



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, DECEMBER 11, 2019

Erica Colonna
TOWN CLERK
2019 DEC 19 PM 1:18
TERRYVILLE, CT

MINUTES

Present: Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Mr. Elsaghir, Mr. Foote, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Kremmel, Mrs. Kulesa, Mrs. Lucian, Mr. Seaman, Mr. Showers

Also Present: Dr. Semmel, Superintendent, Mrs. Parsons, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, Ms. Aronheim, Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Education Services, Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology and Mr. Hendrickson, Business Manager

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

Mr. Seaman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The group joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented by Mr. Foote, seconded Mrs. Lucian and the vote unanimous.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 13, 2019 by Mr. Showers, seconded Mr. Foote. Discussion: none. Vote: unanimous.

4. **Presentations**

Close Up Trip – Mr. Schumann gave overview of trip he and 9 students went on in November to Washington, DC stating this is the third year THS participated with a review of the itinerary. Students Bella Bergeron and Jacob Zappone spoke on their experiences of the week, people (adults and students from other schools) they met, how issues affect other students different from them, memories they have stating this was an experience they cannot get in the classroom. A short video giving an overview of the trip was played. Mr. Seaman stated these trips are important for many reasons and nice to see the students come back with presentations and videos.

- Mid-year Energy Report – Mr. Sandshaw gave a presentation on what has been accomplished in the last ten years, energy usage, savings, solar output, training courses he continues to take. Discussion held. Mrs. Johnson asked why FES does not give as much as it is taking; Mr. Sandshaw stated due to location of panels. Mr. Seaman questioned the double source boilers; Mr. Sandshaw stated PCS already had them as well as the high school when it was built. Mr. Seaman commented on savings and important to highlight savings vs. cost is a very good return on investment.
- SRBI – Mrs. Parsons, Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Ms. Aronheim, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Education Services reviewed their power point presentation on the updated SRBI work for 2019 -2020.

5. **Superintendent's Update**

*Thanked everyone who did presentations tonight

*CABE/EdAdvance Legislative Breakfast is tomorrow at 77 Main Street with Whit Betts and Henri Martin. Breakfast is at 7:30 and meeting at 8:00 am.

*Working hard on 2020-2021 budget; coming to the Board with the Superintendent's Budget on January 8th for review noting there are a lot of costs that he does not have control over such as contract related items. January 15 and January 22 are workshop meetings with goal to have a budget vote at the February BOE meeting and at that time it becomes the Board of Education Budget.

*Plymouth Public Schools has been placed on College Board AP District Honor Roll as Plymouth has increased the number of students participating in AP courses while increasing or maintaining the percentage of students earning AP exam scores of 3 or higher. Plymouth is 1 of 250 districts in the US and Canada and Plymouth is 1 of only 6 districts in CT to be named to the 10th Annual AP District Honor Roll. In the past 5 years THS has added 3 AP courses, computer science, AP history and a second English class; and looking at adding AP Spanish in the coming year.

6. **Student Representatives**

* Taylor Greenwood: Monday, 12/9 was the THS annual band and chorus concert which was well attended; Leo installation is tomorrow for new and returning Leo's at 6 pm including dinner; Blood drive is December 18th, sign up to donate with Mr. Nave; the Class of 2023 is hosting a movie night showing Elf at 5:30 and Home Alone at 7:30 in the auditorium, concessions available with tickets being \$5 for one movie. \$9 for the double feature and \$10 for double feature and popcorn.

* Julia Zaniewski: On December 5th, 25 students went caroling at Cook Willow Convalescent Home; NHS food drive is happening through December 20th with all food being donated to our local food pantry; winter sports have started which includes boys' and girls' basketball, wrestling and indoor track. The first basketball games are December 17th and first wrestling meet on December 21st.

* Tyler Mendela: Homecoming Dance was held with them of Jurassic Park and was a huge success with funds raised supporting Harvest Pack; drama production "The Rented Christmas" performed by the THS Drama Club this past week was about a heartfelt Christmas story and the cast and crew did an amazing job; annual Harvest Pack event was held and teams race to package as many meals as possible. Teams from the high school, middle school, local businesses and surrounding Leo Clubs were able to package over 21,000 meals in about 3 hours.

7. **Public Comment** (limited to 3-minutes per speaker)
a. Dan Gentile, 269 Mt. Tobe Road – Merry Christmas and Happy New Year; attended the play, excellent job; attended CCM training and gave overview of topics including shared services, sinking fund.

8. **Unfinished Business**
a. Amended Sinking Fund Agreement

MOTION: To approve the Amended Sinking Fund Agreement as presented by Mr. Foote, seconded Mrs. Kulesa. Discussion: Mr. Seaman reviewed history of 1% to 2% increase allocation amount noting concern on language and wording in Amendment and is now brought back to this as amended for approval. The Superintendent will then go back to the Board of Finance with this Amended Sinking Fund Agreement. Vote: unanimous.

