

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

**Regular Public Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, January 24, 2018 – 5:30 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 5:31 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. Chapman, Mr. Giannakis, Mrs. Wolak, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Seesselberg

Also Present: Dr. Noreen Lishak, Superintendent;

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.

Mr. Seesselberg announced that the Board needs to go into Executive Session at this time for student matters, attorney-client matters and personnel matters. The Board will return from executive session at 6:30 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis                      SECOND: Mr. Pennisi                      VOTE: 7-0

Mr. Seesselberg called the meeting back to order at 6:28 p.m.

V. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

Mr. Seesselberg said that we are administratively removing item X. F., the van drivers Memorandum of Agreement.

Ms. Malyska said that there were changes to the numbers of the HIBs. Mr. Damato said that all of the other additions are in bold.

Mr. Zitomer read in the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby reverses the HIB confirmed finding in the appeal discussed during this evening's executive session.

Mr. Seesselberg said that will be Item IX. 4. He then asked for a motion to add.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis                      SECOND: Mr. Pennisi                      VOTE: 8-0

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.

- |                                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Special Meeting                | December 13, 2017 |
| 2. Executive Session              | December 13, 2017 |
| 3. Committee of the Whole Meeting | December 13, 2017 |
| 4. Executive Session              | December 13, 2017 |
| 5. Regular Public Meeting         | December 20, 2017 |

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis                      SECOND: Mr. Pennisi                      VOTE: 8-0

VIII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Lishak reminded everyone that the marking period is ending on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Report cards will be listed on Genesis by February 9<sup>th</sup>. Eighth grade registration packets are due

back to South Plainfield Middle School on or before January 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition, all eighth grade students will be participating in an open house at South Plainfield High School on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Students will be reviewing course offerings and various clubs and activities available for the next school year.

Preschool registration will take place in early May and Kindergarten registration is scheduled to begin on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Please check the district website for information on registration documentation. Open House visits for the preschool will be scheduled for April and May so the prospective parents and students can visit to see the wonderful program our district has to offer.

The South Plainfield Wrestling team will be participating in a dual meet against Old Bridge High School on January 31, 2018 here in our high school gym. All proceeds from the match will be donated to the Marissa Tufaro Foundation. Marissa passed away on January 30, 2017 after complications from a heart transplant that developed into a rare form of stage IV cancer. Marissa was born with a complex cardiac defect that required six open heart surgeries. Despite keeping hundreds of doctors' appointments and being hospitalized for more than two years. Marissa lived a vibrant life that inspired many. Please come out and support this event if you are available.

Dr. Lishak reported the following happenings in our schools:

Franklin School – Please remember to wear your favorite Olympic jersey on Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Also, January 26<sup>th</sup> is Dine out Night at Luigi's in South Plainfield.

Roosevelt School – Dr. Lishak said that Mr. Diehl called her to remind her to let everybody know that Multicultural Day is Friday at 9:00 a.m. He is expecting an enormous crowd so please carpool. Jump Rope for Heart is the week of January 29<sup>th</sup> through February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Designer Bag Bingo is scheduled for Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Grant School – PTO Glow dance will be held this Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the school gym. Students are encouraged to wear bright colors to encourage positive school climate and anti-bullying.

South Plainfield Middle School – We are wishing good luck to eight of our Middle School band students and two orchestra students who will be trying out for the CJMEA Intermediate Region Band and Orchestra on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

South Plainfield High School – Wrestling Senior Night is tonight, which we will all be going to in a few minutes. The ski trip has been rescheduled to January 26<sup>th</sup>. The Boys GMC swim meet is on January 26<sup>th</sup>. January 27<sup>th</sup> is the GMC Girls swim meet. January 28<sup>th</sup> is the Competitive Cheer event here in the South Plainfield High School. February 2<sup>nd</sup> is Senior Swim Night. February 6<sup>th</sup> is Winter Cheer Senior Night and Girls Basketball Senior Night. February 5<sup>th</sup> and February 7<sup>th</sup> are the Wrestling Sectional and February 9<sup>th</sup> is the Wrestling Sectional Finals.

