van drivers contract, for instance said that the van drivers get the same health benefits as members of the SPEA, which would create a conflict irrespective of whether the van drivers were actually an NJEA union so there are other issues.

Mrs. Boyle said that is funny because that is the first time that ever came up. Again, the Board should have been informed. Mr. Zitomer said that the board was informed. Mrs. Boyle said that not all of us were informed that there was an opinion requested. It's not the first time either. Mrs. Boyle said that she also has a questions as far as the van drivers' negotiations. Every board member should have a copy of what was agreed to, what was presented and she said that she asked for that last month and she said that we still don't have that. Mrs. Boyle requested a copy of what was being discussed by the board. Also any handouts that are given to committees.

Every board member is entitled to those handouts. Mr. Seesselberg said that in regards to the van drivers that is still under contract discussion so we'd have to talk about that in executive session.

Mrs. Boyle said, exactly, we should be updated as to what was being negotiated and whether or not it was agreed to.

Mr. Seesselberg said that in regards to handouts, he said that he thought some of them were forwarded in the packets.

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
Mrs. Boyle abstained on herself.

XIII. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diana Joffe, SPEA, thanked Dr. Lishak for her comments about school safety. Mrs. Joffe said that she wanted to address the ugly Facebook comments posted over the last couple of days. The comments are false. The postings claim that the school district does not do its part in safety with lockdown drills. Mrs. Joffe said that we've had excellent procedures since she started with the district in 1977. She said they had fire drills back in the innocent days and then after Columbine they had evacuation and lockdown drills and every year they are improved. Mrs. Joffe said that today they had an announced fire drill.

Mrs. Joffe said that we have a lot of work to do in terms of the teachers and the whole staff. Getting the kids to feel safe starts right here in the school district. She said that last year Mrs. Doyan spoke about the dire need to have counselors at the elementary level. She said to the Board that she is sure they can all agree that it is a priority. Mrs. Joffe said that she knows that she has students in her class and kids in the elementary who are really in emotional and psychological need and we don't have the resources for them right now. She said that those kids grow up and come to the high school and we need to nip this in the bud. Mrs. Joffe said that there are many things that have to be done that are out of our control as a Board of Education and as a school district but she said that she implores you to please make it a priority to get full time school counselors in every elementary school.

Walter Kalman, Chambers Street, said that he wants to chime in on what Mrs. Joffe just said which is what he came up here to say. He said that he listened to the recorded message that went out and he thought that the way that this was handled was excellent and he assumed the Board was consulted on all of this so he congratulated everyone on their response to the situation in Florida. Mr. Kalman said that he just came from listening to the President speaking on this matter in which he basically talked about passing out pistols to the teachers and he said that he

hopes that the Board will not consider some foolish action like the East Brunswick Board of Education which talked about putting armed guards in every school. That's the opposite of what we need to do in this matter. Unlike what the NRA says, the solution to a bad guy is not a gun it is an outstretched hand and your point about the counselors and having some sort of system in place to address the needs of all of the victims and even in this case, the shooter was a victim as well. We need to be prepared to deal with those kinds of things and as far as a member of the public, if there is a way, as a professional social worker, there is a way that we in the public can be of some assistance in trying to help with resolving some of these kinds of issues to help with preparing the schools. Mr. Kalman said that he remembers Mrs. Miller talking about the idea of having some kind of task force or training on behavioral health not just for the teachers and staff but also for student so that they better understand behavioral health issues and how to deal with those kinds of things and recognizing the signs and symptoms.

Mr. Kalman said that one of the spectacular things that came out of this process is the way the students reacted to this throughout the country. He said that we need to do more civics training to students so that they are able to come out and speak because this is their world and they are the ones that are going to be dealing with this in the future. They've been terrific in the way that they mobilized and said we're going to work on this and we're not going to stop until we deal with this. Mr. Kalman said, to that end, there is a program that he would like to present to the Superintendent, and he can follow up with her at a later time but it's called, "Solution Civics" which is organized by the citizens' campaign. Mr. Kalman said that he believes that this might be a way to help enhance the training you do for students in school so that they can help advocate for their own best interest. Mr. Kalman then congratulated the district on their response to this and hopes that we will take the wiser course in dealing with these kinds of situations for the future.

Christine Heine, a parent of two high school students said that we wants to talk about National Walkout Day that she has been seeing a lot about on Facebook. She said that the district is doing a good job with the Police Department and she feels safe and confident sending her children to school every day. She said that her concern is that we are posting that our children are going to be outside on a specific date at a specific time and for a set amount of time. Mrs. Heine said that she believes that this opens the door to anybody who may have any ill will in their heart to know that they will be out there. She thinks that it is dangerous and she is not telling anyone else what to do with their children but there are standard operating procedures. She knows that when she needs to take her children out of school, she has to go in and sign them out. Mrs. Heine said that she feels that if a parent feels that this is something they would want to do or their children should do, that is a very personal thing. They should signed out of school and it should be the responsibility of the parents to take responsibility of what happens, if anything happens. She said that the idea of the whole school walking out, including teachers and/or administrators as has been suggested by the original post is scary. Mrs. Heine said that if you look at the original post on Facebook you will see that there are people on there saying that they don't have children and they want to stand with the kids and the suggestion is to go to your local school and stand with them. So now we are inviting potential pedophiles and child abductors to come out and show their support, if it's real. She said that this sets the stage for a more dangerous situation and she feels more secure knowing that our kids are within the confines of the school building.

