

Minutes of School Board Meeting – January 24, 2011

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

Present: Mr. Bettan, Mrs. Pierno, Mrs. Lieberman, Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Bernstein,
Mr. Cepeda, Mrs. Schulman.

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Jonas, Ms. Gierasch, Mr. Ruf,
Mr. Gregory Guercio, Ms. Aloe, Mrs. Fischer.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. Cepeda that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mrs. Pierno that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Gary Bettan, President

There were approximately 35 district residents and staff members present.

Mr. Bettan called the meeting to order at 7:50 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Bettan welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting. He stated that tonight we will be continuing our discussions about future curriculum projects in the high school. We will be talking about Technology, English and the Senior Experience Learning programs. These discussions have been very beneficial and enlightening. He stated that we look forward to continuing down this path as we define our vision for the future of the Plainview-Old Bethpage John F. Kennedy High School and our district.

Mr. Bettan stated that we will be receiving an update on the State budget and other news that will impact the finances of our district and our next budget cycle. He stated that it appears that the Governor's budget will include a 2% Tax Cap and less State Aid for districts like Plainview-Old Bethpage.

Mr. Bettan continued that under "New Business" the Board will be voting to circulate the first draft of our Anti-Bullying and Harassment policy. The policy will now be made available to the public for review and comments. He stated our newly formed Dignity for All Students Act Committee will begin reviewing the new policy and will provide the Board and Central with their feedback and recommendations. Mr. Bettan stated that the Board welcomes feedback from all stakeholders in refining and helping to create a policy that is the best possible fit for our district and one that we can all be proud of.

Board Announcements

Mrs. Schulman stated that on January 20, 2011, she and Mrs. Pierno attended a conference sponsored by New York State School Boards Association on Teacher and Principal Evaluations. The Regents Reform Agenda includes a number of ambitious goals. Mrs. Schulman spoke of the new Laws that will require a new performance evaluation system for teachers and principals. She told what it will be based on and stated that the goal is to promulgate the regulations for 2011-2012 in June 2011. The evaluation system will be phased in. In the 2011-2012 school year it will be implemented for teachers of common branch subjects or ELA/Math in grades 4-8 and their principals. In 2012-2013, it will be implemented for all classroom teachers and principals.

Mrs. Pierno stated that she attended a Community Safety Forum that was held at the Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library. Three points were highlighted at this meeting. (1) If you see something that is suspicious, you should call 911. They will dispatch someone. If possible try to get the car's make, model and license number. (2) Make your house look lived in. (3) Mrs. Pierno noted that most burglaries happen in the master bedrooms. She noted that valuables should be hidden in places other than the bedroom.

Mrs. Schulman stated that on January 12, she and Mrs. Rothman visited the District's TAG program which is now being run in-district with some outside consulting. This is a program that addresses socialization and academics for students with autism. It is run after school. The Mattlin program is overseen by Jeanine Gulli and the Stratford Road program is being overseen by Jennifer Lott. Frank Carbone and Kym Powers are consulting and training. Mrs. Schulman spoke of the use of technology and the involvement of peer mentors at Mattlin. The mentors were very engaged with the kids and seemed very aware of what they needed to do. This was beneficial to both the targeted students and the mentors. The staff was able to observe and take data while the children were interacting.

Mrs. Schulman stated that they saw smaller groups at Stratford Road. There was also extensive use of technology some of which has been provided by the members of SNAP. She stated this is a foundation started by Plainview parents of children in the ABA program.

Mrs. Schulman expressed her views that this is a wonderful program. She thanked Ms. Becker.

Mrs. Rothman stated she was equally impressed. In the classroom, a community is established. The teachers, aides and mentors do a wonderful job.

Mr. Bettan stated this is a program of which we can be very proud.

Mr. Bettan was pleased to announce that 169 of DECA students made the state finals. Mr. Bettan congratulated these students, their parents and their coaches.

Superintendent's Announcements

Mr. Dempsey recognized our Independent Research Program. We have 4 Intel Semi-Finalists. He noted that many winners come from this region of the country.

Ms. Joyce Barry was pleased to recognize these four students:

██████████ conducted his research this summer as part of the HSHSP-High School Honors Science Math and Engineering Program at Michigan State University.

