

**PENDING BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL**  
**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016**  
**Plainville High School Cafeteria**  
**Plainville, Connecticut**

**Order of Business**  
**7:00 PM**

**I. CONVENE: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Chair Andrea Saunders called the regular business meeting of the Plainville Board of Education to order at 7:02 PM. Crystal St. Lawrence led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Mesdames Hardy, Peterson, Provost, Saunders, St. Lawrence, Tyrrell and Messrs. Giuliano and White

**Also Present:** Maureen Brummett, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools  
Steven LePage, Asst. Superintendent  
Steven Michaud, Director of Administration and Personnel  
Nathan Michalek, Student Representative  
Olivia Cretella, Student Representative

**Absent:** Brent Davenport

**Late Arrivals:** None

**Early Departures:** None

**Returns:** None

**II. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**A. Blue-Bot Grant**

Dr. Brummett introduced Elementary Math Resource Teacher Alicia Atterato and welcomed Mrs. Cristin Buckley who is the presenter of the grant. Ms. Atterato explained that the grantor of the funds is the *Ben was Here Foundation*. The Foundation was founded by Cristin and Jeff Buckley of Southington, formerly of Plainville, who lost their 7 year old son Ben to an asthma attack in January of 2014. Ben loved technology and the arts and their foundation has been accepting applications for funding projects focusing on these two areas. Mrs. Buckley then presented a check in the amount \$1,074 to the district.

Ms. Atterato explained that Blue-Bots are little bee shaped robots that can be manually programmed or programmed from a computer in order for the bot to follow a specified path. This grant allows the district to continue to focus on introducing coding concepts to all students. The bots will also allow students to continue their learning about computer programming and STEM opportunities, as well as giving them the opportunity to create their own story board, mat, or obstacle course to program their bot through. They can also be used in small group centers during math time or as part of a possible afterschool program. Ms. Atterato then showed a mini demonstration of the blue-bot via video.

Both Dr. Brummett and Ms. Atterato thanked the *Ben was Here Foundation* (Mr. & Mrs. Buckley) for their generous donation to the children of Plainville.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A) A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORAH HARDY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING OF JUNE 14, 2016 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**B) A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 17, 2016 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MICHAEL GIULIANO. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**IV. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

**A. RESPONSE TO CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No responses

**V. COUNCIL LIAISON**

Mrs. Pugliese welcomed Board members back from summer hiatus. She stated that the Town Council has been on an abbreviated schedule during the summer as well. They will resume their regular bi-weekly schedule on Monday, September 19. She then reported on the following items:

The WPCA staff continues to monitor Paderewski Pond. Last, year, due to the lack of rain and hot summer, a large fish kill ensued. She stated that this year the Town Council has hired the Lauriero Company to do a study of the pond, in hopes of identifying any abnormal situations early so that this will not happen again.

She further stated that sidewalk construction will take place on New Britain Avenue and near the Plainville Senior Center. The Council is looking at their line item budgets to continue working on such projects throughout the town.

It was reported that since the end of July, the Town continues to enforce its Property Maintenance Ordinance. Many improvements have been done throughout the town due to this ordinance. She noted that many improvements do take time as some of the houses are in foreclosure.

Mrs. Pugliese stated that old Linden Street School is completely down and that the project is showing a slight surplus. She stated that the Linden Street School Committee has worked diligently to plan for the future of the property. The committee is currently selling bricks from Old Linden. A \$10 donation is requested. She stated that a private citizen has made a donation to purchase a sun dial which will be placed on the school property.

Improvements to Norton Park will take place over the next few months. A State grant was recently secured, with the help of Representative Boukus. Items on the docket include: Playground equipment replacement, lighting for the softball field, fencing replacement throughout the park and new restrooms/concession stand. The work should be completed by May, 2017.

Each month the Council will review its Financial Dashboard. This is a new format which will be used by Council members to examine each department's expenditures on a monthly basis.

The Town will hold its second Annual Pumpkin Fest on Saturday, October 22. Volunteers are needed for this event. She noted that if students are looking to fulfill their graduation requirements for public service, this would be a good opportunity.

Mrs. Saunders stated that this event would also be a good place to showcase some of the great things being done in our schools, such as robotics.

## **VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **A. Opening of School Report**

Dr. Brummett stated the opening of school ran smoothly. She showed a collage of photos which were taken throughout the district on opening day. She stated that freshmen orientation took place on the first day. Sophomores, juniors and seniors started on the first day as well but reported to school a little later in the morning. Kindergarten orientation took place on September 2 and full day Pre-K started on September 6 as part of the Smart Start grant. A presentation on the Pre-K program will be presented to the Board in November. Also, the Board has a new twitter account, @PLVCOMSCHOOLS.

