

United In Our Commitment to Excellence in Education

The Plymouth Public Schools' mission is to ensure that all students learn to the best of their abilities. We support their growth into knowledgeable, skilled, and contributing citizens capable of succeeding in their work, personal, and family lives.

*Plymouth Board of Education
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, November 14, 2012
Terryville High School Cafeteria*

MINUTES

Present: Board: Mr. Raymond Engle, Mr. Mark Berube, Mr. Patrick Perugino, Mrs. Karen Kulesa, Mr. Gerard Bourbonniere, Mr. Daniel Gentile, Mr. Martin Wetzel, Mr. Daniel Santorso and Mr. Anthony Orsini

Administrators: Dr. Distasio, Superintendent; Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Mr. Santogatta, Business Manager; Mr. Parenti, Director of Pupil Personnel and Mr. Trudeau, Director of Technology

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Mr. Perugino called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The group joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

*MOTION: To adopt the agenda as presented. Motion **Martin Wetzel**, seconded **Daniel Santorso**, motion passed unanimously.*

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*MOTION: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 10, 2012. Motion **Raymond Engle**, seconded **Daniel Santorso** motion passed unanimously.*

4. PRESENTATIONS

The presentation for November was the introduction of the CAPSS Superintendent/Student Award Recipients by each of the school principals. These students were selected for their academic prowess, school citizenship, and community service. Each of these students is an excellent representative of their respective schools and great examples for their peers. The students and their parents attended a dinner at the Cornucopia in Torrington on November 13, 2012.

Congratulations to:

Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Olivia Tuohy

Plymouth Center School
Amber Caron

Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

Frank John Tirino
Brianna Tuohy

Terryville High School

Jeffrey Levins
Angel Katiewicz

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Perugino indicated he had received a letter from the State Department of Education indicating **Ms. Eleanor Cruz** will begin her position as Superintendent in Plymouth on December 17, 2012.

7. OLD BUSINESS

None

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointments

MOTION: To appoint the following individuals as coaches for the winter sports season 2012 at Terryville High School: **Erica Nodine**, Winter Cheerleading; **Brian Rosano**, Girls' Varsity Soccer; **Mark Fowler**, Boys' Varsity Basketball; **A.J. Sirianni**, Boys' JV Basketball; **Damian Coggshall**, Girls' Varsity Basketball; **Tom Morgan**, Girls' JV Basketball; **Peter Veleas**, Varsity Wrestling; **Tony Blekis**, JV Wrestling; **Jeff Foulds**, Indoor Track; and **Peter Veleas**, Varsity Baseball. Motion **Martin Wetzell**, seconded **Gerard Bourbonniere** motion passed unanimously.

*MOTION: To appointment the following individuals to coaching positions at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School for the winter sports season of 2012: **John Mordarski**, Boys' Basketball; **Mark Sconziano**, Girls' Basketball; **Dawn Alarcon**, Cheerleading. Motion **Anthony Orsini**, seconded **Daniel Santorso** motion passed unanimously.*

B. CABE Recognition Award

*Congratulations were in order for the Plymouth Board of Education for being awarded the **CABE Board of Distinction Award, Level II**. An awards ceremony will take place as part of the CABE/CAPSS Convention on Friday, November 16, 2012 @ 4:45 p.m. at the Mystic Marriott Hotel in Groton.*

C. Appointment to WAMOGO Agricultural Advisory Board

*MOTION: To approve the reappointment of **Karen Zagurski** to the WAMOGO Agricultural Advisory Board for a term of three years. Motion **Martin Wetzel**, seconded **Daniel Santorso** motion passed unanimously.*

D. Resignation

*Dr. Distasio accepted the resignation of **Tatum Sherwood**, Girls' Varsity Soccer Coach at Terryville High School effective October 4, 2012.*

E. Sinking Fund

*MOTION: To approve the establishment of a sinking fund and the guidelines developed by both the Plymouth Board of Finance and the Plymouth Board of Education. Motion **Daniel Gentile**, seconded **Daniel Santorso** motion passed with one abstention.*

9. BOARD MEMBER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Curriculum - Mrs. Kulesa

No Report

B. Facilities – Mr. Engle

No Report

C. Finance – Mr. Bourbonniere

Mr. Bourbonniere reported that the Finance Sub-Committee met prior to the Board of Education Meeting. The October accounts by facilities report was reviewed and will be forwarded to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance.

