



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
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

MINUTES

Present: Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Kulesa, Mrs. Lucian, Mr. Bourbonniere, Mr. Foote and Mr. Elsaghir
Absent: Mrs. Kremmel

Also Present: Dr. Semmel, Superintendent, Mr. Melnik, Interim Business Manager, Mrs. Parsons, Director of Curriculum, Mrs. Trinks, Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Education and Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology

1. Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag

Mrs. Johnson called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and the group joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. Board Welcome - The group agreed to skip the secretary's message.

3. Adoption of the Agenda

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented. Motion Mrs. Kulesa

seconded Mr. Foote, all in favor, any abstentions, motion passes.

4. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 14, 2018.
Motion Mrs. Lucian, seconded Mr. Foote, all in favor, any abstentions, motion passes.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 28, 2018.

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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TOWN CLERK

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

Motion Mrs. Lucian, seconded Mrs. Kulesa, all in favor, any abstentions, motion passes.

5. Presentations

- Secondary English Language Arts Update

A power point presentation was made by Mrs. Parsons, Director of Curriculum & Instruction and elementary teachers, Mrs. Baumgaurt and Mrs. Colella, which addressed the following: Update on the new grade 6 Readers Workshop and plans to move the program to grade 7 in 2018 – 2019.

- Out-of-State-Field-Trips

MOTION: To approve an out-of-state field trip for grade 7 and 8 students at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School to Westfield North Middle School in Westfield, Massachusetts and Six Flags on June 1, 2018. Motion Mr. Foote, seconded Mrs. Lucian, all in favor, any abstentions, motion passes.

MOTION: To approve an out-of-state field trip for grade 9 – 12 students at Terryville High School to Washington, D.C. from November 11, 2018 – November 17, 2018. Motion Mr. Foote, seconded, Mrs. Lucian, all in favor, any abstentions, motion passes.

- Introduction of Interim Business Manager, Ron Melnik
- Recognition of the Litchfield County Superintendents' Association Student Award Winners.

Zoey Chapulis
Halle Stobel
Kaitlin DeForest
Nicholas Fusco
Dominique Picard
Hunter Lumbard

Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Plymouth Center School
Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Terryville High School
Terryville High School

RECESS: MOTION: Motion to recess at 7:45 p.m. Motion Mrs. Kulesa, seconded Mr. Foote, all in favor, motion passes.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION: MOTION: To resume regular session at 7:55 p.m. Motion Mr. Elsaghir, seconded Mrs. Kulesa, all in favor, motion passes.

6. Superintendent's Update

- Currently, the last day of school is June 20, 2018
- The District is exploring the 2.0- State Insurance Plan. There are no recommendations at this time. No actual numbers have been presented, just projections.
- The Board of Education will be presenting the 2018 – 2019 Budget to the Plymouth Board of Finance on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at Town Hall.

- Interviews for the Principal of Harry S. Fisher Elementary School are moving forward. It is Dr. Semmel's hope to bring 2 candidates before the Board at a Special Meeting to be held on March 28, 2018 at 6 p.m.
- Although Dr. Semmel sent a thank you letter to the Mission Committee of the Plymouth Congregational Church for their generous donation of \$440 toward the lunch program, he took time in his Superintendent's Update to also publically thank them.
- March is Board Appreciation Month. The Board Members were given a small token of appreciation for all of the unselfish work they do throughout the year.
- On March 21, 2018 from 12 noon to 1 p.m., there will be a Brown Bag Lunch to be held in the conference room at central office. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- Mrs. Trinks updated the Board regarding the 2018 – 2019 prek applications. She indicated letters would be going out on Friday, March 16 to parents whose child was accepted in the program and to those parents whose child is on a wait list.

7. Student Representatives

Amy Ieronimo

- March 15, 16 & 17 Spring Musical: Nevermore: The Imaginary Life & Mysterious Death of Edgar Allen Poe. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Performance begins at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.
- March 14-March 30 The Class of 2018 is holding a Yankee Candle Fundraiser.
- March 23 Class of 2020 is holding a Bowling Fundraiser at Spare Time from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. Cost is \$25 for 2 hours of bowling and includes shoes, pizza, soda and laser tag.
- March 14 "National Walkout" participation was modified with speeches from Jacob Tellier, Taylor Greenwood and Amy Ieronimo. The names and ages of the victims were read followed by a moment of silence.