In addition, busing ran smoothly this year. She noted that Plainville is the only district in the state that buses Open Choice students with their own buses. She specifically thanked Steve Michaud, Director of Administration and Personnel, Steve LePage, Asst. Superintendent, and their assistants Sheri Bolduc and Tina Gryguc, for doing a tremendous job. She also gave a big thanks to Tim Rebstad from Dattco who is the point person for the operation.

In conclusion, she stated that the new turf fields are now being used. She reported that there was a glitch with the High School field scoreboard on Friday. The football team could not use the scoreboard for Friday evening's game, however, the glitch has been corrected and the scoreboard is fully operational.

### **B. BOE Meeting Presentation List 2016-17**

Dr. Brummett reviewed the Board's meeting presentation list.

She also noted the school calendar's PLC days for the year. She stated that because there are a few extra PLC days for teachers, the district will offer an After Care program to parents which will cost \$5.00 for each day. The \$5.00 will include a snack, activities and homework support. She stated that there are currently 30 students (per elementary school) signed up for the first PLC day on Wednesday, September 14.

### **C. Special Education State of the Union**

Dr. Brummett called upon Vicki Trzcinski, the Board's Director of Special Education and Pupil Services, to give a brief update on the Special Education program. She thanked both Ms. Trzcinski and Leanne Gmeindl, Supervisor of Special Education, for the challenging work that they do for all of Plainville's Special Education students and for their diligence in working to meet all state and federal requirements.

Ms. Trzcinski gave a few Prevalence Rate Comparisons between the town's DRG and the State. She noted that the percentage of Special Education students placed out of district has decreased significantly over the last five years. She reviewed data, based on

FY2014 information, whereby all state requirements were met. Promising Practices include:

- Strong belief that all students can learn in the least restrictive environment.
- Frequent collaboration among staff ensures students can access the general education curriculum.
- Shift in primary teaching responsibility from non-certified staff to classroom teacher with support from special education staff, helps students.
- Commitment to help all students practice the skills of friendship, respect and acceptance for all people in the school community.
- Building partnerships with families and caregivers to share ideas and strategies that help each student to reach their full potential in school and in the community.

She then reviewed Department goals and reviewed the district's Annual Performance Report and Determinations. According to the data used from the district's Annual Performance Report, the State Department of Education acknowledges the district's efforts in being one of 162 districts to be assigned to "Meets Requirements" in the identified areas used to make such determinations.

Dr. Brummett reminded Board Members of the Strategic Planning session which will take place on Tuesday, September 13 at 6 PM in the High School Learning Commons. This will be the first of three worksessions.

## **VII. BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Student Representative Report**

Mrs. Saunders introduced new Student Liaisons Nathan Michalek and Olivia Cretella. They reported on the following events:

- Freshmen Assembly took place at 7:30 AM on the first day of school. Students went to their homerooms, toured the building and met teachers. The sophomores, juniors and seniors had staggered start times that day. Juniors met with the new High School Principal and seniors had their annual back to school breakfast.
- The turf field is now being used. The first Football game took place on Friday evening.
- All Plainville High School Clubs are starting up.
- Homecoming Weekend will take place on October 7 and 8. The Homecoming Football game will take place on Friday, October 7 at 7 PM on Alumni Field playing Northwest Catholic.
- The High School will hold a College Financial Aid Night on September 27th @ 6:30 PM in the PHS Auditorium.
- This Wednesday, September 14, is a half day for all students.
- Mr. Medic, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Coe and Mr. Farrell now use Twitter as a means of communication to students. Students are very much appreciative.

### **B. Facilities Subcommittee Report—No Report**

### **C. Policy Subcommittee Report—No Report**

### **D. Finance Subcommittee Report—No Report**

### **E. Advocacy Update—No Report**

### **F. Turf Committee Report**

Dr. Brummett stated a meeting will be scheduled on either September 19 or 21 to discuss the assessment done by Mr. Mark Chase, Sr., who was hired to analyze

the sound system on the field in hopes of redirecting the sound waves. Also on the agenda will be a discussion with the PHS Athletic Backers regarding advertising on the field.

**G. PAC Liaison--Plainville High School Report**

Mr. White reported on the following:

- ▶ The first PHS PAC meeting of the new school year took place on Wednesday, September 7. Mr. White reported that there were a large number of attendees.
- ▶ New PAC meeting dates have been set: November 9, January 11, March 8 and May 10. All meetings will begin at 7 PM in the High School Learning Commons.
- ▶ A Lyman Orchard pie fundraiser will start on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a November 16 delivery date.