D. Negotiations – Mr. Wetzel

No Report.

E. Personnel – Mr. Berube

Mr. Berube reported all matters were addressed under New Business.

F. Policy – Mr. Berube

No Report

G. Safety & Transportation - Mr. Orsini

No Report

H. Education Connection – Mrs. Kulesa

No Report

I. Student Representatives

Tim King – Mr. King reported on the following: (a) FBLA Field Trip to Bristol Hospital and Town Hall sometime in the spring to see how things are run in the business sector; (b) coat drive; (c) Leo Club luncheon for teachers on professional development day with all proceeds going to the Leo Club; and (d) Vocational Foods Pie Sale coming to a close on November 16 and 50 pies were sold

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| October 20 | Leo Club Walk for Magnum raised \$1,500 |
| October 23 | Sociology Class Field Trip to the Correctional Facility in Enfield |
| November 6 | FBLA Bake Sale - \$225.00 to go towards field trip in the spring |
| November 12 | Reports cards mailed |
| November 17 | Band Field Trip from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. @ Gillette Stadium to participate in UMass Day |
| November 26 | Leo Club Installation – approximately 60 new members are going to be installed |
| November 27 | Sociology Class Field Trip to the Correctional Facility in Enfield |

December 1 Vendors Day
December 7 Christmas Express
December 11 Sociology Class Field Trip to the Correctional Facility in
 Enfield
December 20 Band Winter Concert @ 7:30 p.m. at Terryville High School

Devyn Oakes – Excused Absence

Jonathan Zalaski – Mr. Zalaski reported on the following: Stephen Brown, Boys' Soccer, Anna Dupaul, Jamie Bridge and Bailey Doran were selected for the Berkshire League Allstars; Boys' Soccer Team won the Ted Alex Award at the Berkshire League for sportsmanship; Basketball, Wrestling and Track season are about to begin.

November 14 Volleyball Semi-Finals (7 p.m.)
November 18 Drama Club to attend Spiderman Turn Off the Dark in New
 York City
December 7 Drama Club – Xmas Express

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/REQUESTS/INFORMATION

Dr. Tenney, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Dr. Tenney reported:

November 6th Professional Development Day

Elementary and Math teachers worked on writing and math curriculums; some teachers attended the National Math Conference in Hartford; middle and high school teams worked on student success plans as well as aligning the curriculum to the common core and using on-line resources; Pep Grant training began; and a Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Workshop was attended by some members of the special education department.

November 20 Professional Development Day

Mr. Parenti – Director of Pupil Personnel

Mr. Parenti reported on the following: (a) Facilitation of de-escalation training for special education staff; (b) State reporting is being worked on at this time; and (c) Tim King job shadowed Mr. Parenti as he wishes to become a special education administrator after college.

Mr. Trudeau – Director of Technology

Thank you to Mr. Mazlak for the nights filming and to Mr. Falcone for his assistance tonight.

Mr. Santogatta, Business Manager

Mr. Santogatta reported the October expenditures were reviewed at the Finance Subcommittee Meeting.

Dr. Distasio, Superintendent

An agreement has been entered into with a company known as Student Guardian. The company provides cameras on the exterior of the buses. The camera is able to capture the license plate number of a vehicle that violates a stopped school bus. Information is then downloaded and sent to the police station for approval and a ticket is immediately sent to violator. Information will be given to each of the schools to place in their newsletter.

Dr. Distasio congratulated the Terryville Girls' Volleyball Team for capturing its fourth straight Berkshire League Title.

Due to the storm, schools were closed on Monday, October 29th and Tuesday, October 30th. The close of the school year at this time is June 12, 2013 and Dr. Distasio indicated that we have not even entered into the winter season.

