



## 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, JANUARY 11, 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

Also 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 7:01 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. Perugino, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education for December 20, 2022. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Perugino, any discussion, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries

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

None

5. **Presentation**

(a) **Plymouth Center School** – Mrs. Loveland, Principal Plymouth Center School

Mrs. Loveland, Principal of Plymouth Center School will be discussing their new library media program as well as their STEM class experiences. Coaches will be updating the Board of Education on current progress in instruction with Math and ELA, specifically with their newly adopted resources. The Board will learn about the day and life of a Plymouth Center School student by engaging in a virtual day.

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Mr. Perugino – He has never seen so much passion as shown by Mrs. Loveland, Mrs. Mazon and Ms. Curtiss. He has been on the Board for many years and this is the greatest he has ever seen it. Very happy, very happy. Great job.

6. **Recess**

7. Resume Regular Session

## 8. Superintendent's Update

\*On February 15<sup>th</sup>, the plan is to submit the Board Adopted Budget to the Plymouth Board of Finance per Town Charter.

\*In conclusion, Mr. Falcone thanked Rich Trudeau for his service to the district, indicating he is a great person, an unbelievable colleague and a good friend. He thanked him for the impact he has made on our school district with regards to technology and technology education. He has had a tremendous impact on the students and what they have walked out of the district with. He is wished all the best in his future plans and he will definitely be missed within our school community.

9. **Unfinished Business**

- (a) Finalize Committees – Finance/Operations – Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Chair  
Curriculum & Instruction – Mrs. Kulesa, Chair  
Policy  
Negotiations (Nurses contract expires June, 2023) – Mr. Perugino, Chair, Mr. Zbuska

Mr. Seaman asked Board Members to email him as to what committees they would like to join. He would like at least a minimum of 3 individuals on each committee.

10. **Board Member/Committee Reports**

A. Finance/Operations - Mr. Tencza, Business Manager

Summary of Monthly Budget Report – handed out by Mr. Tencza

This report will be included in the monthly Board of Education Packet. In development of this year's budget, it became very apparent to Mr. Falcone and Mr. Tencza that the budget is really driven by basically ten categories: Administrative Salaries, Certified Salaries, Non-Certified Salaries, Benefits, Contracted Services, Utilities, Transportation, Tuition, Supplies, Facilities and All Other Expenditures. He took the budget and broke it into these ten categories in order for the Board to see how we really go with those categories and how we are spending the money throughout the year. Anything that falls into a supply line, whether it is maintenance, facilities related, curriculum and all other expenditures. Mr. Tencza will update this report on a monthly basis. The report will show where the budget is falling in those particular categories. This is another way to look at how the money is being spent. There is \$57,000 in the budget for a second vehicle for the district. But, more than likely this will be cancelled. Substitutes and summer school run through all other expenditures at this point. These will move to other categories, non-certified at some point. Both are running at a deficit this year. All other expenditures may change in the future.

- Included in the packet are the following; Accounts by Facilities Report for December, 2022 and 4 different submissions; (1) Business Office Activity Report; (2) Board of Education Budget Summary through December 2022 Report; (3) Cumulative Total Board of Education Budget % by Month; (4) Food Service Report and (5) Capital Improvement Plan 2021 – 2030.
- The Accounts by Facilities Reports will be forwarded to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance

Mr. Perugino – Pages 2, 4 and 7 – Custodial Supplies on the Accounts-by-Facilities Report – are we over \$16,300. Is there a reason?

Mr. Tencza – We are. Custodial Supplies are currently running over last years' expenses. We do have a limited amount of supplies. We need to purchase more to get through the year. We should be okay. Example: We were paying \$50 for a gallon of wax last year. This year the price has gone up to \$125.00 a gallon.

Mr. Perugino – I do not see any revenue. Is there any revenue, like when we rent out the school? Is there a line item for revenue?

