

**PLAINFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**  
April 13, 2022 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Christi Haskell, Mike Broughton, Peggy Bourey, Kathleen Barry, Arrianna Landry, Heather Smith, Dr. Diane Summa; Paul Brenton, Superintendent; Ronald Lussier, Business Manager; Student Representatives

1. **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

a. Minutes of the Meeting of March 16, 2022:

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to approve the minutes of the March 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Broughton

VOTE: Passed with abstentions from Ms. Bourey and Ms. Haskell

MOTION: Mr. Broughton motioned to move the student presentation next on the agenda.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS:**

a. School Presentation:

- SHE Grade 3 – Owl News: The 3<sup>rd</sup> graders from SHE shared the project they recently completed with the Board. The group studied different species of owls and created news videos to share what they learned.
- PHS Theater – Legally Blonde: Students from the theater production performed two songs from the upcoming presentation of Legally Blonde.

b. Building Reports: Ms. Haskell said that the members of the Board were presented with the reports from each building and asked if there were any questions.

4. **INDIVIDUAL STUDENT REPORTS:**

a. BOE Student Representatives: The Student Representatives informed the public of the events that have recently taken place at the high school and any upcoming activities that would be of interest. They stated that they will be having a Trivia Night on April 25<sup>th</sup>, Student Counsel and Panther Pride are putting together a talent show. The National Honor Society will hold its induction ceremony on May 11<sup>th</sup>, and the Senior class trip will be on June 6<sup>th</sup>.

b. CAPSS Awards Recipients: Mr. Brenton read the bios of the students that received the CAPSS Awards this year. The students being recognized this year were:

- Jack Pothier – PHS, Allison Conger – PHS, Eeva-Liisa Stone – PHS
- Kaia Trainor – PCS, Kolby Sanders – PCS
- Evelyn Stone – PMS, Collin O'Brien – PMS

Received For Record At Plainfield CT  
On 4-26-2022 @ 4:45 pm  
Attest: Christi Haskell

Town Clerk

## 5. PERSONNEL:

### a. Resignation, Retirements & Appointments:

Mr. Brenton informed the Board that Mrs. Rena Cadro would be retiring at the end of June with 42 years of service to Plainfield Schools. Mr. Bitgood spoke about Rena's dedication and service to the system and how greatly she will be missed.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the letter of retirement from Mrs. Cadro, effective June 30, 2022, with great regret.

SECOND: Ms. Bourey

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Resignations were also submitted from:

- Amanda Crocker – ILP PreK at ECC
- Stephanie Dufault – Kindergarten at MES
- Lauren Stevens – Kindergarten at MES
- Donna Tavares – Speech Pathologist
- Sydney Fogarty – Band at PCS
- Marie Simoneau – Retirement from Special Education at PCS

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to accept the resignations.

SECOND: Ms. Smith

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

## 6. PUBLIC FORUM:

- a. Public Forum/Agenda Items: As no one came forward, the Chair moved to the next item on the agenda.

## 7. STANDING COMMITTEES AND INDIVIDUAL REPORTS:

### a. Superintendent's Report:

- Mr. Brenton informed the Board that there will be a meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup> for the Sterling Cooperative Committee.
- Mr. Brenton presented the Board with the process that will take place when hiring a new Administrative Team member.
- Mr. Brenton reviewed with the Board the levels of security that our servers in district are equipped with. He noted that there are several levels of security and fire walls that are in place to handle many types of attacks that might be attempted.
- After April 1<sup>st</sup>, State Statute allows for the district to set the last day of school. Mr. Brenton asked the Board to approve that the last day of school this year will be on June 22, 2022.

MOITON: Ms. Bourey moved to set the last of the school year on June 22, 2022.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- b. Policy Committee Report – Graduation Requirements: Mr. Brenton said that the policy with regard to high school graduation requirements needs to have some revisions. He said that the

revisions come into alignment with CSDE recommended statutory requirements. He also noted that the Policy Committee will continue to review the definition of the Humanities course per the request of a policy committee member.

MOTION: Ms. Barry moved to dispense with the 1<sup>st</sup> reading and post the revisions to the Graduation Requirements policy on the website with continued review of the Humanities course.

SECOND: Ms. Smith

VOTE: Passed with opposition from Dr. Summa.

## 8. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. FY22 Budget & Facilities Report: Mr. Lussier said that Plainfield Public Schools continues to be in a healthy financial position.

BOE Operating Expenditures are projected to be approximately **\$150K** under plan at year-end.

2% Set-Aside Fund- The current 2% set-aside fund reserve is **\$398,837**. The district has expensed \$160,115 on capital improvements and transferred \$100,000 to the Town's General Fund.

Federal / State Grants - Received **\$2.9M** in grant revenues year-to-date. This is an increase of \$335K over last month. There are eighteen (18) grants approved this year (FY22), totaling **\$2.0M**.

ECHIP Status - The current cash balance is **\$1.374M**. Reserves total \$2.175M, inclusive of a \$801K CD. Our reserve balance decreased by \$128K due to increased utilization. The year-end reserve is forecast to be **\$2.230M** or over four months of run out coverage. Industry standard is three months of run out coverage.

Facilities: Mr. Lussier said that bids were received to repave the playground area at the ECC. Based on the quotes, Family Driveway provided the best quote based on quality of work and price. Mr. Lussier asked for Board approved to award the job to Family Driveway Co.

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to award the bid for the playground pavement work to Family Driveway Co.

SECOND: Ms. Barry

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Broughton moved to approve use of the 2% set aside funds for the playground pavement.

SECOND: Dr. Summa

VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- b. Discussion of Board Retreat: Ms. Haskell indicated that CABA is holding May 4<sup>th</sup> to provide the Board with training and professional development. She asked the members of the Board to mark the date so that they may be in attendance.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Approval of Readiness Grant: Ms. Cadro said that she receives \$205,000 to support the two preschool programs under the Readiness grant. She asked for BOE approval to submit the application for the grant.

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to approve the application of the Readiness Grant.  
SECOND: Ms. Barry  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- b. Capital Improvement – Truck: Mr. Lussier stated that the district has been researching the availability of a truck that will be able to plow and support the sander. He said that one was found just over the line in Massachusetts, but has since been sold. Another has been found in New York. Mr. Lussier would like Board approval to purchase the truck if one is found that fits the specification that were noted. Upon research, he noted that they should be able to find one for under \$70,000.

MOTION: Ms. Smith moved to authorize the purchase of a truck up to \$70,000.  
SECOND: Ms. Barry  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

- c. FY2023 Budget: Mr. Brenton stated that the Board of Finance met last week to review the 2023 budget for the Board of Education. He thanked those members that were able to attend and support the budget.
- d. Approval of Killingly Vo-Ag Representatives: Mr. Brenton said that we have two individuals from the town that sit on the Killingly Vo-Ag Board. He said that Rebecca Desjardens and Brad Bourque are both very knowledgeable in their field and wish to continue on the Board.

MOTION: Dr. Summa moved to appoint Rebecca Desjardens and Brad Bourque to represent Plainfield on the Killingly Vo-Ag Board.  
SECOND: Ms. Barry  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

#### 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Ms. Bourey moved to adjourn to Executive session at 8:43 for the purpose of personnel and State Grants.  
SECOND: Mr. Broughton  
VOTE: Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tammy St. Amour