Dr. Lishak asked Mr. Damato to discuss a couple of big events we had happen in our district yesterday.

Mr. Damato said that we had a re-bid of the HVAC bid that was taken about a month ago which produced a \$261,000 savings to the Board just by re-bidding. Mr. Damato said that we are thrilled with that. He said that is for the Middle School HVAC and electrical upgrades that will be done this summer.

Mr. Damato said that on the same day, we had the good fortune to have our bond sale. He said that if you look at all of the other districts that had sold bonds in the last few weeks and in the week since, we did extremely well. South Plainfield should be congratulated for the economic outlook of the town and the way the town is run. The rating agency gave us a AA- and because of the positive outlook and the aspects that the raters mentioned there was a lot of interest in the bidding. We received six bids which is almost unheard of in this climate. Usually you get one or two. There are a lot of big players in the bidding. The winner of the bid was Citibank and they bid 2.94 percent. The rates are more than one full percentage point lower than what we predicted the rate to be when we presented the bond to the community. Mr. Damato said that there is a very large savings and Mr. Chapman will address that at his part of the meeting. It was very competitive. We did a great job putting it all together and it produced a great rate for the town and we are thrilled with the results.

At 6:36 p.m., Mr. Seesselberg said that we are requested by the Athletic Director through the Superintendent. They are going to have the Senior Night for a few minutes. He asked for Motion to have a Recess until 7:00 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis                      SECOND: Mr. Pennisi                      VOTE: 8-0

Mr. Seesselberg called the meeting back to order at 6:44 p.m.

## IX. CURRICULUM/STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### 1. Acceptance of Anti-Bullying Report

Approve the Harassment, Intimidation & Bullying Reports from December 21, 2017 – January 24, 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 – January 24, 2018 reported as of this agenda.

School	Number of Alleged Incidents September 6 – January 24, 2018	Number of Verified Incidents September 6 – January 24, 2018
High School	3	1
Middle School	7	4
Grant School	14	3
Franklin School	5	4
Kennedy School	0	0
Roosevelt School	1	1
Riley School	1	0

2. Acceptance of the Fire and Security Drill Reports for December 2017

Accept the Fire and Security Drill Reports to the Board of Education for December 2017.

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

3. Approval for NJSIAA State Wrestling Tournament

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following trip for high school students:

Target Group: SPHS Wrestling Team  
Caesars Hotel  
Atlantic City, NJ  
March 1-4, 2018

Funded by SP Athletic Department, Board of Education  
Number of students: 1-14

Trip Proposal: Mr. Kevin McCann, Athletic Director  
Chaperones: Mr. Kevin McCann, Mr. Bill Pavlak, Mr. Steve Johnston, Mr. Michael Jakubik

4. Reversal of confirmed HIB findings.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby reverses the HIB confirmed finding in the appeal discussed during this evening's executive session.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis                      SECOND: Mr. Pennisi                      VOTE: 8-0

X. POLICY

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.	Martinez, Leslie	Resign	Latchkey Co-Director	District	02/01/18	