**H. PTO Liaison--Toffolon Elementary School Report**

Mrs. Logoyke reported for Mr. Davenport who could not make it to this evening's meeting:

- ▶ The first Toffolon PTO meeting took place on September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- ▶ A Toffolon Colorathon is being planned for Saturday, October 1. This event is a family race with stations that will add a splash of color to every runner.
- ▶ The PTO will once again sponsor an ice cream social on Open House day on September 21.
- ▶ The annual Toffolon Fall Fair will be held on Friday, November 4. Children are encouraged to wear their Halloween costumes and enjoy the crafts, foods, games, raffles and trick or treat. The teachers are promising that the Haunted Basement will be scarier than ever.
- ▶ Toffolon's Winter Holiday Extravaganza is scheduled for Friday, December 2.

**I. PTO Liaison--Linden Street Elementary School Report—No Report**

**J. PTC Liaison--Middle School of Plainville Report**

Ms. Provost reported on the following:

- ▶ The first MSP PTC meeting of the school year will take place on September 20 at 7 PM in the Middle School Library.
- ▶ The Middle School's Open House will take place on September 14.
- ▶ The Middle School's Book Fair is in progress.

**K. PTO Liaison--Wheeler Elementary School Report**

Mrs. Saunders stated that the Wheeler PTO will meet on Wednesday, September 28 at 6 PM in the Wheeler Library.

**L. CREC Council Report**

Mrs. Tyrrell stated that next CREC Council meeting will take place on September 21.

**M. Chairperson's Report**

Mrs. Saunders asked that School Open Houses be placed on the Board's weekly update. She also stated that she enjoyed this year's Convocation and very much appreciated the tee-shirt and book.

**VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No Unfinished Business

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**A) Board Open Forum**

Foster White reminded everyone of the Wheeler YMCA's Spin-A-Thon coming up this Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM at the YMCA on Farmington Avenue. Team BOE, consisting of Mr. White, Mr. LePage, Mr. Michaud and Mr. Johnson will compete against the Linden Spinsters. Proceeds will go to the LIVESTRONG Foundation (an organization who fights to improve the lives of people afflicted with cancer).

Becky Tyrrell stated that she feels very privileged to be a part of the Board of Education. She has read through many minutes of boards of education from other districts and is overjoyed with the accomplishments made throughout this district, including full day kindergarten and pre-school programs. She stated that this is a great organization to be a part of.

Dr. Brummett thanked the Board for appointing Samuel Adlerstein as the district's new Director of Business and Operations. Although he doesn't officially start until September 19<sup>th</sup> he has been present at this year's convocation, strategic planning sessions and Accounts Payable interviews. Mr. Adlerstein earned his Bachelor of Science degree and MBA from the University of Connecticut. He is currently the Business Manager for the Stafford School system and owned his own business for many years.

Dr. Brummett also thanked Steven Michaud who will return to Plainville High School as a teacher. She stated that he has done an amazing job in the business office and will be available to help Mr. Adlerstein with the transition.

**B) Appointment of New Director of Business and Operations**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPOINT MR. SAMUEL G. ADLERSTEIN AS DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS FOR THE PLAINVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 19, 2016. LAURIE PETERSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**C) Quarterly Special Education Cost Report (October, January, March and June)—No Report**

**X. CONSENT AGENDA-- Board Approval**

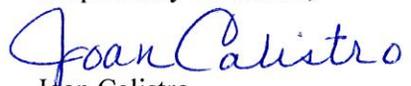
- (A) Budget Object Summary
- (B) Food Service Report
- (C) Check Registers
- (D) Close Out of FY16
- (E) HR Report (Informational Item)
- (F) Private Donation for the months of June, July and August (Informational Item)  
--There were no private donations

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY BECKY TYRRELL TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. CHERYL PROVOST SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY BECKY TYRRELL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. FOSTER WHITE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Joan Calistro

Recorder of Minutes

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT  
SUMMARY OF MOTIONS  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016**

**Approval of Minutes**

- 2004. A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORAH HARDY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING OF JUNE 14, 2016 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**
- 2005. A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S SPECIAL MEETING OF AUGUST 17, 2016 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MICHAEL GIULIANO. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**
- 2006. Appointment of New Director of Business and Operations  
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- 2007. Consent Agenda--Board Approval**  
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(B) Food Service Report  
(C) Check Registers  
(D) Close Out of FY16  
(E) HR Report (Informational Item)  
(F) Private Donation for the months of June, July and August (Informational Item)  
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- 2008. Adjournment  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY BECKY TYRRELL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. FOSTER WHITE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.**