11. Public Comments Regarding Agenda or Non-Agenda Items

None

12. Board Liaisons to Schools

Mr. Perugino – Harry S. Fisher Elementary School

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| November 13 | PTA Meeting |
| November 20 | 12:45 p.m. student dismissal for Professional Development Day |
| November 21-23 | Thanksgiving Day Break |
| November 27 | Picture Retake |
| December 4 | Town Meeting |

Halloween Party had a large turnout; PTA is going to place a suggestion box in the main office and Mr. Regimbald, music teacher, ukulele practice.

Mr. Engle – Plymouth Center School

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| November 13 | PTA Meeting |
| November 15 | Picture Retakes |
| November 20 | Soup Kitchen Program & early dismissal at 12:45 p.m. |
| November 28 | Grade 3 students to Indian Rock |
| November 30 | Report Cards |
| December 5 | Annual Trip to the Post Office (letters to Santa) |
| December 11 | Holiday Kit Sale |
| December 12 | Gingerbread Workshop |
| December 21 | Performance by Eli Terry Jr. Middle School |

Mr. Slim Body will be returning in the spring; new report cards will be introduced; and Patricia Placo has been rescheduled due to Storm Sandy; P.A.L. program introduced.

Mr. Orsini– Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

No Report

Mr. Bourbonniere – Terryville High School-PTSA/After Grad Committee

No Report – next meeting is on December 13 @ 7 p.m. in the cafeteria

Mr. Bourbonniere read a letter from Police Chief Karen Krasicky thanking Jeffrey Levins, Leo President, Tim King, Chairperson and the Leo Club Members for sponsoring the "Walk for Magnum. The event raised \$2,164.00.

Mr. Berube – SEPTA – (Special Education Parent Teacher Association)

October 18 SEPTA Meeting

Some of the topics discussed were: (a) Mr. Parenti discussed restraint, crisis prevention training he went through; (b) SBRI discussing triangle and escalating services; (c) Board Certified Behavioral Services Individual, Meredith Philips, who is in the district one day a week; (d) more interrogation in regular classrooms which is part of the PPT process that Mr. Tyson Stoddard is overseeing; (e) from the Connecticut Mental Health Association Social Worker is in town 5 days a week to deliver social services; and (f) Lori Johnson has resigned as president and Melissa Johnson is currently the interim president. The next meeting of SEPTA is on November 15.

Mr. Santorso – CABA

No Report

Dr. Distasio - PTSA Council

The PTSA Council did not meet in October. The PTSA Meeting for November was the same night as the Board Of Education Meeting; therefore, there was nothing to report.

13. Final Board Comments

Mr. Berube – (a) SEPTA will be again doing their Holiday Greenery Fundraiser, wreaths and door swags. Please check out their website. Proceeds benefit SEPTA and their scholarship programs and programs for special education students. and (b) Congratulations to all of the students and their parents for receiving the superintendent's award.

Mr. Engle – Congratulations to the students and parents who attended tonight's Board Meeting and congratulations to those students and parents who were unable to attend tonight's Board Meeting and (b) Congratulations to the volleyball team.

Mr. Orsini – Congratulations to the students and parents on a well-deserved award.

Mr. Gentile – Congratulations to the students and their families. Everyone have a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Santorso – Congratulations to those students for setting a good example for everyone else.

Mr. Bourbonniere – Congratulations to the parents and students; good luck to the volleyball team tonight and everyone have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Perugino - Congratulations to the students, their parents and the teachers for the wonderful students in our district. Thank you to Dr. Distasio, Mr. Santogatta, Mr. Dennis and the custodians who helped out during Storm Sandy.

14. Next Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Perugino stated that the next regular Board of Education Meeting will be held on December 12, 2012 at 7 p.m. at Terryville High School.

15. Adjournment

*MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion **Anthony Orsini**, seconded **Gerard Bourbonniere** motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

*Gerard Bourbonniere
Secretary*