**XI.B Appointments, Transfers**

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary/ Hrly. Rate	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Fierra, Samuel	Approve	Director of Guidance	N/A	\$120,925	District	02/01/2018	06/30/2018	Replacing E. Gallo Acct#: 11-000-240-103-21
2.	Whalen, Leo	Approve	Latchkey Co-Director	N/A	\$30.00 per hr.	District	02/01/2018	06/30/2018	Replacing L. Martinez Acct#:61-993-100-101-19
3.	McCoy, Selina	Approve	Bus Driver	Step 1	\$20.89 per hr. 5.5 hrs. per day	District	02/12/2018	06/30/2018	Replacing E. Lang Acct#: 11-000-270-160-16
4.	Abbate, Maureen	Approve	Substitute Duty Aide	N/A	\$9.25 per hr.	District	01/25/2018	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-240-105-01
5.	Abbate, Maureen	Approve	Substitute Secretary	N/A	\$10.50 per hr.	District	01/25/2018	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-240-105-01
6.	Born, Kim	Approve	Duty Aide	Step 1	\$16.75 per hr./ 3 hrs. per day	High School	01/25/2018	06/30/2018	Acct#: 11-000-262-107-01
7.	Gonzalez, Zaida	Approve	Duty Aide	Step 1	\$16.75 per hr./ 3 hrs. per day	High School	02/12/2018	06/30/2018	Pending Successful Completion of Criminal History Review Acct#: 11-000-262-107-01

**XI.C 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# 4015	Unpaid Leave Without Benefits	Speech Therapist	Kennedy School				10/02/17		04/09/18	Revised Dates

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2.	Employee# 5047	Paid Medical/ Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	Franklin School	3/6/18	4/24/18		9/1/2018	
3.	Employee# 3935	Unpd. FMLA	Teacher	Grant School		1/16/18		<b>3/15/18</b>	
4.	Employee# 5133	Paid Medical/ Unpd. FMLA	Speech Therapist	Franklin School		01/22/18	2/15/18	5/21/18	Revised Dates

**XI.D. Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes**

Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1.	Fried, Stephen	Approve	District Wellness Coordinator	N/A	N/A	District	09/01/17	06/30/18	N/A
2.	Bonanno, Catherine	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Riley School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
3.	Dispenziere, Christine	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Riley School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
4.	Giakas, Beth	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Riley School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
5.	O'Brien, Megan	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Riley School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
6.	Sikanowicz, Mary	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Riley School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
7.	Sottiriou, Maria	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Riley School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
8.	Fenning, Susan	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Roosevelt School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
9.	Gwiazda, Susan	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Roosevelt School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
10.	Hauck, Dana	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Roosevelt School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
11.	Simpson, Kathy	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Roosevelt School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
12.	Brown, Katelyn	Approve	Title I Before/After Math Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
13.	Hollander, Michele	Approve	Title I Before/After Math Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11

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Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
14.	Hunt, Chelsea	Approve	Title I Before/After Math Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
15.	Luck, Teresa	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
16.	McDonough, Nicole	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
17.	Orfran, John	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
18.	Pompilio, Cathy	Approve	Title I Before/After Math Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
19.	Wieczorek, Steven	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Grant School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
20.	Bennet, Kristin	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Middle School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
21.	Deremiah, Nicholas	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Middle School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
22.	Eckhardt, Alyssa	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Middle School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
23.	Smorra, Tracy	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Middle School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
24.	White, Carolyn	Approve	Title I Before/After ELA Teacher	N/A	\$41.00 per hr.	Middle School	10/3/17	5/10/18	Revised Max of 72 hours Acct#: 20-231-100-101- 11
25.	Zurawiecki, Melissa	Approve	Presenter at PD Day	N/A	\$141.00	High School	11/07/2017	11/07/2017	Acct#: 11-213-100-101- 00
26.	Hill, Susan	Transfer	Paraprofessional	Step 10 + \$900 longevity	\$25,201	High School	01/22/2018	06/30/2018	From AM High School & PM Roosevelt to FT High School Acct#: 11-212-100-106- 18
27.	McKee, Nancy	Approve	Paraprofessional	Step 10 + \$300 longevity	\$5.48 per day for 102 days for a total of \$558.96	High School	01/22/2018	06/22/2018	Accompany Special Education student to bus at the end of every day from 2:20 pm to 2:35 pm Acct#: 11-212-100-106- 18
28.	Affinito, Shirley	Approve	Duty Aide	Step 8	\$18.65 per hr./ 4.5 hrs. per day	High & Riley Schools	01/25/2018	6/30/2018	Increase hours @ High School by ½ hour Acct. #11-000-262-107- 01 & 11-000-262-107- 06