Reminder: Pasta Supper at Crabby Al's

Brianna Hanlon

- March 11 Terryville High School Band marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New Haven. The band is still waiting to hear if they placed in their division.

Sports Update

The baseball team began pitchers and catchers training on Monday, March 12. The first practice as a team is scheduled for next week. The softball team begins tryouts on Saturday, March 17. The track team has a meeting on March 15 and will begin their season next week.

Diana Ieronimo

- Leo Club – Leo Club joined the local Boy Scouts and hosted a pasta supper on March 10, 2018.
- On March 24, the Lions Club will host their Annual Easter Egg Hunt with the Leo Club. The event is for all ages and will be held at the high school.
- March 23, a Chili Cook-off Fundraiser to help with the costs of the Spain and France Trips. Money raised will go towards the bus to and from the airport along with additional miscellaneous costs.
- SAT Prep sessions are coming to an end. The junior class will be taking the SAT's on Wednesday, March 21. On Friday, March 16, there will be a final session to obtain last minute tips and tricks.
- Spring Extravaganza, Friday, March 6, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium at Terryville High School – Presented by the Terryville High School Drama Club with the PTSA AfterGrad Committee. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$5 for students, and free for seniors 65 and over. All proceeds go to the Terryville High School Drama Club along with the PTSA AfterGrad Party.

8. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

Melanie Church – 328 Main Street – Commented on the importance of the town and the board working together to combine insurance and the services of the business manager.

Dr. Semmel – The town side needs to handle the insurance on their own and to explore how this influences their insurance.

The Town Council may be having some conversations regarding the combining of services regarding the business manager. The town is looking at the financial software system. However, no word of an Ad Hoc Committee at this point.

Connie Kapralos – 54 South Eagle Street – Commented on the recent bus contract bids and information contained in a flyer that was circulated around town.

Dr. Semmel – Since the bid required an equipment list be provided in order to have a proper bid and the second bid was missing this information, the bid was disqualified.

Peter Worhunsky, 19 Coral Drive- Commented on the recent bus contract bids.

Dr. Semmel – The main reason for rejecting the second bid was due to no equipment list provided.

Mrs. Church – Questioned: If the other company was approached to lower their bid?

Dr. Semmel - Negotiating bidders against each other is not an open bid process.

Mrs. Church is requesting a copy of the bid specifications.

Jessica Colette, 32 Ronald Road- Commented on reinstating the School Resource Officer (SRO); notification to parents regarding recent events at the middle and high schools; and developing protocol with all parties involved.

9. Unfinished Business

None

10. Consent Agenda – (See Schedule A attached hereto and made a part hereof as if fully stated herein.)

- A. New Hire(s)
- B. Childrearing Leave(s)
- B. Resignation(s)

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda, Mrs. Kulesa seconded Mr. Foote, all in favor, any abstentions, motion passes.

11. New Business

1. First Real of Policy Series 6000 – Instruction

Mrs. Johnson questioned items regarding policy 6141.321(b) and 6173. Mrs. Parsons, Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Mrs. Trinks, Director of Pupil Personnel addressed Mrs. Johnson's concerns to her satisfaction.

2. Accountability Index

Mrs. Parsons, Director of Curriculum & Instruction presented the Board Members with a paper presentation of the 2016 – 17 Accountability Index for the Plymouth Public Schools and reviewed the material in that report.

12. A. Finance/Operations - Mrs. Kulesa, Chair

1. The Finance/Operations Subcommittee met prior to the Board meeting. The members reviewed the accounts by facilities report for the month of February and will forward the same to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.

2. Transfers

As discussed at the Finance/Operations Subcommittee Meeting: Requests: a transfer from the Contingency Account to the Technology Equipment Replacement Account and from the Early Retirement Account to the Health Insurance Account.

MOTION: To make that transfer in the amount of \$37,167.00. Motion Mrs. Kulesa. Coming out of committee this motion does not require a second. Any discussion. Any opposed, any abstentions, all in favor, motion passes.