Mrs. Heine said that she is sure that teachers have their own personal opinion but they are getting paid to do a job and that job is to teach our children and not stand outside. She said that if discussions need to be had that is one thing but she does not think it should be a school sanctioned activity because if the teachers are outside, now you are taking the voice away from the children that don't fall in line with it. The question remains, how many of these high school aged kids actually feel this way that they feel and want to be out there protesting as opposed to just walking out of class for the sake of getting out of class. Mrs. Heine said that changes need to be made but she fully supports the fact that between the Board of Education, the administrators and the Police Department, you all have our children's best interest at heart and she trusts that so she hopes that there will be some kind of groundwork set where if people want to participate they need to do it the correct way. She suggested the kids would need to be signed out of school, releasing the district of any responsibility and then it leaves the teachers to continue to do their job and the kids that don't want to participate, the ability to stay in school and do what we send them to school every day for.

Dr. Lishak said that we are not sanctioning whether or not the student are going to participate in the walkout portion of National Walkout Day. She said that because it is National and it has legs and has taken off, we are going to address this day as an opportunity for our students to understand how political change occurs. It is not going to be directed toward whether or not you believe people should own guns or not own guns. It's all about how to affect change and go through it politically. We are going to address it within our social studies classes. We are asking student organization who have reached out to the principal here in the high school of how they can be involved. Dr. Lishak said that we are not encouraging the students to walk out, however, we will be prepared in the event that many of them choose to walk out. Our faculty and staff are aware of their responsibilities while they are in school. For example, if you are a teacher and 13 of your students walk out and 10 remain in the classroom, they know that they are to remain in the class with their students. We will have people outside to supervise and we had a very long meeting this afternoon with the Chief and the Captain from the South Plainfield Police Department to make arrangements so that we can make sure that if students do walk out, that they are safe and it is controlled.

XV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Boyle sent her condolences to the Croce Family and the Brady Family on the passing of their moms. She thanked the Assembly Speaker of the House, Craig Coughlin, for attending the Middlesex County School Board meeting. His discussion was focused on school funding, school aid, special education and various bills that are slated to be passed. Mrs. Boyle said that he did a tremendous job and she is so grateful that he was able to come and speak to the 45 people in attendance. Also, Attorney Jonathan Busch of the Busch Law Firm, who is extremely knowledgeable in his field of expertise, was our guest speaker who discussed crisis management and discussed the top ten crisis management events. He talked about a bill that is being worked on with regard to social media and board members. The Board of Education meetings and the Borough Council meetings can also be viewed on Comcast channel 96 and the South Plainfield Observer Website.

The Mayor's Wellness Committee and the South Plainfield Public Library will be hosting an Autism Awareness event on April 29th. There will be a press release forthcoming. It will be from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., and it will include an indoor balloon launch and Danielle Staunton will read a book that she wrote which is pretty amazing. There will be other stories as well. The press release will include Danielle's email, Jessica Spina's email, myself and Christine Faustini and Librarian, Linda Hansen. Also, the Education Foundation will be hosting a vendor day on April 21st at Roosevelt School and there is a tentative Top Golf event in March. These are all fundraisers.

Mrs. Anesh asked how the trip listed in number five under Curriculum and Student Activities is being funded. Ms. Malyska said that it is a class at the high school so the high school budgets funds for this every year. It is a teen pep retreat that is part of a high school level course.

Mr. Giannakis congratulated to our newly tenured teachers and also thanked Dr. Lishak for getting that information out so quickly and addressing the horrific incident that happened last week. Hopefully it puts some people at ease. We are doing everything that we can do to protect our kids and he said that we certainly would never sanction a walkout.

Mr. Cassio thanked Dr. Lishak and the rest of the administration for taking a hands-on approach to the vaping, wax pen and jewelery crisis in our school district. It is also going throughout the Country and he likes the fact that we are taking a proactive approach to try and stifle this problem that is occurring in the schools. Also, he said that he understands the school safety concerns that occurred last week and he personally knows that Dr. Lishak and members of the Board and administration have been having some sleepless nights discussing this problem and we will continue to discuss it moving forward.

Mr. Chapman congratulated the tenured teachers as well and he echoed the same sentiments as everyone else about the safety. We have children in the district and we all want the children and the teachers and everyone in the community safe. At home we all have to encourage our children, like Dr. Lishak said, "See something. Say something." It's really very important. Mr. Chapman thanked Mrs. Boyle for bringing up the resolution about HIB. He said that it was very well thought out and a smart thing to do.

Mr. Seesselberg said that our Mission Statement states, "We are resolved to educate the whole child instilling the desire within our students to question and become divergent thinkers who can achieve their fullest potential." This education not only takes its form in the classroom but also outside our schools through the events and environments as encountered through the news and other sources. We commend our students for being aware of recent events, researching the facts and developing their opinions and respect their right to positively express their views and participate in a movement for change in local or national policies. On March 14th a demonstration event organized by a national entity will be held throughout the country and our students may participate. While our primary purpose is in-school education, we respect their efforts to express their views and expect this expression to be peaceful, orderly and have a positive effect on themselves and on the community. Our staff and administration, in