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Code	Name	Action	Position	Degree/Step/ No. of Hrs.	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
29.	Shaw, Nanette	Approve	Duty Aide	Step 8 – 3 hrs. per day	\$18.65 per hr./ 3.5 hours per day	High School	01/25/2018	6/30/2018	Increase hours by ½ hour per day Acct. #11-000-262-107- 01

**X.E. Title I Funds – Reallocation of Funds Approval**

The information listed below regarding the use of Title I fund for Instructional Support Teachers' salaries is for informational purposes only & does not require the Board's vote:

Instructional Support Teacher	School	Portion of Salary Paid with Title I Funds (20-231-100-101-11)
Hauck, Dana	Riley School	\$7,206.00 (10%)
Gwiazda, Susan	Roosevelt School	\$9,439.00 (10%)
Sesser, Dara	Grant School	\$11,681.00 (20%)
Pompilio, Cathy	Grant School	\$14,413.00 (20%)
Eckhardt, Alyssa	Grant School	\$10,451.00 (20%)
Decker, Marianne	Middle School	\$19,358.00 (20%)
Simmons, Kia	Middle School	\$13,187.00 (20%)

**Resolution X.F was administratively removed**

X.F. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the South Plainfield Small Van Driver's Association for the period of July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement with the Small Van Driver's Association, together with the corresponding salary guides for a successor collective bargaining agreement covering the terms July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Giannakis thanked the Superintendent. He said that he has been on this board for the better part of eleven years and we have had so many interims and acting positions that have been opened and you really seemed to have solidified everything. He thanked her for the new hire that you have today and all of the ones that you have made to make this district so much better. He said that he understands that we have an Interim Business Administrator but if you look at the position that the district is in now, with Mr. Damato, everything that you have done has nothing but improved this district. He said that he has to abstain on this particular appointment because of a conflict with his family but he said thank you. We are in such a good direction and he would like to continue going that way.

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis                      SECOND: Mr. Pennisi                      VOTE: 8-0  
Mr. Giannakis abstained on number B.1.

\*NOTE: All salaries, longevity, stipends & hourly rates for the Small Van Drivers' Association are subject to change upon settlement of the agreement for the 2017/18 school year.

XII. FINANCE

1. Approval of Proposal from Phoenix Advisors, LLC to Provide Continuing Disclosure Agent Services

Approve the proposal submitted by Phoenix Advisors, LLC, to provide Continuing Disclosure Agent Services through June 30, 2018 for the sum of \$850.00.

2. Tuition Reimbursement

Approve tuition reimbursement to the following staff members, pending receipt of all required paperwork:

Christine Brandenburg	\$1,305.00
Jillian Tortora	\$2,032.14

3. Accept Gift Donation

Accept the monetary donation of \$2,000 from Brigade Capital Management, LP 399 Park Avenue, Suite 1600, New York, NY 10022 to the Model United Nations Club at the South Plainfield High School to be used for the trip to Boston from February 9 – 12, 2018 and other Model UN Trips.

4. Accept Gift Donation

Accept the monetary donation of \$250.00 from Aaron and Kamand Daniels, 110 W. 86<sup>th</sup> Street 3A, New York, NY to the Model United Nations Club at the South Plainfield High School to be used for the trip to Boston from February 9 – 12, 2018 and other Model UN Trips.

5. Accept Gift Donation

Accept the donation of a custom podium from Greg Cassio to the South Plainfield High School to be used at Board of Education meetings, lectures, etc. in the Information Center.

6. Approval of Line Item Transfers

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the revised line item transfers for November 2017 shown in Tab XII.6.

