

PENDING BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020 @ 7:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING

- I. Convene: Pledge of Allegiance
Out of caution with regard to the coronavirus, the Plainville Board of Education's Regular Business meeting was held virtually. The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Board Chair Becky Tyrrell. Vice Chair Crystal St. Lawrence led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Brent Davenport, Deborah Hardy, Becky Martinez, Nicole Palmieri, Board Vice Chair Crystal St. Lawrence, Board Chair Becky Tyrrell, Kathy Wells and Foster White.

Also Present: Steven LePage, Superintendent of Schools
David Levenduski, Asst. Superintendent of Schools
Sam Adlerstein, Director of Business and Operations

Absent: Laurie Peterson

FOSTER WHITE MADE A MOTION TO ADD THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S SPECIAL MEETING OF APRIL 6, 2020 TO IIIA. APPROVAL OF MINUTES. NICOLE PALMIERI SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.

- II. Special Presentations
A) Everyday Hero Award: Kelly Hickey, PHS Guidance Counselor
Parents Lou and Lisa Mandeville nominated Ms. Hickey for this award stating that Ms. Hickey went above and beyond expectations for their son and all Plainville High School students.
- III. Approval of Minutes
Minutes of March 9, 2020 Regular BOE meeting
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2020 AS PRESENTED. BECKY MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.

A) Minutes of April 6, 2020 Special Meeting of the Board of Education
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S SPECIAL MEETING OF

APRIL 6, 2020 AS PRESENTED. CRYSTAL ST. LAWRENCE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.

- IV. Citizen Comments (Citizen's are asked to go to the Board's website at www.plainvilleschools.org in order to find the process in which to make comments.)

- V. Council Liaison
Because the Board of Education meeting and Town Council meeting were scheduled on the same day, Mrs. Pugliese could not be here this evening. She asked Mrs. Tyrrell to read the following updates:

Mrs. Pugliese hopes that all Board of Education staff and families are well. Her thoughts are with those suffering from the COVID-19 virus and her condolences are sent to those who have lost loved ones due to the virus. She gave her sincere thanks to all who work in the healthcare industry and public safety. They are the front-line warriors who are truly heroes in uniforms and scrubs.

The Town's paving project is underway. One major project involves the paving of Norton Park, Norton Trail and various streets in the vicinity of the Park.

This evening the Town Council is considering the Governor's Executive Order 7S, Property Tax Deferral Program. Two options will be reviewed by the Council for possible implementation in the next few months.

An update was received from Loureiro Engineering regarding the status of the environmental study of the White Oak property. There will be future activities regarding the same. A grant will be used for remediation of the site.

The Council is also considering changes to an ordinance pertaining to street openings which will improve the permit process for contractors.

The Town Council finalized their budget review process resulting in a zero (0) mill increase. Spending will increase by 1.67% or \$718,376. Reductions to the municipal budget, changes in revenue assumptions, along with increased use of fund balance and anticipated savings from the Board of Education, made this possible. A Public Hearing will occur on May 4 at which time the Council may still make changes if desired. At this time, the public vote on the budget will not occur as a result of the Governor's Executive Order which suspends the requirement due to the COVID-19 crisis.

In conclusion, Mrs. Pugliese thanked Kevin Ross, IT Director, and the Tech team for their patient assistance with the Council's online meeting program efforts. She has been contacted by citizens who have either watched or listened to the meetings online and they are very grateful.

VI. Superintendent's Report

A) Distance Learning Overview

Mr. LePage and Mr. Levenduski gave a brief presentation and timeline on how Distance Learning came to fruition and the many aspects concerning its implementation. (PowerPoint is attached to this document).

Mrs. Tyrrell thanked Mr. LePage and Mr. Levenduski and stated that she is hearing many positive things on how the implementation was handled. She stated that teachers, administrators and staff are stepping up and it is greatly appreciated.

Mr. LePage gave kudos to the Board for their approval of PLC days, technology plan, and common planning time as this too has been instrumental in the Distance Learning process and success.

Mr. LePage also alerted the Board that tomorrow at 2 PM Plainville will share its secondary education Distance Learning plan with the State Department of Education. Plainville is one of four districts in the State who have been spotlighted for their District Learning initiative.

B) 2020-21 Budget Updates

Mr. LePage thanked Mr. Adlerstein for his work in preparing the budget. He stated that the information below was approved by the Town Council at their recent (April 9th) Special Meeting. There will be a Public Hearing on Monday, May 4th for citizens who would like to comment on the budget. Following the Public Hearing, the Town Council will then finalize the budget by May 28. (PowerPoint is attached to this document).

Revised 20-21 BOE Capital Plan schedule totaling \$326,250, a reduction of \$291,150.

1. Postpone PHS brick repointing \$50,000
2. Postpone Staff Chromebooks \$28,000
3. Makerspace STEM Hardware \$9,150

Two items are postponed and one reduction

Planned or purchase out of 2019-20 BOE realized savings:

1. Chromebooks and laptops \$200,000

2. Makerspace \$24,000
3. PHS Entrance ceiling canopy \$20,000
 - This was passed by the Board of Education but removed in Town Manager's proposed budget.
 - If sufficient realized savings are available, it is proposed that the project be completed this year.