Mr. Tencza – Most revenue for rental all into the activity account fund not the operating budget. If there is revenue that runs through a line, it is not shown as a revenue line. Example: Excess costs-reimbursement could be considered as revenue. We budget as a net not revenue.

Mr. Perugino – Do we do much rental. When my son was in Karate, we rented the place out and paid for the janitor. Do we still do this?

Mr. Tencza – Pre-COVID that may have been true. But Post-COVID, there is not a lot of that type of use. Booster Club and PTA may use it.

Mr. Perugino – Does Park & Rec use it? Do they pay for the gym?

Mr. Seaman – No. So, a while ago, the Board made a decision not to charge Park & Rec up to a certain dollar amount. There is an MOU. So, we go back and forth. So, this year it is going to be a little different. February vacation, school is closed and the janitors are not going to be here. Park & Rec schedule goes into February vacation. What Park & Rec was told is if we can find a janitor to work and they are going to cover the salary of the janitor, the school will be opened. If no one will work and Park & Rec is not willing to pay the salary, the school will not be opened. Park & Rec agreed to pay the salary. No problem.

Mr. Perugino – I don't know why. I guess here is my question, Walt. When my son was in karate, which is part of Park & Rec, I had to pay every month. So, if the Park & Rec Department is collecting every month, why are we giving them the gym?

Mr. Seaman – Because, what we did Pat is, because we were more community based. So, what we had said in the MOU and we voted on it as a Board, is that as long as they up to \$10,000 it comes down to the benefit of total because not every child can afford to pay Park & Rec. So, now you have more kids. So, the deal was that they had to take that \$10,000 and they have to do something else for the town. It was not for them to keep, or show profit or for salaries. They had to put the money back into the community and they are doing that.

Mr. Perugino – They are doing that?

Mr. Seaman – Yes. So you will see a fishing derby coming up and they are going to buy, what I'm being told and I don't want to speak on their behalf. But they are going to buy fishing poles and stuff for the kids.

Mr. Perugino – We had that before. We always had a fishing derby.

Mr. Seaman – Yeah, but was that Fish & Game?

Mr. Perugino – They had summer programs at Main Street School. They had all that.

Mr. Seaman – So, that's different. The summer camp, they still get charged. That is still an expense to them. I do not want to say revenue for us. But, they still cover that expense.

Mr. Perugino – But, the way the budget is right now, Mr. Chairman, I am going to have to take a really good hard look at what is going on. Something just does not seem right. I know I had to pay every month. When I was sitting in your chair, if anyone wanted to use the facility, they had to have 51% of the kids had to be from town. I know we had a big problem with the girls' softball league because they were bringing in girls from out of town. That was fine. But we could not get the 51% and there was a big battle.

Mr. Seaman – So, I think what you are going to see on the town's side, again, I am not speaking for them, but you are going to see a collaborative effort with Parks & Rec, Bristol and Thomaston.

Mr. Perugino – I hope so. I am going to keep my eye on that. There is something not registering in my head, but it will.

Mr. Falcone – I would also recommend checking the Board Policy. Remember when we adjusted policy (Shipman & Goodwin), the language had a bit of flexibility. I am speaking more regarding the 51%. I think that, I do not know if that is still in the language.

Mr. Perugino – Other than that Matt, we have 2.4 million left? Am I right or wrong?

