



PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CENTRAL OFFICE
27 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06786

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Plymouth Public Schools is to challenge, inspire, and prepare all students for success in an ever-changing and complex world.

PLYMOUTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
33 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CT 06786

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023

7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

Present: Mr. Seaman, Mrs. Kulesa, Mr. Showers, Ms. Tilton, Mr. Foote, Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani,
Mr. Perugino and Mr. Zbuska

Absent: Mrs. Lucian

Others Present: Mr. Falcone, Superintendent; Mrs. Mozak-Pezza, Director of Curriculum & Instruction,
Mrs. Melillo, Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Education and Mr. Tencza, Business Manager

1. **Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag**

Mr. Seaman called the regular meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:04 p.m. The group joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Mr. Foote, second Mr. Showers, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve the following minutes:

a) Special Meeting (Retreat) of the Plymouth Board of Education on January 11, 2023

Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

b) Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education on January 11, 2023

Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

4. **Public Comment** (limited to 3-minutes per speaker)

None

PHONE: (860) 314-4783 | FAX: (860) 314-2766 | plymouth.k12.ct.us

Plymouth Board of Education is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider.

5. Student Representatives

Robert Pedersen – Sports

02/08 – Boys' Basketball v Whitney Tech

02/10 – Boy's and Girls' Basketball away game @ Thomaston

02/04 – Last Wrestling meet

02/06 – Last Indoor Track meet

Emily Ieronimo

01/24 – Career Center Field Trip to Naugatuck Valley Community College

02/09 – University of New Haven

02/10 – Drama Club – Stupid Cupid Cabaret in the auditorium at Terryville High School 7 p.m. Free Admission;
snow date: February 17th

01/01 – Assembly – Motivational Speaker, Jessie Green, spoke about his life and how he got his dream to get going. Big success.

Anna Greene

College Applications

02/06 – Prom Committee Meeting

(The rest of the report was inaudible)

6. Presentation

(a) Midyear Energy Update – Mr. Sandshaw

A Powerpoint presentation, "Energy Conservation Program 2022" was provided to the Board by Mr. Sandshaw. Some of the highlights:

(a) Goal – Reduce use by 25 to 30%; From Base year 2008.

(b) Use and Cost Base Year 2008 (electric, oil and natural gas).

(c) Energy Plan – toward carbon neutral; towards zero energy.

(d) Building Blocks – Energy Conservation; Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

(e) Use and Cost 2022

	<u>Use</u>		<u>Cost</u>
Electric	1,598,624 kwh	\$.174/kwh	\$277,608
Oil	69,137 Gal	\$1.786/Gal	\$123,488
Natural Gas	99,274 Therms	\$1.511/Therm	<u>\$149,961</u>
Total Cost			\$551,057

NOTE: * 2012 schools switched to Natural Gas from Oil.

* 2022 Natural Gas supplier change \$9.14/Therm

(f) Expected vs Actual Cost/August 2009 – December 2022

Actual	\$6,799.082
Expected	\$9,818,780

(g) Program Savings * \$3,019,698
* 30.8%

Energy Reduction Impact:

* 113,656 MMBtu

* 4,902 metric tons of CO2

Comments

Mr. Perugino – recalled when the project began there was a 20-year plan to save approximately 2.2 million. It has only been 13 years and it is 3 million. That speaks well for everyone here and especially Marty who walks the buildings making sure the lights are out and everything is working correctly. He congratulated Marty and thanked him for all he does.

Mr. Sandshaw – It is not only him, but what can be accomplished with a group of people working together for a common cause.

Mr. Falcone – Mr. Falcone agreed with Mr. Sandshaw, however, one needs the right leader and he was the one. It is much more than what Mr. Sandshaw has done. It is his commitment to our district. Not many know, but when we're all asleep, Mr. Sandshaw is out there walking the buildings. He does this on the weekends, before school begins and every day after school has closed. Just as an example: on Saturday there were some problems with our burners in one of the chillers. If not for Marty, the night's basketball game would not be held in the gym tonight. The floor would have been ruined, the damage significant if not discovered in time.