7. 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 November 2017, and acknowledge the following certification of



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	Conference		11-000-223-580-11	
2.	STEAM Academy	2/9/18	\$25.00 registration \$15.56 mileage/tolls 11-000-223-580-11	Bob Redmon
3.	Engaging and Teaching Diverse Learners Workshop	2/12/18	\$10.60 mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Annemarie Stoeckel
4.	Engaging and Teaching Diverse Learners Workshop	3/8/18	\$12.40 mileage	Rob Richkus
5.	NJAGC 27 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference	3/23/18	\$199.00 11-000-223-580-11	Jillian Tortora
6.	Leadership for Effective & Culturally Responsive Schools	1/9/18	\$14.45 mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Shanti Kantha- Murray
7.	Leadership for Effective & Culturally Responsive Schools	1/9/18	\$10.60 mileage 11-000-223-580-11	Eli Freund
8.	School Climate & Anti- Bullying Conference	5/23- 24/18	\$199.00 11-000-223-580-11	Rhonda Greene
9.	Genesis Report Write Workshop	1/16/18	\$38.40 mileage/tolls 11-000-223-580-11	Helen Gaub
10.	NJA)PSA Hot Legal Topics	2/1/18	\$45.00 11-000-219-580-18	Jacqueline Castronovo
11.	Engaging and Teaching Diverse Learners Workshop	3/8/18	\$10.97 11-000-223-580-11	Shanti Kantha- Murray
12.	NJMEA Annual Conference	2/22- 24/18	\$170.00 11-000-223-580-11	Sarah LiVecchi
13.	NJCEC Conference	3/12/18	\$125.00 11-000-223-580-11	Jamie Pietrucha
14.	NJCEC Conference	3/12/18	\$125.00 11-000-223-580-11	Vanessa Proietto

15.	Best Current Practices for School Medical Emergencies	2/26/18	\$259.00 11-000-223-580-11	Lorraine Loza
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10. Authorize Disposal of Personal Property No Longer Needed

Authorize the Board Secretary to dispose of personal property no longer needed for public use in accordance with the list in the hands of each Board Member. If no bids are received, property can be disposed of for scrap.

36 Dell 17" CRT Monitors

11. 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	County Association Leadership Meeting	January 20, 2018 NJSBA 413 West State St. Trenton, NJ 08618	Cost: \$ 0.00 Mileage: \$29.14
Debbie Boyle	Middlesex County School Boards Assoc. Meeting	February 13, 2018 Sayreville War Memorial High School 820 Washington Road Parlin, NJ 08859	Cost: \$0.00 Mileage: \$8.12

12. Award Re-Bid #04-18 – Proposed Electrical and HVAC Upgrades at the South Plainfield Middle School

WHEREAS, the South Plainfield Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:18A-1 (et seq.) advertised for sealed bids for Re-Bid #18-04 – Proposed Electrical and HVAC Upgrades at the South Plainfield Middle School on January 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with that advertisement, the bids were received, publicly opened and read aloud in the First Floor Conference Room on January 23, 2018. A total of ten (10) bids were received.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the bid be awarded to Kappa Construction Corp., 3 Matilda Drive, Ocean, NJ 07712, in the total amount of \$3,380,000.00, subject to the terms and conditions of a contractual agreement pending review by Board Counsel, and which the Board President is authorized to execute on behalf of the Board.

13. Approval of New Horizon Direct Access Medical and Prescription Plans and Monthly Rates for Subgroups 20, 21, 22 & 23 (Van Drivers)

Approve the new Direct Access Medical and Prescription Plans and Monthly Rates for Subgroups 20, 21, 22 & 23 effective February 1, 2018 as shown below:

	<u>Medical</u>	<u>Prescription</u>
Single	\$ 789.67	\$244.72
2-Adult	\$1,929.44	\$612.40
Family	\$2,236.38	\$709.84
Parent/Child(ren)	\$1,359.37	\$431.46
Dependent to Age 31:		
Single	\$ 480.14	\$148.80

14. Approval of Level of Service Change – 2017/2018

Approve the level of service change for the following general education student for the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired for the 2017/2018 school year:

- a. Level I educational services to be provided to the following general education student by the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired for the period September 1, 2017 to January 9, 2018 at a cost of \$821.00. Level 2 educational services will be provided from January 10, 2018 through June 30, 2018 at a cost of \$2,554.00. Cost to be deducted from state aid. Level I services at a cost of \$1,900.00 were approved on the July 19, 2017 Board of Education agenda. State ID No.: 8904576167.

