

# **PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Special Meeting Minutes**

**Special Meeting Title:** Board Budget Development Session

**Date:** Wednesday, January 24, 2018

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Plainville High School Learning Commons  
Plainville, CT

**Attendees:** Michael Giuliano, Deborah Hardy, Nicole Palmieri, Laurie Peterson, Andrea Saunders, Chair, Crystal St. Lawrence, Kathy Wells and Foster White

**Members Absent:** Becky Tyrrell

**Also Present:** Maureen Brummett, Ed.D., Superintendent  
Steven LePage, Asst. Superintendent  
Sam Adlerstein, Director of Business and Operations

**Early Departures:** None

The Board's Budget Development meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Chair Andrea Saunders.

Dr. Brummett reviewed this evening's agenda. She stated that all decisions that are made are aligned with the school's vision statement.

Dr. Brummett began by giving a detailed report on Plainville's 2018-19 Projected Enrollment for the district. She started with Toffolon's kindergarten classes, stating that there will be 27 and 28 students in two separate classrooms. She would like to add a classroom for next year taking enrollment to 18, 18 and 19. At Linden, grade 1, it is projected that they will need four classrooms for 14, 14, 13 and 14 students. However, she would like to subtract a classroom increasing enrollment to 18, 18 and 19 students. The same will hold true for Toffolon grade 1 students projected at 9, 9, 10 and 9 students, subtracting to 18 and 19 students, reducing two classrooms. For Toffolon grade 3, enrollment is projected at 24, 24 and 23 and she would like to add a classroom at 18, 18, 18 and 17 students. She noted that the district tries to keep the number of students, at the elementary level, under 20. She continued reporting on the entire district's projected enrollments.

Dr. Brummett stated that the budget increase is driven by contractual salary and relate benefits, offset by reductions in staffing/programs. Current projection for contribution to the Health Insurance fund would require additional budget increase for further staff and program reductions. That said, she added additional reductions for consideration as follows:

- ▶ One Elementary classroom teacher
- ▶ CCJEF annual dues (no payment)
- ▶ Reduce RAMP summer school (serve fewer students and grade levels, i.e., grades 1, 2 & 3)
- ▶ Reduce length of special education summer program from 6 weeks to 5

The proposed new budget for 2018-19 is as follows:

BOE Approved 2017-18	Superintendent Proposed 2018-19	\$ Increase	% Increase
\$35,503,096	\$36,138,551	\$635,455	1.79%
	+ Health Insurance increase	\$274,725	2.56%

This new proposal is an additional savings of \$71,900 or 0.20% from Monday's proposal.

**Program Enhancements for 2018-19 Achieved through Resource Reallocation includes:**

- ▶ Continuation of full day, full-week Pre-K Program (w/increased parent fees)
- ▶ Include School Resource Officer for PHS (in kind service)
- ▶ Add additional Math teacher at PHS to support College Prep course (offset by elimination of Science position)
- ▶ Add Go-Kid-Go program (will seek grant funds)
- ▶ Add Indoor Track Team

Dr. Brummett then asked Mr. Roberto Medic, Plainville High School Principal, to give a brief synopsis on the benefits of hiring a School Resource Officer.

Mr. Medic stated that incidents are becoming greater and more complex at the High School. He reported that he had worked with Resource Officers in his former school district and feels that bringing an SRO to Plainville would be advantages for all students. He stated that overall, Safety Officers are safety experts and law enforcers as well as problem solvers and liaisons to community resources and are ultimately educators as well.

The SRO would be added to the Plainville Community Schools' through a partnership with the Town and the Plainville Police Department and would be housed at Plainville High School. However, the RSO would be available to all schools. This individual would patrol and provide a policing function, will work proactively to solve problems, and will work in partnership with the school community. The SRO would also provide support to school administration for any school discipline investigations that result in a police referral for a criminal investigation. The SRO would support to teachers in curricular areas (i.e., search and seizure, forensics, safe driving, etc.). This individual would be of professional support for students in crisis (mental health/social emotional) and would support in reviewing, actively participating, and conducting school safety drills, protocols, and procedures. The SRO is also a law-related counselor who provides guidance and information to students, their families, and school staff along with acting as a liaison to support services both inside and outside the environment.

Mr. Medic stated that through December 31, 2017, the High School has called the Plainville Police Department for support on cases, emergency services, etc. over 60 times. Several of which were in lengthy investigations and police involvement. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Brummett thanked Mr. Medic and called upon Chris Farrell, the district's Athletic Director, for information on the proposed Indoor Track Team.

Mr. Farrell stated that 29 out of 31 schools in the Central Connecticut Conference have an Indoor Track program. Plainville currently has three students running as a "team of one" at Bristol Eastern High School. Mr. Farrell stated that Indoor track is one of the most cost effective athletic programs in a school. In addition, Plainville had over 100 student athletes participate in October track in 2016-17 and had over 40 student athletes participate in Cross Country in the fall. He

stated that Indoor track also allows for a continuation from Cross Country to Outdoor track. It gives student athletes another option to participate in another activity during the winter.

In conclusion, Mr. Farrell stated that a head coach and Assistant Coach would need to be hired at a total cost of \$10,781.75 for both individuals (per the Teachers' contract). Transportation costs would come to approximately \$2,000 and dues and fees would come to \$768. He stated that the district would be able to offset costs by reducing allowed games, allowed scrimmages, and equipment costs. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Brummett thanked Mr. Farrell for his indepth presentation.

She then discussed the 6110—Duplicating line item stating that this item continues on its reduction trend at \$22,060 proposed for 2018-19. This object covers costs related to copy paper needs for all schools and Central Office and was previously significantly under-budgeted. She then reviewed Item 2101 Health Insurance, stating that 2017 was a very bad year for health insurance claims. In 2017, there were 21 members under large claims as compared to only 9 in 2016. Large claims in 2017 exceeded the previous year by over \$2,224,000. Dr. Brummett stated that she, Mr. Adlerstein, the Board and Town Council have been asked by the Town Manager to attend a meeting regarding insurance increases on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Brummett also notified the Board that Mr. Medic was able to reduce \$5,000 from one of his transportation lines to alleviate the need to cut the elementary afterschool program transportation service.

Both Dr. Brummett and Mr. Adlerstein reviewed changes to individual line items that were discussed on Monday.

The Board will review the aforementioned information and will meet again on **Thursday, February 8 at 7:00 PM in the Plainville High School Learning Commons.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY NICOLE PALMIERI. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM**

Respectfully submitted,



Joan Calistro  
Recorder of Minutes