

PENDING BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016
Plainville High School Cafeteria
Plainville, Connecticut

Order of Business
6:30 p.m.

I. Farewell Reception for Dr. Jeffrey Kitching

7:00 p.m.
Plainville High School Cafeteria
Regular Business Meeting of the Plainville Board of Education

II. CONVENE: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Chair Andrea Saunders called the regular business meeting of the Plainville Board of Education to order at 7:08 PM. Michael Giuliano led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also Present: Jeffrey Kitching, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Maureen Brummett, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent
Steven Michaud, Director of Administration and Personnel
Daniel Costantini, Student Representative

Absent: Caterina LaBella, Student Representative

Late Arrivals: ---

Early Departures: None

Returns: None

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHERYL PROVOST TO MOVE ITEM X. C., APPOINTMENT OF NEW SUPERINTENDENT, TO ITEM III A., SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS. DEBORAH HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Mrs. Saunders stated that the Board was shocked when Dr. Kitching announced he was leaving. They were both sad for the district but happy for him. That said, the Board discussed the need to find someone who will continue to move the district forward, and immediately the name that came to everyone's mind was Dr. Maureen Brummett. A motion was then made.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPOINT MAUREEN BRUMMETT, ED.D. AS THE TOWN OF PLAINVILLE'S NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, EFFECTIVE APRIL 16, 2016. BECKY TYRRELL SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, 9-0.

Mrs. Tyrrell wanted everyone both in and out of district to know that this decision wasn't made out of convenience but that Dr. Brummett is the right person for the job. Dr. Brummett has been with the district for many years and will be a great successor. The district is fortunate to have her.

Mr. White stated that the district needs continuity and Dr. Brummett is certainly the most qualified for the job. She is a tremendous asset to the district.

Michael Giuliano stated that he has mixed emotions about Dr. Kitching leaving the district and is very proud of both Dr. Kitching and the Board's accomplishments. He stated that he felt the Board and administration worked together as a family. He went on to say that he has complete confidence in Dr. Brummett as she is a personable and bright person who will have no problem moving the district forward.

Cheryl Provost stated that she was on the Board of Education when Dr. Brummett was appointed Asst. Superintendent of Schools and knows of her many successes over the years. She stated that there is no one more qualified for this job.

Deborah Hardy stated that she will miss Dr. Kitching. She then congratulated Dr. Brummett stating that she is a well-qualified individual and is happy to have her onboard.

Dr. Brummett thanked the Board for giving her the opportunity to lead this outstanding district. She has served in Plainville for eighteen years and cannot say enough about her fellow administrators, skilled and talented teachers and staff. She is very proud of the collaborative work they have accomplished. She then thanked Dr. Kitching who is her mentor and friend. She stated that her feelings are bittersweet with regard to him moving on to his new job. She then thanked her family for their endless support, her husband Gary, daughters, Alexandra and Lauren and parents Tim and Bev Luddy, who were all present.

Dr. Kitching stated that no other person has the vision and insight to move the district forward other than Dr. Brummett. He stated that he is very happy for her and that the Board couldn't have found a better candidate. He commented that she is a very talented and skilled individual who will bring only good things to the district. He wished her well.

A) CABA Communications Award presented to the Board of Education

The Board of Education was awarded a plaque from CABA for Excellence in Educational Communication. Becky Tyrrell, who is a member of the CABA Board of Directors, presented the award to Lynn Davis, the district's Communications Specialist. She stated that CABA stresses the importance of communication by bestowing a series of awards to districts who "get it right". The 2015 Award of Excellence was awarded for the district's quick facts bookmark. Mrs. Tyrrell thanked Mrs. Davis for all of the work she does.

B) Board Member Appreciation Presentations

Board of Education members were awarded gifts in honor of Board of Education Appreciation month. Members of the Elementary schools' Jazz Band performed for the Board.

Dr. Kitching thanked the students in the jazz band for their wonderful performance and stated that this is an example of the successes accomplished by the Board. He stated that great things are happening in Plainville because of their time and effort.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A) A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORAH HARDY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2016 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

V. CITIZEN COMMENTS

A. RESPONSE TO CITIZEN COMMENTS

No responses

VI. COUNCIL LIAISON

Mrs. Pugliese could not attend this evening's meeting due to budget meetings. Mrs. Saunders reminded the Board that they will meet with members of the Town Council for their annual budget worksession on March 15 at 6:30 PM in Council Chambers.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Technology Integration

Dr. Kitching introduced teachers Eric Bosley and Erin Georgini, who gave a brief presentation on Technology Integration. Mr. Bosley and Ms. Georgini explained that students can choose their own paths through Technology Integration and discussed the tools used in the Chromebook initiative, such as Zaction, Guided Research and Newsela. Each of these tools encourages cross-content collaboration. They then presented the Board with original student production videos that students created with various learning tools. One such software is Pixlr Editor. With Pixlr, students can create a storyboard with both digital art and scanned art, choosing a character and a scenario then turning it into a cartoon format. Students can learn from already created storyboards, such as Goanimate!, which introduces a group of zoo animals conversing about their constitutional rights. Mr. Bosley explained that one of his students, who is disabled, created a storyboard about the banking industry during the great depression. The student was able to use art work to help create the storyline. Mr. Bosley was very impressed with the student's presentation.

Both Mr. Bosley and Ms. Georgini then spoke about Interactive Learning Tools. How Google Classroom can be used with Chromebook. Work can be created in a teacher's computer and sent to a student's computer (which is an excellent tool when a student is out, as they can access the work from home). Students can also collaborate with each other. Google Classroom connects well with other applications and keeps track of pending assignments. Mr. Bosley stated that students get so excited about their assignments and the creativity of the work that they work on items outside of the classroom. Discussion ensued.

B. Hour of Code

Dr. Kitching introduced teachers Phil Sanders and Alicia Atterato, who gave a brief presentation on Coding. Mr. Sanders thanked Dr. Kitching, Dr. Brummett and Kevin Ross for their dedication and support of technology. Coding, a series of punctuations and texts, is the first step for anyone to learn that computer science can be fun and is accessible. Mr. Sanders and Ms. Atterato then presented a video describing the "Hour of Coding" program they ran in all K-5 classrooms this year. They then discussed next steps. Mr. Sanders stated that he and Ms. Atterato will be presenting coding at the district's Informational Showcase on April 20, and will continue the program next year.

C. State of the Elementary Schools

Dr. Kitching then introduced the three elementary principals who gave a brief video of various programs and initiatives being offered at each of their schools. Dr. Kitching thanked Ms. Eshoo, Mr. Batchelder, Mrs. Logoyke, Dr. Van Wagenen and Mrs. Graham-Douglas, for the great job they have done in keeping consistency among the three elementary schools.

Mrs. Logoyke began by thanking the elementary jazz band for attending this evening's meeting. She stated that the schools are grateful for the afterschool program which produces such amazing outcomes. She specifically thanked music teachers, Michael Boncimino and Greg Wilfrid for all of the time and effort that they give to their students. She hopes the Board enjoyed the students' performance and gifts.

Each principal then spoke about programs and initiatives at the elementary schools, such as:

- ▶ Reading Units of Study (shown in video format)
- ▶ PreK to K Progress--Ms. Eshoo stated that this is the first year that Kindergarteners have come from a Pre-K program. Results have shown strong progress.
- ▶ Wellness—Building Bodies and Brains
- ▶ Unified Sports—benefit challenged and disabled students. Plainville students will compete in New Haven on April 2nd.
- ▶ PLC Work: Meaningful Discourse—teachers collaborating to discuss what is working and not working, and how to rectify the problem.
- ▶ One Community, One Book—Students in Kgn. through Grade 5 will read *Friendship According to Humphry* by Betty Birney. The book is being read by teachers in classrooms, along with various book related activities.

Dr. Kitching thanked the principals for their collaboration.

D. CT Department of Early Childhood: Smart Start Grant

Dr. Brummett stated that the district was awarded the CT Department of Early Childhood's Smart Start Grant. The grant will be used to help fund a full-time teacher and para for its Pre-K program, as well as providing start up supplies and providing improvements to meet NAEYC certification. Although the grant was awarded, funding has not come through as yet. Dr. Brummett stated that a bonding meeting will take place on March 26. More information should follow.

Dr. Kitching thanked Dr. Brummett for the great job she did organizing this grant and stated that staff will not be added, as full day students will be folded into the existing program.

Dr. Kitching stated that this will be his last Board meeting. He thanked the Board for their support over the last five years and wished them well. He also thanked them for this evening's reception.

VIII. BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Student Representative Report

- ▶ Dan Costantini reported that a couple of weeks ago, former professional basketball player Chris Herren spoke to PHS students about those suffering from drug addiction and alcoholism, and the impact it has on family and friends. Mr. Herren, who started the Herren Project, was a drug addict. Through this project

he speaks to students about the choices they make and the impact those choices have on others. Mr. Costantini said it makes you think twice about what you do.

► MSP and PHS Unified Basketball team competed in the CIAC Tournament on March 9th at New Britain High School. Mr. Costantini finds the program very rewarding and he is happy to be a part of it.

► PHS juniors took their SAT's on March 2.

► College Planning Night is scheduled for March 15

► Mr. PHS Competition will take place on March 24

B. Facilities Subcommittee Report—No Report

C. Policy Subcommittee Report—No Report

D. Finance Subcommittee Report

Dr. Kitching stated that the next Finance Subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 6th. The committee will discuss the end of the year budget and realized savings. An email will be sent to the Board to verify date, time and location of the meeting.

E. Advocacy Update—No Report

F. Turf Committee Report—No Report

Dr. Kitching stated that there are no changes since his last report. The committee did meet on March 2 to approve final expenses. He stated that a Ribbon Cutting is planned for late May (prior to Memorial Day) to recognize the Tinty Foundation for their generous donation.

G. PAC Liaison--Plainville High School Report

Mr. White stated that the PAC raised \$3,000+ from their recent fundraisers which included the Yankee Candle fundraiser and butterbraid sale which took place in January.

► Graduation signs are currently out of stock. They should be available within the next 30 days.

► Mr. LePage discussed the changes made to the schedule during exam week.

► The PAC will sponsor a tag sale in May from 9 AM to 2 PM. They are looking for slightly used items.

The next PAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11 at 6:30 PM in the PHS Principal's Conference Room.

H. PTO Liaison--Toffolon Elementary School Report

Mr. Davenport reported on the following:

► The Brain Show was a big hit. Children and families enjoyed a game show type assembly that was sponsored by the PTO.

► K-2 Fun Night is planned for April 1. The theme will be Camp Out.

► Mrs. Logoyke shared the plans for the town-wide One Book program, both those within Toffolon and also town-wide activities. The PTO will be giving each family their own *Humphry* book.

I. PTO Liaison--Linden Street Elementary School Report

Mrs. Hardy reported on the following:

► The Kidathon went well. Many staff and parents volunteered their time. Approximately 160 participated.

- ▶ A Book Fair was held during parent/teacher conferences, along with a Bake Sale manned by the Student Council.
- ▶ Yankee Candle fundraiser packets will go out on March 17. Forms are due back on March 31. Candles will be delivered prior to Mother's Day.
- ▶ The PTO discussed a program that provides all gifts for the Gingerbread Shop called Penguin Patch.com. They are given a high rating.
- ▶ Dr. Brummett spoke to the PTO about work being done at Old Linden.

J. PTC Liaison--Middle School of Plainville Report

Ms. Provost reported on the following:

- ▶ The Middle School Library was recently named a "Super" Library by author Tim Green and was selected as one of ten school libraries across the country to win five free copies of Mr. Green's newest baseball book, *Home Run*.
- ▶ Grade 6 students took a field trip to the Springfield Museum in Springfield, MA, where they saw the Wolf to Woof: The Story of Dogs exhibit and took part in Forensic Science activities.
- ▶ The Annual Dog Sled Musher presentation will take place on March 16.
- ▶ Fox 61 Meteorologists Rachel Frank and Dan Amarante will speak to MSP students on March 24.
- ▶ April 1st is Russia Day at the Middle School
- ▶ Grade 7 students will take a trip to New York City to visit the USS Intrepid on April 22.
- ▶ MSP Students will visit the Bushnell to see "The Giver" on May 16.
- ▶ Students will be treated to a day at Lake Compounce on May 26.
- ▶ The MSP PTC will provide food at the Fishing Derby in October.
- ▶ New fundraising ideas were discussed.

The next meeting of the Middle School PTC will take place on April 5 at 7 PM in the Middle School Library.

K. PTO Liaison--Wheeler Elementary School Report

- ▶ Read Across America festivities took place this week.
 - ▶ A Jazz Band Assembly also took place.
 - ▶ The Wheeler Chorus sang at the March 6th Wolf Pac game. Special thanks go to Wheeler Music teacher Diane Roncaioli
- The next Wheeler PTO meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 30 at 6 PM in the Wheeler Library.

L. CREC Council Report

The CREC Council took place on February 18 at the Capitol. The Executive Director transition between Dr. Douglas and Dr. Florio went well. Dr. Florio has made great strides in communicating to districts within the scope of the RESC.

M. Chairperson's Report

On behalf of fellow Board Members, Mrs. Saunders thanked Principals and students for the wonderful gifts presented to them for Board Appreciation week. She again wished Dr. Kitching well and stated that he will be missed.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

A) Board Open Forum

Cheryl Provost had a chance to attend Toffolon's Science Night. She stated that the program was amazing. She also attended a recent Choral Society Concert which included the Middle School choir. The Concert was very enjoyable.