B. Student Achievement – Mrs. Lucian, Chair

The next Student Achievement Subcommittee will be held on April 5, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at central office.

C. Policy – Mrs. Kremmel, Chair (absent)

Dr. Semmel reported that the Policy Subcommittee met on February 22, 2018 and completed their review of Policy Series 6000.

The next meeting will take place on March 21 to begin review Policy Series 7000 and any other policies brought forth by the superintendent.

D. Negotiations – Mrs. Kremmel, Chair (absent)

No Report

13. Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per speaker)

Pete Worhunsky, 19 Coral Drive - Commented on the Regular Education Bus Contract, bid specification and concern regarding the public being supplied with misinformation. (approached the podium twice for public comment)

Connie Kapralos, 54 South Eagle Street – Clarified any misconceptions regarding Mr. Worhunsky.

14. Board Liaisons to Schools

Mrs. Kremmel (absent) -- Harry S. Fisher Elementary School

No Report

Mrs. Lucian -- Plymouth Center School

No Report Meeting Cancelled

Mr. Elsaghir -- Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Roller Skating, Thank you notes for the teachers; Quarter Auction on March 23, doors open at 6:30 p.m. at ETJMS; Internet Safety Speaker; Teacher Appreciation Week; Seeking Nominations & Scholarship Committee Volunteers; New Mascot; PTA Dinner; grade 6 trip to Lake Compounce; grade 7 to rope course; and grade 8 undecided; and Movie: Wonder.

Mrs. Kulesa -- Terryville High School

Meeting Cancelled
Go on to Face Book, THS Project Graduation Gift for
information regarding fundraising efforts, etc.

Mr. Foote -- SEPTA

Working on scholarships. Applications are in the guidance
office and are due back on April 15. You need to be a
member by March 15 in order for your child to be eligible.

Mr. Bourbonniere -- CABE

Day on the Hill is on March 5, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. at the Bushnell.

15. Board Comments

Mr. Elsaghir - He is confident that the ethics of the Board were fine regarding the bus
contract bids.

Mr. Bourbonniere – A question posed by Mrs. Church, Can the other bus company match?
He mentioned a disclaimer in State Contracts, "If you are a local businessman and you come
within 10% of the lowest bid you have a chance to match that bid". This language needs to
be placed in the bid specifications. This is done to encourage local business people to put in
a bid on some of these contracts.

Mr. Foote – In all fairness to Mr. Worhunsky, Mr. Foote does not want to see the Board go
to a rebidding process.

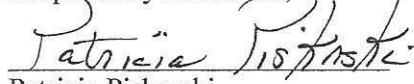
Mrs. Johnson – Thank you to the Readers & Writers Workshop Presentation and the
Accountability Index Presentation. Congratulations to the award winners. Looking
forward to the results from the Band's St. Patrick's Day competition. Thank you everyone
who came out to speak.

16. Next Board Meeting – The next meeting of the Board of Education will be a Special
Meeting on Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.
There will not be a meeting on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.

17. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. Motion Mrs. Lucian, seconded Mr. Elsaghir, all
in favor, motion passes.

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Piskorski
Recording Secretary

SCHEDULE A
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
MARCH 14, 2018

NEW HIRE(S)/APPOINTMENTS			
Bryan Ziener	Paraprofessional (29.5 hours per week)	Harry S. Fisher Elementary School	
Shari Grayson	System Specialist	District	
Lindsey Aronheim	Extended School Year Coordinator	District	
Terryville High School Spring Coaches			
Brian Rosano	Varsity Baseball		
Patrick Norton	JV Baseball		
Stephanie Fuller	Varsity Softball		
Molly Northrop	JV Softball		
Jeff Foulds	Track		
Kevin Schumann	Track		
Christopher Perkins	Track		
Mark Fowler/Dean Martin	Co-Golf Coaches		
Eli Terry Jr. Middle School Spring Coaches			
Leo Normandin	Softball		
CHILDREARING LEAVE(S)			
Casey Platt	Grade 3	Harry S. Fisher Elementary School	
RESIGNATION(S)			
Brittney Rozum	Paraprofessional (15 hours per week)	Plymouth Center School	