15. 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 student for the 2017-2018 school year:

- a. Placement of one special education student at Hunterdon Preparatory School for the 2017-2018 school year. Anticipated start date will be January 22, 2018. Tuition cost will be \$44,658.00 (pro-rated). State ID No.: 6031939504.

16. Approve Agreement Between the South Plainfield School District and IC2 Computers to Provide Information Technology Support for the Period of February 1, 2018 – January 31, 2019

Approve the Agreement between the South Plainfield School District and IC2 Computers to provide information technology support for the period of February 2, 2018 – January 31, 2019 in accordance with the terms and conditions contained therein, for a fee of \$3,960.00.

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

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

18. Approval of Ticketing Services Agreement with BookTixNow, LLC

Approve the Ticketing Services Agreement with BookTixNow, LLC through June 30, 2018 in accordance with the terms and conditions shown in Tab XII.18, at no cost to the Board of Education.

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis  
Mrs. Boyle abstained on herself.

SECOND: Mr. Pennisi

VOTE: 8-0

XIII. BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

XV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Boyle congratulated our new Director of Guidance and welcomed him aboard. Mrs. Boyle said that she abstains on herself for the Finance vote.

Mrs. Boyle said that she was in Trenton on Saturday for Legislation and Leadership. She reported that Governor Phil Murphy has made numerous statements that he is all about transparency, less on standardized testing, more on the whole child and helping the child to succeed. There was an article written by Kevin Ciak who is our National School Boards President. He is going to take out the PARCC testing. Mrs. Boyle said that she is sure that it will be supplemented by a different kind of test but one that doesn't create such anxiety for the students, for the staff and not having evaluations on the teaching staff.

Mrs. Boyle said that a bill did get passed and signed by the governor for making Computer Science mandatory and the bill for school bus drivers operating under the influence also passed. The bill that did not get passed was the bill to have schools be able to create super teams by not being able to field a team and then joining with another town. Also, by having home-school children, the concern is how to monitor their testing, their grades, and their attendance and so that got vetoed. We have a new Commissioner of Education, Lamont Repollet. He is a Superintendent in Asbury Park. He is taking the budget decisions for the school funding formula very serious. Mrs. Boyle said that she believes that the budget presentation is going to be pushed off until March. Governor Murphy remains the Chair of Education and they are working on a bill that if there is an employee who applies for a position in one district that the district has the right to call the former district that this person is coming from to ask if there are any settlements, if there has been any kind of disciplinary actions, etc. Their term is called 'passing the trash'. They are also trying to do a bill to prohibit the Department of Education from setting the Superintendent salary cap. School Boards has a seat on that task force while the cap is still in effect for Superintendents, it has been modified. They are working on early childhood learning and increasing that for September. They want to do a bill mandating kindergarten for every district in the state. Mrs. Boyle said that they talked about shared service. South Plainfield is commended for their Shared Service Team. She said that they started that in 2008 by going to Rutgers MBA. The people that were a part of that were herself, Bob Jones, Jeffrey Seider, Matt Anesh, Robert Bengivenga and Glenn Cullen. She said that they worked along with the MBA at Rutgers and they formulated their Shared Service Agreement. She said that they were also written up in the Leadership Magazine. There are many towns that were there represented that do not have shared service because they don't get along with their Mayor and Council.

Mrs. Boyle said that the Spelling Bee that was hosted by the Cultural Arts Commission and the Suburban Women's Club was held last night. We have three winners and an alternate. The first place winner is Michelle Jimmy, she is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student at Holy Savior. Second place winner is Sameer Vechalapu, he is a 4<sup>th</sup> grade student at Roosevelt School, and third place was Aadi Shah who is a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at Grant. The alternate is Katrina Rassmusen who is a fifth grade student at Grant. They will move on to districts in February.

