

**PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**

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

**Date:** Monday, January 25, 2016

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

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

**Attendees:** Michael Giuliano, Deborah Hardy, Laurie Peterson, Cheryl Provost, Andrea Saunders, Board Chair, Crystal St. Lawrence, and Foster White

**Members Absent:** Brent Davenport and Becky Tyrrell

**Also Present:** Jeffrey Kitching, Superintendent  
Maureen Brummett, Ed.D., Asst. Superintendent  
Steven Michaud, Director of Administration and Personnel  
School Administrators

**Early Departures:** None

The Board's Budget Development meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Chair Andrea Saunders

Dr. Kitching stated that he is excited to present the district's proposed fiscal plan for the Plainville Community Schools. He commented that the administration has worked hard to develop this process. The district has produced the transparency and trust the community expects and this process has paved the way to many significant improvements to educational programs throughout the district. He stated that the three R's (Reprioritize, Reallocate and Reinvest) are of the utmost importance. He then revealed the 2016-17 proposed increase of 1.77% or \$607,631. He then discussed the District Mission document and how it aligns to what is important.

When focusing on the future, Dr. Kitching discussed the Professional Learning Community, which is an ongoing process in which groups of educators meet regularly, share expertise, and work collaboratively to improve teaching skills and the academic performance of students. He also discussed Digital Pedagogy, which is the use of electronic/digital technology elements to enhance or to change the experience of learning for the student (i.e., changing how teachers teach). He also discussed why Digital Pedagogy is needed. He then referenced two books, *Professional Capital* and *Cultures Built to Last, Systemic PLC's at Work*. These two books have helped administrators and faculty form a strong foundation of knowledge and understanding for what they think the school system can become. This now helps with the focus of work for the next couple of years.

Dr. Kitching went on to say that there is nothing more important than the people placed into leadership roles and the teachers hired across the district. With that said, the district has set a course to continuously improve climate and culture throughout the district. He stated that from a

financial standpoint these are efforts and initiatives that can be pursued with very little funding resources required.

The following items of successes throughout the district were reviewed and discussed:

- ▶ Board Strategic Plan (mission and goals)
- ▶ Curriculum aligned to CCS and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills
- ▶ Full-day kindergarten for all students
- ▶ Preschool for 80% of 4 year old children
- ▶ Positive climate and culture (CAS, SERC, SDE)
- ▶ Literacy support K-5
- ▶ Elementary Wellness Initiative
- ▶ 1-1 and BYOD: Chromebooks grades 5-12
- ▶ STEM initiatives 6-12
- ▶ TECHbooks replacing textbooks
- ▶ Technology replacement plan
- ▶ Expanded clubs, activities and athletics
- ▶ College and Career Center
- ▶ Professional learning structure

Dr. Kitching stated that just as important as the focus on Collaborative Culture and Digital Pedagogy is maintaining and sustaining the district's many successes. These have already been supported by the Board and embraced by staff. They have been funded and prioritized as essential to the district.

Dr. Kitching then discussed the impact of reallocation over the last five years and began the discussion on how the 16-17 proposed budget was reached. First, he discussed the decrease and leveling off of enrollment throughout the district. He then discussed the reduction of staff (-3.5 FTE) through retirements and attrition. In addition, there is no increase in proposed health insurance for 2016-17, and he reviewed the reimbursement for state agency placements earmarked through the Excess Cost grant. Further, he has budgeted \$53,500 for technology replacement costs. Last year the district submitted a State Technology Replacement grant for \$150,000 for which approximately \$50,000 is anticipated.

Both Dr. Kitching and members of the Board began reviewing individual line items. Discussion ensued. Dr. Kitching stated that he and Mr. Michaud are working on an actual expenditure document which will help the Board examine comparisons.

BOE Approved 2015-16	Superintendent Proposed 2016-17	\$ Increase	% Increase
\$34,366,736	\$34,974,367	\$607,631	1.77%

In conclusion, Dr. Kitching feels that this is a fair budget and did the best he could to sustain all items and programs. The Board will review the aforementioned information and will meet again on Wednesday, January 27 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 LAURIE PETERSON. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM

Respectfully submitted,

*Joan Calistro*

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Recorder of Minutes

Word/Board/min special meeting 012516 budget

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JAN 27 2016

*Carla A. Abramo*

TOWN CLERK