██████████ worked under the mentorship of Dr. Yuefan Deng, SUNY Stony Brook.

██████████ and ██████████ are part of Plainview's Social Science Program. They worked under the direction of Mr. Ray Tesar, AP Psychology Teacher.

Ms. Barry thanked the Board for their continued support and congratulated the students.

Mr. Bettan congratulated these students, their parents and their mentors and teachers on their outstanding achievements.

Mr. Dempsey said that we will have two meetings in which to recognize and honor the achievements of our students; one in April and another in June.

Mrs. Lieberman suggested that the younger students be recognized earlier in the evening.

Mr. Jonas was pleased to announce that our Summer School Program will again be conducted with the Bethpage School District. Bethpage students will be coming to our high school.

Mr. Dempsey discussed internet safety. Our Guidance Department is sponsoring a meeting on February 2 on the subject of internet safety. This is the beginning of an informational project at Plainview Middle School.

Ms. Gierasch reviewed the information the Board requested regarding Project Challenge. She discussed the current Project Challenge enrollment numbers, staffing and years of testing—2010-2011. She gave a history of Project Challenge's enrollment numbers from 2004 through 2007. She spoke of the 5 and 6 day cycles.

Ms. Gierasch was pleased to share good news of happenings in our District. Over 300 students submitted original work to PTA Reflections' Contest. Antonia Brogna's original work is advancing to the New York State Competition.

Pasadena had a wonderful party Friday night with administrators, custodians and clericals celebrating Pasadena's 10 year anniversary.

Ms. Gierasch congratulated ██████████ on her entry to the Storyworks Smile and Metaphor Contest.

Mrs. Lieberman discussed internet safety. She stated we must talk to our kids. She spoke of an internet problem in Uniondale School District that is very serious. Once the District learned about the problem, the District closed the site down. Mrs. Lieberman reiterated the seriousness of this and urged parents to talk to their children.

State Budget Update

Mr. Dempsey stated he attended a meeting a NYSCOSS at which Bob Reidy was a speaker. Mr. Reidy stated that it is important to meet with our local legislators. Mr. Dempsey stated that it looks like there is going to be a tax cap. The cap will be on the levy not the rate. It will be a difficult situation. Mr. Reidy spoke of mandate relief.

Mr. Ruf stated that we may have some numbers by the next meeting. The Long Island Labor Coalition wants to educate local legislators on the tax cap. He spoke of a contingency budget. He discussed the TRS and Pension increases.

Mr. Dempsey noted that the State wants to change high school graduation requirements.

Reports

Future High School Curriculum

Ms. Gierasch stated we will have reports this evening on the future high school curriculum. The reports will deal with Technology, English and Senior Experience Learning. She introduced Mr. Jim Murray, Ms. Laurie Lynn and Ms. Joyce Barry.

1. Technology

Ms. Barry stated that advanced courses are currently offered in conjunction with the basic course. Students in the TV production course will be working with MSG Network to record and edit clips for public broadcast. Ms. Barry stated that the Jericho TV program is more advanced than our current offering. They do a daily broadcast in conjunction with their broadcast journalism course. Ms. Barry expressed her views that we should think about this for the future. She reviewed what Syosset does and what Half Hollow Hills does. We are somewhere in the middle.

She spoke of what it would cost to upgrade our TV studio to HD—cameras, computer upgrades and software.

Mr. Cepeda asked if there is a way to partner up with Schools of Journalism such as Syracuse or Newhouse.

Ms. Barry stated this is something we can look into and investigate.

Ms. Barry stated our TV studio is currently working on an analog system. We need to upgrade our computer and camera software.

Mrs. Rothman asked if there is any kind of lease purchase project that we can enter into to get the equipment needed.

Mr. Ruf stated we can look into this.

Mr. Bettan stated that this is his business and he has been speaking to vendors to try and get the equipment at a lower cost for the District. He reviewed the cost to do what Ms. Barry recommends.

Ms. Barry stated that MSG Varsity gave us \$3000 for a camera. She discussed having LCD monitors at the entrance of the high school and both middle schools. Students could produce DVD's of school events to loop on these monitors throughout the day. Each middle school can be given a digital camcorder to record club events and assemblies for looping on these monitors.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that it is a great idea that our students are doing this.