VII. Board Subcommittee Reports

- A) Student Representative Report—NO REPORT
- B) Facilities/Finance Subcommittee Reports—NO REPORT
- C) Policy Subcommittee Report—NO REPORT
- D) Curriculum Subcommittee Report—NO REPORT
- E) Outreach Subcommittee Report—NO REPORT
- F) PAC Liaison—Plainville High School Report—NO REPORT
- G) PAC Liaison—Toffolon Elementary School Report

Mrs. Martinez stated that prior to the closing of schools, the Toffolon PTO raised enough money from their Appleby's fundraiser to pay for all of the 5th graders' DARE goodies including tee shirts, water bottles and maybe another time. Officer Noble stated that he would be willing to drop-off items at everyone's homes.

The yearbook orders will go directly to the company and will be shipped to the children's homes. PTO members have been collecting pictures of kids doing their Distance Learning at home.

There is a Scholastic (virtual) Book Fair which ends tonight. It's on the Toffolon PTO Facebook page. Feel free to shop.

The Baystate textile collection bins (behind Toffolon School) are still being emptied every other week. The PTO is given money for unwanted textiles.

- H) PAC Liaison—Linden Elementary School Report—NO REPORT
- I) PAC Liaison—Middle School Report—NO REPORT
- J) PAC Liaison—Wheeler Elementary School Report—NO REPORT
- K) CREC Council Report

Mrs. Tyrrell stated that the CREC Council recently met virtually. She stated that there is not much to report. She stated that some of the bigger districts in the State have not been able to connect with a cohort of student which is unfortunate.

- L) Chairperson's Report

Mrs. Tyrrell also expressed her sincere thanks to the IT Department. She stated that they have been awesome through the turmoil of this crisis and thanked them for all of their efforts and dedication.

She stated that she has been very impressed with the School Parades which have been going on throughout the town and thanks all staff who

partake in the festivities. She also stated that a couple of awesome videos have been placed online by the Middle School and High School and is so impressed with the happenings going on throughout the school system.

She touched on the virus and what it means to children. She stated that kids aren't going to remember what they've learned throughout this ordeal, but will remember how they felt. She stated that the district needs to be careful how they deal with kids and their emotions as this is a difficult time for them.

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO ADD DISCUSSION AND WAIVING OF PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL'S GRADUATION REQUIREMENT OF SENIOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS FOR THE CLASS OF 2020 UNDER NEW BUSINESS, ITEM E. NICOLE PALMIERI SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.

A) Board Open Forum

Foster White stated that Kelly Hickey is an outstanding individual who helps many students and acknowledged that she is most deserving of the Everyday Hero award. He stated that this is an example of the many fine people working throughout this district.

Crystal St. Lawrence stated that Mrs. Hickey has always been there for her son. As a parent of a Senior, she thanked the many teachers throughout the High School who are helping students with a multitude of tasks that need to take place during their Senior year, especially college entrance preparation. She is very grateful.

Nicole Palmieri said she received a text from her sister who is a teacher in Westchester, New York. Her sister said that her district has not handled the introduction of District Learning well at all. Ms. Palmieri stated that she is very grateful to the Plainville school system for helping to introduce Distance Learning quickly and without incident to students.

She also stated that she took a walk around the track today at Plainville High School. A four-year old went missing for a few minutes but was quickly found. She stated that there were not as many people on the fields as there have been in the past.

Mr. LePage stated that he has been concerned about the amount of people on the High School fields and the fact that they are not social

distancing. He has spoken to Chief Catania over the last week or so and the police are monitoring the area.

Foster White asked if there is signage around the field area. Mr. LePage stated that there is signage but will speak to Mr. Farrell to place a few more signs on the outside fences. If it continues, the gates will have to be closed.

Becky Martinez thanked Amy Plourde for creating signs with kids pictures and school pictures that can be placed on yards at home. She also thanked all of the teachers and staff at Toffolon School who have been doing an amazing job.

Nicole Palmieri also mentioned that the Fire Department cancelled this year's Annual Balloon Festival due to the coronavirus.

Deborah Hardy thanked all district staff for all that they are doing during this difficult time.

B) Quarterly Special Education Cost Report (Oct., Jan., Mar., June)—NO REPORT

C) Turf Committee Report (Sept. & May)—NO REPORT

D) Request Approval of Participation in Healthy Food and Beverage Certification Initiative 07/01/20 to 06/30/21

A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT AND AUTHORIZE THE 2020-21 HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION AND TO ALLOW FOOD EXEMPTIONS TO THE HEALTHY FOOD PLAN UNDER HFC, AND TO ALLOW BEVERAGE EXEMPTIONS UNDER C.G.S. SECTION 10-221q. BRENT DAVENPORT SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.

E) *Waiving of Plainville High School's Graduation Requirement of Senior Volunteer Service Hours for the Class of 2020.*

Mr. LePage stated that he received a letter from Plainville High School Principal Carl Johnson, asking permission for the Board to waive the graduation requirement for senior volunteer service hours for this school year. He then read Mr. Johnson's letter to the Board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE WAIVING OF PLAINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL'S GRADUATION REQUIREMENT OF SENIOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS FOR THE

CLASS OF 2020. BECKY MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0

Mr. White stated that he would like to see the top 10% of all Seniors who have exceeded their community service hours recognized at a future meeting. Mr. LePage stated that scholarships encourage community service and those top students are often the ones being honored through scholarships. He stated that he will look into ways the Board could honor those students as well.

X. Consent Agenda

A) Budget Object Summary

B) Food Service Report

C) Check Registers

D) HR Report

E) Private Donations for the Month of March

--There were no private donations for the month of March

A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. BECKY MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.

XI. Adjournment

A MOTION WAS MADE BY NICOLE PALMIERI TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION. BRENT DAVENPORT SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM

Respectfully submitted

Joan Calistro

Joan Calistro

Recorder of Minutes