Our blood drive, hosted by the Mayor's Wellness and the High School Student Council, will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in the High School auditorium. Mrs. Boyle said that there is a severe blood shortage and asked for anyone that can come out to please do so.

Mrs. Boyle said that the Cultural Arts Ninth Annual talent show will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. The tryouts are February 3<sup>rd</sup> and February 11<sup>th</sup> from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at Wesley Methodist.

Mr. Chapman thanked Mr. Damato for the hard work on the bond issue. He said that when we projected out the referendum finances, they projected them out at four percent



interest on the bonds. At that time that was a little bit higher than the going rate but it was prudent to project it out at four percent interest rate on the bonds. Mr. Chapman explained that when a municipal bond goes out to bid, they bid the interest rate down. He said that the first bidder could say that they will buy their whole offering at 3.5% and then the next bidder will have to bid lower than that. Mr. Chapman said that the banks bid our bonds very aggressively and they took it down to 2.94 percent. That tells everyone in the community that there is some really smart investment professionals. Citigroup bought this entire block. Things that are happening in South Plainfield right now are pretty darn good.

Mr. Chapman said that Montville is a wealthy town in Northern NJ whose demographics and economics do not even compare to ours. They had a AA+ rating and their bond, which is very similar in size to ours, was bid down to 3.04 percent. Mr. Chapman said that we did better than Montville and that tells us that they are looking very highly at us right now. The taxpayers are saving almost 3.3 million dollars over what we originally thought we were going to have to pay in interest costs for the bonds. The State is also a huge beneficiary of this because they participate in State Aid. We originally said that the average home was going to be \$122.00 but now it will be \$113.00 so that is about an 8% savings. Mr. Chapman said that credit, in his opinion, needs to go to Mr. Damato for his recommendation to do short term financing for one year for that jobs that we did this past summer. Interest rates were higher at the same time last year. The bond almost certainly would not have gotten bid down to the level that it got bid down to. Mr. Chapman said that he doesn't believe that they would have received a AA- rating at this time last year. He said that by not putting the bonds out last year, we weren't paying interest on money that was sitting idly for jobs that couldn't have been done until this summer. Mr. Chapman said that it is a testament to the community that the rating agencies think highly of us. He congratulated the community on the positive outcome.

Mr. Seesselberg congratulated Mr. Damato and anybody else involved with the good result of the bond sale. He said that we awarded the Middle School HVAC bid tonight, which is probably the biggest project, and you will see a lot of that work happen when school is out.

Mr. Seesselberg welcomed Mr. Cassio and one of his students. He said that they started a broadcasting class in the High School and they are going to record our meetings and hopefully other events throughout the district. Mr. Seesselberg said that these recordings are sponsored by Edison Heating and Cooling who were kind enough to give a donation to help defray the cost for the next few months.

Mr. Seesselberg said that we have a new podium that you are all welcome to speak at during a future meeting. It was donated by Greg Cassio, Mr. Tom Cassio's brother. Mr. Seesselberg to Mr. Cassio to make sure his brother is thanked from all of us and the community for the gorgeous podium.

Mr. Cassio said that they didn't mention the signs. Mr. Seesselberg said that we put signs up at the school locations, mentioning the referendum projects. The one at the administration building is for all of the projects but the signs at each school list the projects and estimated time frames for completion.

Also, the Referendum Reporting Committee meeting was rescheduled to February 6<sup>th</sup> so there will be a report on that at the February Committee of the Whole Meeting.

#### XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Pennisi

VOTE: 8-0

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

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

MOTION: Mr. Giannakis

SECOND: Mr. Pennisi

VOTE: 8-0

Respectfully submitted,

James Damato  
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary