



PLAINEDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public Work Session Board of Education - Board Room

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

~ Draft Minutes ~

Tuesday, October 6, 2015

8:00 PM

Board of Education - Board Room

Executive Session

1. Motion to: Open Public Work Session

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Douglas Pascarella, Trustee
SECONDER:	Dennis Gustafson, Trustee
AYES:	Flanagan, Paris, Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Townson, Szillus

2. Motion to: Open Executive Session

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Douglas Pascarella, Trustee
SECONDER:	Dennis Gustafson, Trustee
AYES:	Flanagan, Paris, Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Townson, Szillus

3. Motion to: Close Executive Session

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

I. Pledge of Allegiance

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Catherine Flanagan	President	Present
Raymond Paris	Vice President	Present
Debra Grieci	Trustee	Present
Dennis Gustafson	Trustee	Present
Douglas Pascarella	Trustee	Present
Sisi Townson	Trustee	Present
Eric Szillus	Trustee	Present
Edward A. Salina	Superintendent	Present
Todd Winch	Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction	Present
Peter Porrazzo	Assistant Superintendent for Business and Administration	Present
Guy J. Le Vaillant	Assistant Superintendent for HR & Instructional Technology	Present
Christopher Dillon	Assistant to the Superintendent for Administration & Special Projects	Present

2. Motion to: Open the Public Work Session - 8:10pm

Ms. Flanagan led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Raymond Paris, Vice President
SECONDER:	Sisi Townson, Trustee
AYES:	Flanagan, Paris, Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Townson, Szillus

II. Superintendents Remarks

Dr. Salina thanked everyone for coming to meeting and announced that a special guest, Ms. Susan Bergtraum from NYSSBA, is in attendance at this evenings meeting.

He stated that she is here to present the Board of Education President and Vice President with awards. Dr. Salina thanked Ms. Bergtraum for coming. Dr. Salina briefly explained the NYSSBA School Board U Program and also highlighted the fact that Ms. Flanagan has participated in man, many programs through School Board U and as a result has received many awards for her participation. He congratulated Ms. Flanagan on exceeding the amount of recognitions available through the NYSSBA School Board U Program.

a. NYSSBA Board of Education Recognition - Susan Bergtraum

Ms. Bergtraum took the floor and did a brief explanation on the NYSSBA School Board U program and examples of some programs that the Board of Education attends throughout the year. She spoke of representing NYSSBA as the Area 11 Director and that she is in attendance at the Board of Education meeting, to recognize Ms. Flanagan and Mr. Paris. Ms. Bergtraum spoke of how dedicated the Plainedge Board of Education is and how lucky the community is to have such an engaged Board of Education that continually look to gain more knowledge in the ways of Education, in order to make the most informed and best decisions for the children of their community. Ms. Bergtraum explained the Board Excellence Award and Mr. Paris' background and involvement with the Board of Education at Plainedge, then presented him with the award. Ms. Bergtraum then spoke about the Board Lifetime Achievement award and Ms. Flanagan's background and involvement with NYSSBA and the Board of Education at Plainedge, then presented her with the award.

III. Reports/Discussions

Dr. Salina introduced the Commencement Level Assessments presentation by Mr. Todd Winch.

a. Commencement Level Assessments - Presentation - Mr. Todd Winch

Mr. Todd Winch opened up stating that this is an annual presentation and highlighted what he would be speaking about this evening and what will be covered next month.

Mr. Winch stated that Plainedge has been recognized as a reward school for the third year in a row and spoke about the methodology around this recognition and how a school gets recognized. He discussed in brief, the 5 points that have to be met in order to qualify. Mr. Gustafson asked if all schools in the district could be a reward school and Mr. Winch confirmed that yes, any school can be. Mr. Winch then stated that he focused on the High School for his presentation. He spoke in brief about the rankings of "Best" High Schools and which 3 rankings are most recognized. As Mr. Winch explained each of the 3 rankings, there were brief discussions had between the Board of Education and him regarding such rankings and qualifications both regionally and nationally. It was noted that Plainedge does a tremendous job at preparing the children of the community for college readiness due to the amount of college courses offered at the High School level, and Dr. Salina stated that it was great to see the methodologies from the different reports, laid out in the presentation.

Mr. Winch continued on with his presentation and discussed Regents exam results. He spoke about Comprehensive English Regents, US History and Government Regents including how Plainedge did comparatively year to year. There was a brief discussion held between the Board of Education and Mr. Winch regarding the trends and slight drop offs seen in the presentation as well as being able to research past historical results data. Mr. Winch continued to go through the presentation and the different Regents testing, mastery rates etc. Looking at per year versus county ratings. There was a question raised by Ms. Townson regarding trigonometry in the algebra classes and how that effects college courses. Mr. Winch explained what is happening with trigonometry and common core math. Ms. Grieci asked about the Algebra classes and prepping children for the SAT's, based on this new schedule of learning. Dr. Salina replied that a lot of colleges are beginning to remove SAT's and ACT's from their application requirements. Ms. Townson asked about the reason for including Regents grades as a final exam grade for graduation. Mr. Winch replied that most districts use Regents grades as part of the final course grade. Mr. Winch spoke about the common core implementation timeline and where the implementation currently stands and also spoke about what the 2015 passing rates are and how it compares to the previous year for Algebra 1 Common Core. Mr. Winch continued to go through his presentation, discussing the different common core classes and scoring. Lastly, Mr. Winch spoke about what is happening moving forward and that teachers and administrators are doing many different things to help ensure that students do the best that they possibly can in the Math regents. He explained the different things that teachers and administration are doing such as furthering their education, taking training classes etc. Ms. Townson commended the teachers for doing all that they can for the students, despite having to adhere to modules. Mr. Winch stated that the better our children become in reading and writing at the general level, the better the results on the Regents tests, especially with the implementation of Teachers college.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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b. LIPA/Pilot Payments

Mr. Porrazzo spoke about the LIPA/Pilot Payments and explained what it means and what the district does/does not know at this point. He stated that there are a lot of unknowns regarding the program and that it is new to the district, in its first year. He stated that the district is asking the Board of Education to send a letter to the county attorney and legislature for more information and plans for the future as well as to identify the properties that makes this up. A discussion was had between Mr. Gustafson and Mr. Porrazzo regarding the components of the LIPA/Pilot payments and Mr. Porrazzo stated that two out of three of the components are out of the districts hands.

Ms. Flanagan addressed the Board of Education and asked if they are comfortable with sending a letter requesting information. All were in agreement.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Flanagan, Paris, Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Townson, Szillus

c. 2014 - 2015 Board of Education Goals Update

Dr. Salina took the Board of Education through his presentation on the 2014-2015 Board of Education Goals update. He explained that on an annual basis, the Board sets goals and stated that they would be taking a look at the goals from last year. Dr. Salina explained the Board of Education Goals process and went through all of the Goal Topics that were set in 2014-2-15. Dr. Salina spoke about Facilities goals first, which include the energy efficiency project, upcoming capital projects and the latest 5 year plan that will be coming. He spoke about the roofing repairs and the urgency around doing this improvement. The Security program expansion was discussed as well as a brief explanation of the SAVE plan, maintenance procedures and the continuation of looking to go green inside of the school buildings. There was also a brief a discussion about how the district get more of the Plainedge Community involved in what is happening around the schools and ways that communication about what is happening around the schools can be enhanced to reach out to as many community members are possible. Dr. Salina continued to speak through the presentation regarding the Goal of finance and continuing to be fiscally responsible. He also spoke about the demographic survey and elaborated a bit on the goal of Instructional Technology, speaking of the technology road map, STEM initiatives, and the digital document management solution for the district and Curriculum & Instruction Goal initiatives. There were no questions from the Board of Education.

RESULT:	DISCUSSED
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d. Board of Education Goals 2015-2016 School Year - Board Discussion

Mr. Pascarella highlighted that the Board of Education made inroads on a lot of the goals this past year. Mr. Gustafson asked about the 5 year plan and incorporating that into some of the 15-16 goals. Dr Salina stated that he thinks that he would like to keep the same categories and asks the Board to take a look at whether or not they want to keep them and if there are additional categories that they would like to add. That is his suggestion for moving forward, if the Board wills it.

Dr. Salina then continued onto the next slide that outlines the general area goals for 2015 -2016, stating that Curriculum and Instruction is a top priority but that all 5 areas are equally important. Ms. Townson asked for Dr. Salina to consider changing "rigorous" to "invigorating" under Curriculum and Instruction Goals. Ms. Flanagan asked if all Board members were ok with that word change, all Board of Education members were in agreement. Mr. Gustafson stated that he wanted to ensure that all Goals were measurable and to think about putting a time stamp on some of the deliverables, where appropriate. He also would like at a high level, the 5 year plan included in the goals. Mr. Paris suggested adding another category called government affairs. Mr. Gustafson stated that he had concerns around adding anything political into the Goals. Mr. Szillus asked about the community involvement in taking some action with a committee around the government affairs. Ms. Flanagan asked that Dr. Salina research an overarching statement that the Board of Education could come up with deliverables for. Ms. Grieci asked if this would be another Goal or if it would be a subset of an existing goal. Ms. Flanagan asked how everyone felt about it being a separate category and Mr. Gustafson suggested that perhaps it's best if Dr. Salina does his research first. Ms. Grieci raised her concerns about having this as an overarching Board Goal. Lastly Ms. Townson raised concern about the need for a continued positive environment for our teachers to work in and stated that there are items that the Board of Education can argue for at the state level in order to get the State Education department involved so that they can understand where the district and Board are coming from.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

IV. Public Work Session

a. Fiscal Reports

There were no questions on the Fiscal Reports.

1. Collateral Report - July 2015

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

2. Cash Flow Summary - July 2015

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

3. Treasurers Report

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

4. Trial Balance report - July 2015

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

5. Budget Status Report - July 2015

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

6. Revenue Status Report - July 2015

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

7. K UffUbhFYdcfhg ! %

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

8. Claims Audit Report - August 2015

RESULT: NO QUESTIONS

V. New Business

Ms. Flanagan stated that there was a discussion in September during the Board of Education meeting about getting the PTA involved in Board of Education meetings. She spoke about the conversation that she had with Ms. Reisert and the plans to get the PTA more involved; designating a PTA group a month to come to the meeting and give a report as to what is happening in their respective buildings.

Ms. Flanagan asked the Board of Education if they are ok with her confirming this with Ms. Reisert as well as using various social media channels to communicate to the community what is being covered in the upcoming Board of Education meetings.

1. Motion to: Have PTA groups present at BOE Meetings and use social media to communicate BOE meeting topics to community.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Flanagan, Paris, Grieci, Pascarella, Gustafson, Townson, Szillus

VI. Review of Business Agenda

Mr. Gustafson stated that he would not be in attendance at Thursdays Board of Education meeting. He also asked about the NWEA topic of conversation during Thursdays meeting.

VII. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Pascarella asked about the new Board of Education Room reconfigurations. Dr. Salina stated that the work on the Board of Education Board room was being started this week.

Mr. Gustafson asked when the Board would be transition to the new Agenda review process and if there were any dates set for training. Ms. Flanagan stated that the dates would be going out in a few days.

VIII. Question and Answer Period (Agenda Items only)

- All questions are directed to the Board of Education President
- Each speaker is limited to two minutes in total
- Each speaker is expected to use the microphone and clearly state their name.

Community member Joanne Lobello Cuneen spoke about the community involvement and advising the community about what is being covered in the Board of Education meetings. She stated that she thought it was a great idea. She also made a suggestion regarding elaborating on the items of conversation with key highlights, in order to give the community a bit more insight into exactly what is being discussed, in order to encourage more attendance.

IX. Adjournment of Public Work Meeting

1. Motion to: Adjourn the Public Work Meeting - 10:28pm

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