Ms. Provost congratulated Lynn Davis on the CABA Award of Excellence. She thanked students and staff for the lovely gifts afforded the Board.

In conclusion, she stated that the Board will miss Dr. Kitching. He left the district a better place. Because he worked closely with administrators and staff, he leaves the district in excellent hands. She wished him well.

Foster White stated that on April 5th art work created by Plainville students will be displayed at the New Britain Museum of Art. He stated that the museum is one of the premier art museums in the country and it is quite an honor to have our students' art displayed in it. He also thanked Art teacher Linda Helming for making this possible. She did an outstanding job.

He then thanked Dr. Kitching for all that he has done for the district.

Becky Tyrrell thanked students, the jazz band and parents for the gifts and for coming to this evening's meeting. She stated that the gifts are a lot of fun and the Board appreciates the districts efforts and well wishes.

She stated that five years ago the district was searching for a new Superintendent, which is a daunting task. She stated that the first time she met Dr. Kitching she knew they couldn't have found a better connection to Plainville. She stated that losing Dr. Kitching will be hard but that he built a system through positions of leadership which makes the district better every day. She wishes him well as he moves to a position which will influence many people on a grander scale. She wished him the best.

B) Quarterly Special Education Cost Report (October, January, March and June)

Mr. Michaud thanked Dr. Kitching for placing his trust in him. He hopes to make Dr. Kitching proud.

Mr. Michaud stated that the tuition costs are tracking appropriately at the mid-point of the school year. A small surplus may be incurred at the end of the year but the account will be monitored. He thanked both Vicki Trzcinski, Anne Walsh and their staff for their help.

He reported that there are currently 20 outplaced students (includes 3 Transition Services and Support and 8 Magnet and Tech support). Original budget for tuitions: \$1,468,699. Budgeted Excess Cost Credit: (\$565,000). Total Revised budget for tuitions: \$903,414. Expenditures to date: \$917,414 Expected Remaining Balance: \$530,940 and Total expected expenditure: \$1,448,354.

C) Appointment of new Superintendent of Schools

This item was moved to Item III, A. under Special Presentations

XI. CONSENT AGENDA-- Board Approval

- (A) Budget Object Summary
- (B) Food Service Report
- (C) Check Registers
- (D) Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers

- (E) Acceptance of Dr. Kitching's Resignation Letter
- (F) RATIFICATION: PHS Band trip to the University of New Hampshire Jazz Festival, UNH-Durham, NH, March 11-12, 2016
- (G) HR Report (Informational Item)
- (H) Private Donation for the month of February: (Informational Item)
 - There were no private donations for the month of February

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHERYL PROVOST TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. FOSTER WHITE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

Mrs. Saunders asked about specifics for the PHS play, *A Doll's House*.

Mr. LePage stated that the play is scheduled for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 17, 18 and 19 in the PHS Auditorium. Tickets and hours may be obtained by contacting Jeff Blanchette at Plainville High School.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORAH HARDY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. BRENT DAVENPORT SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Joan Calistro
Recorder of Minutes

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT
SUMMARY OF MOTIONS
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016**

1976. *A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHERYL PROVOST TO MOVE ITEM X. C., APPOINTMENT OF NEW SUPERINTENDENT, TO ITEM III A., SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS. DEBORAH HARDY SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.*
1977. **Appointment of New Superintendent of Schools**
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPOINT MAUREEN BRUMMETT, ED.D. AS THE TOWN OF PLAINVILLE'S NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, EFFECTIVE APRIL 16, 2016. BECKY TYRRELL SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, 9-0.
1978. **Approval of Minutes**
A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORAH HARDY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2016 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.
1979. **Consent Agenda--Board Approval**
(A) Budget Object Summary
(B) Food Service Report
(C) Check Registers
(D) Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers
(E) Acceptance of Dr. Kitching's Resignation Letter
(F) RATIFICATION: PHS Band trip to the University of New Hampshire Jazz Festival, UNH-Durham, NH, March 11-12, 2016
(G) HR Report (Informational Item)
(H) Private Donation for the month of February: (Informational Item)
--There were no private donations for the month of February
- A MOTION WAS MADE BY CHERYL PROVOST TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. FOSTER WHITE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.
1980. **Adjournment**
A MOTION WAS MADE BY DEBORAH HARDY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. BRENT DAVENPORT SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED. The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2016

Carm R. Abunty
TOWN CLERK

