



PLAINEDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public Work Session HS - Innovation Learning Center

241 Wyngate Drive
Massapequa, NY 11758
www.plainedgeschools.org

~ Minutes ~

Tuesday, March 8, 2016

8:00 PM

HS - Innovation Learning Center

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Catherine Flanagan	President	Absent	
Raymond Paris	Vice-President	Present	
Debra Grieci	Trustee	Late	7:07 PM
Dennis Gustafson	Trustee	Present	
Douglas Pascarella	Trustee	Present	
Eric Szillus	Trustee	Present	
Sis Townson	Trustee	Present	
Edward A. Salina	Superintendent	Present	
Todd Winch	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction	Present	
Guy J. Le Vaillant	Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources & Instructional Technology	Present	
Peter Porrazzo	Assistant Superintendent for Business	Present	
Christopher Dillon	Assistant to the Superintendent for Administration & Special Projects	Present	

2. Motion to: Open Public Work Session - 7:02 pm

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
MOVER:	Sisi Townson, Trustee
SECONDER:	Dennis Gustafson, Trustee
AYES:	Pascarella, Gustafson, Paris, Townson, Szillus
ABSENT:	Catherine Flanagan
AWAY:	Debra Grieci

3. Motion to: Open Executive Session - 7:04 pm

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
MOVER:	Dennis Gustafson, Trustee
SECONDER:	Eric Szillus, Trustee
AYES:	Pascarella, Gustafson, Paris, Townson, Szillus
ABSENT:	Catherine Flanagan
AWAY:	Debra Grieci

4. Motion to: Adjourn Executive Session - 7:40 pm

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Debra Grieci, Trustee
SECONDER:	Sisi Townson, Trustee
AYES:	Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Paris, Townson, Szillus
ABSENT:	Catherine Flanagan

5. Motion to: Reconvene Public work session - 8:00 pm

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Debra Grieci, Trustee
SECONDER:	Sisi Townson, Trustee
AYES:	Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Paris, Townson, Szillus
ABSENT:	Catherine Flanagan

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Paris led those assembled in the pledge of allegiance.

II. Superintendent's Remarks

Dr. Salina greeted everyone and spoke about the many exciting activities that are going on in the various schools. He spoke about the fantastic band festival that occurred last month. He reminded everyone to view the district website and to visit it often to view upcoming school events.

III. Reports/Discussions/Presentations**a. Elementary School Program Spotlight - The Great Kindness Challenge Week & Our Kindness Certified School Recognition - Elementary Principals**

Mrs. Muscarella, Mrs. O'Brien and Mrs. Thearle presented the Great Kindness Challenge week which occurred during Red Ribbon week in the fall of 2015. The focus of Red Ribbon week is to spread drug awareness and encourage positive decision making skills. Mrs. Muscarella described the activities that the schools participate in during Red Ribbon week. This is a character education lesson and what the students think of Red Ribbon week helps them make good healthy choices. Mrs. Muscarella described the pledges that the parents and students sign. Mrs. O'Brien spoke about the Great Kindness Challenge and the conference they attended two years ago. They learned at the conference about the Great Kindness Challenge and that hundreds of schools participate in it each year. The Principals want to instill in our children kindness year-round not just for the week. This program actively engages children, parents and administrators and staff.

Mrs. Thearle spoke about the health and creative benefits that instilling kindness makes in a child's life. There are direct physiological benefits as well as social ones. She then showed a brief video of how acts of kindness can make a better world. Mrs. Thearle then handed out some of the give-a-ways that were given to the children. Mrs. O'Brien spoke about the 50 types of acts of kindness you could do, the students were encouraged to do as many of these acts as possible during the kindness challenge week. Mrs. Muscarella spoke about how our elementary schools have been selected to be a kindness certified school district. Mr. Gustafson thought the student to student interviews were great and he spoke highly about the pledge contract. Mr. Pascarella asked if there was any quantifiable change year over year in more acts of kindness. Mrs. O'Brien responded with their method of tracking the acts of kindness in her building. The Principals said the children rose to the occasion. Mr. Szillus spoke about Eastplain's character education programs. Ms. Townson really liked the positivity of the program. Dr. Salina thanked the Principals for continuing with Red Ribbon week, the kindness challenge and congratulated them on the national recognition they received.

b. Elementary School Program Spotlight - John H. West Elementary School 2015 National Red Ribbon Week Photo Contest Winner - Elementary Principals

John H. West entered the Red Ribbon week poster contest and won and the school was awarded an iPad and \$1000. Mrs. Muscarella played a video of the students and what they liked best about Red Ribbon week.

c. 3rd Draft of 2016-2017 Budget Presentation - Peter Porrazzo

Mr. Porrazzo presented the third draft of the 2016-17 school budget. The budget to budget increase is 2.53% and the increase over the 15/16 budget is 1.89%. He briefly reviewed the budget planning calendar and presentations that have been reviewed. March and April are the busiest months of the planning process. Mr. Porrazzo will present the tax cap calculation at Thursday evening's meeting.

d. Curriculum & Instruction 2016-2017 Budget Presentation - Todd Winch

Mr. Winch presented the 2016-17 Curriculum & Instruction budget. Mr. Winch reviewed the areas that are included in the Curriculum & Instruction department. He then highlighted multiple points of pride that are district-wide - including: implementation of a K-5 Teachers College writing program, STEAM projects, new elective courses, Teacher reacher PT conference scheduler, new literacy coaches, new family & consumer science class, new best buddies club at the High school, expanded summer programs, piloting 2015 Go Math, Achieve 3000, parent university classes, enhanced parent portal communications, new teacher mentor program, redesign of new teacher institute, and piloting an online credit recovery course in the high school. The Summer Reader Leader program had a 34% increase over last summer. This year's budget is \$990 less than last year. Mr. Winch spoke about the main drivers of the budget, the non-BOCES professional development costs are increasing based on Teachers College programs and our BOCES costs are decreasing.

Dr. Salina spoke about the high quality of the writing project that our teachers and students are learning. He also stated that the Middle school will begin Teachers College programs next year. Mr. Winch discussed new classes being offered such as - entrepreneurship, digital photography II, discreet mathematics, Spanish for daily living, and conservation & citizen science. The district continues to promote online learning. Upcoming initiatives include the expansion of STEAM learning opportunities in the elementary schools, maker spaces, new curriculum writing, and project Lead the Way. The district continues our transition to the revised state standards. There will be more revisions to the district APPR plan. Mr. Pascarella asked about the reduction in some costs and Mr. Winch explained. Mr. Gustafson commented about how many great things we have accomplished. Mr. Paris thanked him for his in-depth presentation. Mrs. Townson stated how as a parent writing is so important to her and that she is glad to see how much we are committing to writing skills development in our district. Mrs. Grieci asked about the new SAT's and how the students are being transitioned to the new format. Mr. Winch responded about the changes in the SAT Prep class.

e. Nassau BOCES 2016-17 Budget & Board Nominations - Peter Porrazzo

Mr. Porrazzo stated there are three seats expiring and the three incumbents are running for re-election. Mr. Pascarella spoke about candidates Mrs. Fran Langsner and Mr. Robert BA Schoen. The Board all agreed by consensus to support nominations for both of these candidates. Additionally, the Board decided that if Mr. Ellerbe submits a cover letter and resume they will support his nominations. A resolution will be added to the March 15th Business agenda with the nominations.

IV. Public Work Session

a. Fiscal Reports

There were no questions.

- 1. Cash Flow Summary - December 2015**
- 2. Collateral Report-December 2015**
- 3. Revenue & Budget Status Report: Fund A**
- 4. Revenue & Budget Status Report: Fund C**
- 5. Revenue & Budget Status Report: Fund F**
- 6. Revenue & Budget Status Report: Fund H**
- 7. Revenue & Budget Status Report: Fund V**
- 8. Treasurer's Report**
- 9. Trial Balance Report December 2015**
- 10. Warrant Reports #50-55**

V. New Business

Mr. Gustafson spoke about the committees and asked if we could have a discussion about the committees prior to beginning the work. There was a discussion and some of the Board members thought this could be handled through an email. Mr. Gustafson said he would draft an email.

VI. Review of Business Agenda

There were no questions.

VII. Future Agenda Items

There were none.

VIII. Opportunity for the Public to be Heard - Question & Answer Period

1. Fred Treubig - made an observation about a past administrator and asked how do parents respond when you call them with information about sensitive topics about their children. Mr. Paris responded.

IX. Adjournment of Public Work Meeting

The meeting was closed at 9:00 PM

1. **Motion to:** Adjourn Public Work Session at 9:00 PM

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Debra Grieci, Trustee
SECONDER:	Sisi Townson, Trustee
AYES:	Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Paris, Townson, Szillus
ABSENT:	Catherine Flanagan

X. NOTES