Mr. Tencza – Correct

Mr. Perugino – Thank you

B. Personnel Report – Mr. Falcone, Superintendent

No questions

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

None

12. **Board Liaison Reports**

<u>Mr. Perugino</u> November 18 December 19	--	<u>Harry S. Fisher Elementary School</u> Miss Match Day - \$225 collected for Rotary Club Fuel Bank Pajama Day - \$451 collected for kids fighting cancer – Connecticut Children's Foundation The Food Bank in town is getting depleted. If anyone can help, it would be greatly appreciated.
<u>Mr. Zbuska</u>  Fundraisers:	--	<u>Plymouth Center School</u>  \$600 – For Bristol Police Officers \$ 90 – Amazon Smile Charity Box Top Program
<u>Upcoming Events:</u>  February 10 – February 27 1 <sup>st</sup> Week in March March 20 – March 24		Reading Incentive Program, January 17 – to kick off the event a planned author will be coming to read to the children. Program will last 4 weeks. Classrooms will be decorated for the event. Prizes will be awarded.  Pasta Haven Fundraiser Spring Fundraiser (event not yet determined) Book Fair
<u>Potential Family Nights</u>		Bowling – Space Time in Bristol Thomaston Bowling
<u>Movie Nights</u>		(with refreshments and popcorn) This is not a fundraiser but rather fun times to spend with your family.
<u>Kindergarten Registration</u>		February 27
<u>Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani</u>  April 1	--	<u>Eli Terry Jr. Middle School</u>  Craft Fair – applications are being accepted for anyone that would like to be a vendor. Looking for different raffle prizes for other fundraisers that will be coming up.
Basketball Games March 10 January 18		Concessions are being sold Paint Night Next Meeting @ 7 p.m.
<u>Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani</u>  January 18 Basketball	--	<u>Booster Club</u>  Next Meeting 6 p.m. @ Terryville High School Concessions are being sold at the games.  Booster Club will be awarding scholarships to some of the seniors this year.
<u>Mrs. Kulesa</u>	--	<u>Terryville High School</u>  Meeting is next week after the Booster Club
<u>Mrs. Kulesa</u>	--	<u>EdAdvance</u>  Short Meeting. Big News – They have purchased a couple of properties in Torrington. They are hoping to add some programing, not the same as in Plymouth, but with the same idea in mind, to offer some educational programing in that part of the state.



13. **Board Comments**

Mr. Zbuska – He had Rich Trudeau as a student. It is nice to see him retire. He is a great guy and has done a lot for this town. He could use the relaxation.

Mr. Perugino – Plymouth Center School is so passionate about their program. It is good to see that. A lot of energy. He has known Rich for many years. Ever since he has been on the Board, Rich has always been there. Anything he asked for, Rich has always been there to help out. He just wanted to thank Rich, not for his service, but for his dedication. There is a difference. His dedication to the Town and to the school system. Very, very dedicated. He really appreciates that.

Last, but not least, in the Waterbury paper yesterday, there was a very nice article on one of our former students, Dominick Dao, who played basketball last year. Mr. Perugino thinks he averaged 13 points as a freshman while in college. That impressed him, however, who really impressed him was Dominick has a 3.9 grade point average. He feels that only shows that we are doing our job here.

Mrs. Candrea-Floresciani – Thank you for the Bark-A-Roos gift. This is a nice program. She hopes Rich has a lot of vacation planned. Enjoy your retirement. Her comment on the video presentation: It was nice to see all the kids sitting on the floor and not behind a desk all day. They seemed very comfortable.

Mrs. Kulesa – Nothing to add. Echoes what everyone has said.

Mr. Showers – He loved the Plymouth Center School presentation. It was fantastic to see. Hope to see a lot more of the same.

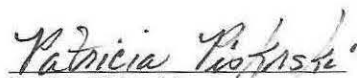
Mrs. Tilton – It was nice to see the younger elementary students highlighted. People can see how much work goes into those younger students. They are learning and seeing new curriculum coming in which has an impact.

Mr. Foote – Best Wishes to Rich Trudeau for all his service. He is happy to see the monthly newsletters in the Board Packet from each of the schools. Not only does he read and joy them, but so does his wife. With respect to the presentation, it shows how the district is doing the right thing. That is what we do what we do.

14. **Next Board Meeting** –The next regular meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education will be on Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.

15. **Adjournment**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adjourn 8:03 p.m. Motion Mr. Showers, second, Mr. Foote, all in favor, motion carries.



Patricia Piskorski  
Recording Secretary  
Plymouth Board of Education