9. **New Business**
a. Terryville High School Soccer Scoreboard – Mr. Seaman updated the Board on the background of a meeting with the Director of Facilities, Athletic Director, Superintendent, Business Manager and research done with 3 quotes. Mark Fowler, Athletic Director, stated he did his due diligence looking at companies, spoke with people who worked with the company we are going with, saw the scoreboard and very impressed. This company followed up and others did not provide answers needed. Jim Mazon, Director of Facilities, stated originally there were discussions on some of the work being done by his staff, but research found it would be cost effective to have the professionals do the job and recommend going in that direction.

MOTION: To approve up to \$15,695.00, plus an additional 10% contingency of \$1,569.50 for a total of \$17,264.50 to be transferred from the Sinking Fund for the purchase and installation of a scoreboard for the Terryville High School Soccer Field by Mr. Foote; seconded Mrs. Kulesa. Discussion: Mr. Seaman stated the Superintendent will go to the Board of Finance on this request. The Booster Club is interested in donating some money and may have electrician donating time. Contingency is included and feel should have that on any project as we do not want to go back and ask for more money. Vote: all in favor with Mrs. Kimmel opposed, motion passes.

10. **Board Member/Committee Reports**

A. Finance/Operations - Mrs. Candrea-Florenciani, Chair – no meeting.

B. Student Achievement – No meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Student Achievement Subcommittee will be on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room at Central Office.

11. **Public Comment** (limited to 3-minutes per speaker)
No Public Comment

12. **Board Liaison Reports**

Melissa Johnson
No report

-- Harry S. Fisher Elementary School

Josiah Elsaghir
Fundraisers held were successful
Holiday Fair today until Friday
Friendly's Family Feast is December 12th

-- Plymouth Center School

Barnes & Noble bookfair and gift wrapping is December 19th
Approved donation of \$500 to Community Read project
Tentative talk on a family bowling night in February
Pasta Heaven fundraiser February 3 - 14

Cindy Candrea-Florenciani -- Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
No meeting
Update on Walmart Grant received used to purchase a water fountain
8th grade went to the Lock Museum
Winter sports starting and children will give away free t-shirts at games
Friday, 12/13 is PJ day for CCMC
December 17th is winter concert
December 13th is school dance
December 20th is family day and looking for community members to come do activity with kids

Cindy Candrea-Florenciani -- Booster Club
Winter sports starting and looking for help with concessions
Looking into Berkshire League jackets for cross country runners who made States
T-shirts will be given away at games
Currently in 31 days of Give Aways

Karen Kulesa -- Terryville High School
PTSA does fundraising for After Grad party for seniors and several ways to help
50/50 raffle at home games
Donations
Next event is January 16th with a hypnotist at the high school

Melissa Kremmel -- SEPTA
Meeting was cancelled due to weather
Thursday, 12/19 a potluck dinner will be held in the BOE conference room

Melissa Kremmel -- CABE
Attended conference, speaker was amazing, motivational and topics discussed were what should goals be for coming years, achievement gap, disparity, increase pathways to careers and encourage students to look at alternatives to college, forge strong partnerships with businesses in the State of CT; next legislative session looking to tackle a few issues including special ed excess cost sharing and SEL.

Melissa Johnson -- EdAdvance
No meeting.
Legislative breakfast is tomorrow at 7:30 at 77 Main Street

Gregory Showers -- District Safety Committee
Next meeting is January 8th

13. **Board Comments**

Cindy Candrea-Florenciani – enjoy your holidays and see you next year.

14. **Next Board Meeting** –The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday January 8, 2020 at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.

15. **Executive Session** to Discuss the Following: (1) To Discuss a Personnel Matter: Superintendent's Mid-Year Review. This matter will be discussed in Executive Session.

MOTION: To move into executive session at 8:15 pm to discuss a personnel matter: Superintendent's Mid-Year Review by Mrs. Kulesa; second Mr. Foote and the vote unanimous.

MOTION: To return to regular session at 8:19 p.m. by Mr. Foote, seconded Mr. Showers and the vote unanimous.

MOTION: To move into executive session at 8:20 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter: Superintendent's Mid-Year Review inviting Dr. Semmel, Superintendent, by Mrs. Johnson; second Mr. Foote and the vote unanimous.

MOTION: Motion to return to regular session at 8:50 p.m. by Mr. Showers, seconded Mr. Foote and the vote unanimous.

16. **Possible Action From Executive Session**

No Action Taken

17. **Adjournment**

MOTION: Motion to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. by Mr. Showers; seconded Mr. Foote and the vote unanimous.



Robin Gudęczauskas
Recording Secretary
Plymouth Board of Education