Also, Marty makes connections with the kids at the high school that are priceless. Mr. Falcone has worked with Marty on initiatives with the Lions Club. As a liaison he has made so many things happen for the district. How he has advocated for the school district and the work he has done here only shows what an asset he is to our school district.

Mr. Falcone thanked Mr. Sandshaw so very much.

7. **Superintendent's Update**

Mr. Falcone

- * February 10th – Terryville High School will be hosting the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony. Congratulations to the 16 juniors and seniors and their parents.

Mrs. Melillo – Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Education

At each Board Member's seat a pamphlet was placed entitled, "Rolling Roos". The brochure and paw print for Bark-A-Roos was designed by the students in the transition program. This is the latest venture for the transition students in Mrs. Tammy Card's class. A coffee-snack cart is available to the high school and central office staff every Tuesday and Friday. Individuals may order in advance of time and their items get delivered to either the classroom or central office by a transition student along with a paraprofessional. The program has been very well received considering it has only been running for a couple of weeks.

Mrs. Card and the paraprofessionals who work with the transition students are phenomenal.

Mr. Falcone

- * Budget Workshop – Thursday, February 2, 2023 the Board officially adopted the recommended Budget of \$26,149,100 which is a 4.3% increase over the current operating budget.
- * Next Step – By February 15, 2023, the Adopted Budget needs to be submitted to the Board of Finance for their review.
- * Teacher Retirements – Corinne Johnson – Special Education Teacher at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Gina Ritchie – Art Teacher at Terryville High School

These two teachers combined have a total of 78 years in the Plymouth Public School District. They will be missed by their colleagues, students and the school community. We wish them the best in their retirement.

8. **Unfinished Business**

(a) Finalize Committees

- * Finance Committee – Intact
- * Negotiations Committee – Mr. Perugino is working on scheduling a meeting with respect to the Nurses' Contract
- * Safety Committee – Intact
- * Policy Committee – Consensus – Full Board participation
- * Curriculum – To be discussed

9. **New Business**

(a) Out-of-State Field

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve an out-of-state field trip to Washington, D.C. from November 15, 2023 – Friday, November 17, 2023 for an estimated 5 – 10 students in grades 9 – 12 at Terryville High School in the Social Studies Department. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Zbuska any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

(b) Change Date of Regular Board of Education Meeting in March

MOTION: To entertain a motion to Change the Date of the Regular Board of Education Meeting from March 8, 2023 to a Special Board of Education Meeting to be held on March 15, 2023. Motion Mr. Foote, second Mr. Perugino, any discussion,

Mr. Perugino - Why are we changing the date?

Mr. Seaman – Request from some of the Board Members and staff for personal reasons.

all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

10. Board Member/Committee Reports

A. Finance/Operations

- Included in the packet are the following; Accounts by Facilities Report for January, 2023 and 6 different submissions; (1) Business Office Activity Report; (2) Board of Education Budget Summary through January 2023 Report; (3) Cumulative Total Board of Education Budget % by Month; (4) Food Service Report; (5) Capital Improvement Plan 2021 – 2030 and (6) Monthly Budget Report for January, 2023.

Mr. Tencza – All Board Members received the report and submissions in their packet. He has nothing additional to add other than to entertain any questions from the Board.

Mr. Perugino – He went through the whole thing again and there is nothing that can be done with the deficits.

Mr. Tencza – The deficits on the lines themselves show but he will be able to rectify those as we receive our grant money from the state. We should receive the first excess grant costs payment at the end of this month. He is still confident we will end the year fine.

Mr. Perugino – We will be getting money for Magnet School Transportation, correct?

Mr. Tencza – We already received one payment and we will receive an additional payment in May of \$50,050.00.

Mr. Perugino – We still have 1.9 million left to work with?

Mr. Tencza – Right

Mr. Perugino – Doing a great job Matt.

- The Accounts by Facilities Reports will be forwarded to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance

B. Personnel Report

No questions

11. Public Comment (limited to 3-minutes per speaker)

None

12. Board Liaison Reports

Mr. Perugino -- Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
No Report

Mr. Zbuska -- Plymouth Center School

February 14 next meeting

Superstar Readers competition where students will be tracking their reading minutes outside of school. Students who have the most amount of reading minutes in their classroom will get bookmarks. The grade level class that reads the most each week will have a Super Reader Star on their door for the week.

Pep Rally for reading was held to kick off Superstar Readers

Students recognized for being kind, show of respect and empathy for others

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani -- Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
February 14 on-line meeting
April 1 – Craft Fair from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
March 10 – Paint Night from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m., \$25 per person
April – Calendar Raffle – looking for donations. Average value of item \$25, if anyone is interested in contributing.

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani -- Booster Club
Hosting 3 Berkshire League Games
Gearing up for sports awards – send in your picture
Scholarships for high school seniors. Make sure you fill out the forms when it is time.
In the spring, IGA Round-Up
May, Car Wash

Mrs. Kulesa -- Terryville High School
There was a Meeting last month
February 15, 7 p.m. in the high school cafeteria next meeting
Fundraising continues for the After-Grad Party. Mailings went out to local and surrounding businesses looking for donations for our seniors for a safe grad night for them.
March 31 – Designer Bag Bingo
Other fundraiser from the PTSA coming up, Flower Sale for Mother's Day

Mrs. Kulesa -- EdAdvance
February 2 – Zoom Meeting
A couple of representatives from EdAdvance joined the meeting and spoke about their individual departments for anyone new to EdAdvance. They wanted to give individuals an idea of what EdAdvance does. Anyone who is not familiar with EdAdvance and how a RESC works can feel free to speak with her or join them for a meeting. It is an interesting process.

13. **Board Comments**

Mr. Showers – Thanked Marty for all the work he has done. Very impressive.

Mrs. Tilton – Impressed by the energy report. She always wondered how the electrical panels do in the private practice. Thank you for your commitment.

Mr. Foote – Thank you Marty.

Mrs. Kulesa – Thank you Marty for all of your hard work.

Congratulations to our retiring teachers. Specifically, Mrs. Ritchie who was instrumental in her daughter making the transition to the high school.

Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani – Recalled Marty leaving post it notes for teachers. Asked if he still did that. If someone left on their lights, they would find a post-it note from Marty the next day. If Brian thinks that Marty needs to be a stricter, he can always go back to using the post-it notes as reminders.

Mrs. Johnson worked with her daughter at lot when she was in middle school, especially through the COVID years. She stayed right on top of her daughter. She deserves to retire.

Mr. Perugino – Thank you to Marty. You know how much work was and is involved. When this program was put together 13 years ago, Marty was instrumental in the process.

Congratulations to the 2 retirees.

Mr. Zbuska – Remembers Marty when he taught at Fisher. He knew then that Marty took his job as energy conservationist seriously. He is the best person for the job. Thank you.

Mr. Seaman – Thank you to Mr. Sandshaw. He has known him pretty much his whole life. You are a disciplined and dedicated individual to multiple things. The proof is in the pudding.

14. **Next Board Meeting** –The next Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education has been changed to a Special Board of Education Meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.

15. **Executive Session**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to enter into executive session at 7:39 p.m. for the following:

(a) for the purpose of a final discussion of the Contractual Agreement with Twin Lakes Consulting

and

(b) for the purpose of setting dates for Negotiations for the Nurses Contract

inviting Mr. Falcone, Superintendent and Mr. Tencza, Business Manager, Motion Mr. Perugino, second Mr. Zbuska any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

16. **Resume Regular Session**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to resume regular session at 8:37 p.m. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Zbuska, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

17. **Possible Action From Executive Session**

(a) MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve the Contractual Agreement with Twin Lakes Consulting as discussed in executive session and, therefore, authorize the Board of Education Chairman to sign the contract upon approval from the Board's attorney. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mrs. Kulesa, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries,

(b) NO ACTION TAKEN

18. **Adjournment**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. Motion Mr. Foote, second Mr. Showers, all in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Piskorski

Patricia Piskorski

Recording Secretary for the Plymouth Board of Education