Mrs. Lieberman also thinks this is a great idea. The public can see where their tax dollars are being spent.

Mrs. Lieberman asked if we have written to Microsoft directly. Perhaps the students could write directly to Bill Gates.

Mr. Cepeda stated he is looking into corporate donations. He expressed his views that there are things out there, if we can tap into them.

Mrs. Schulman asked how many students take the studio course.

Ms. Barry stated 18 students.

Mrs. Schulman asked if the enrollment is steady.

Ms. Barry stated that because of the limited staff, we cap it.

Mrs. Schulman asked if it ever fills up.

Ms. Barry stated it does.

Mr. Bettan asked if she has spoken to Mr. Lodico.

Mrs. Pierno asked if we have looked at the flip camcorders.

Ms. Barry reviewed what is offered in the middle schools. She would like to modify and align our middle school technology program to be a true feeder program for our high school.

Mrs. Bernstein expressed her views that it is a great idea. She would like us to explore something that is more current in technology in our middle schools.

Mr. Bettan thanked Ms. Barry for her report.

2. English Language Arts

Mr. Jeffrey Yagaloff stated we have an excellent teaching staff. He spoke of staff development designed to promote discussion concerning teaching and learning. He spoke of our high school curriculum that addresses the New York State Teaching Standards and prepares students for the rigors of both formal and informal assessments. We can be proud of our curriculum. He stated that in terms of Regents Exams, we want a high mastery rate.

Mr. Yagaloff stated in 2011-2012 he would like to expand our current senior literature selective. He would like to eliminate our Journalism elective due to low enrollment and make it more of a media writing class. He spoke of courses with low enrollment that he would like to replace. He spoke of books he would like to replace and the books he would like to replace them with.

Mrs. Schulman discussed the public domain texts.

Mrs. Rothman asked if we could purchase used books in good condition on Amazon.

Mr. Ruf responded.

Mrs. Lieberman would love the District to buy Kindels for use by the students.

Mr. Bettan stated that we will still have a Journalism course but it would deal with electronic writing.

Mrs. Schulman asked about the Music and Literature course proposed in 2012-2013.

Mr. Bettan asked if we have minimum levels that we would have to see. Can we afford to run a section with ten or eleven students.

Mr. Dempsey stated we have a guideline of 15 students. We do keep some classes that have a lower participation.

Mrs. Schulman expressed her views that students don't read a lot after high school.

Mr. Yagaloff discussed offering a SAT Verbal Prep course. He polled the students and they would love to have such a course. There are a number of ways to deliver this course. It could occur outside the school day. He stated that some of the teachers are concerned that a course such as the SAT Prep course is not meaningful on a transcript and that it does not carry as much weight as a literature or writing course does on a transcript.

Mrs. Rothman asked when he would like to see the SAT course given. She asked if a lot of students take the ACT Prep.

Mrs. Bernstein agrees with some of the teachers concerns regarding the SAT course if it is given during the school day. She expressed her views that we should level the playing field. Some parents do not have the money to pay for a SAT course.

Mrs. Bernstein would like to see an after school SAT prep course offered. She asked if the course could be self sustaining.

Mr. Dempsey stated that there are some ways to do that.

Mr. Cepeda expressed his views that the trade off is not worth it. Our students should take enrichment courses. We should look at it to be offered after the school day.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that Syosset offers this course on Saturday.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that the costs of the SAT Prep course are prohibitive. Whatever we do, we should do after the school day.

Ms. Lynn stated there is no basis to have this on the students' application.

Mrs. Schulman stated we should have it on Saturday.

Mr. Yagaloff discussed the creation of an interdisciplinary program that would "marry" the content and skill of English 10 Honors and Global History 10 Honors. Ms. Carnesi spoke of the possibility of this at the last Board of Education Meeting. There would be fiction and non-fiction.

Mr. Yagaloff discussed curriculum writing projects. Mr. Bettan spoke of the costs.

Mrs. Pierno stated that a lot of the schools offer public speaking.

Mr. Yagaloff stated we looked at this and we looked at teacher interest.

Ms. Gierasch spoke of the new standards for public speaking.

Mr. Bettan thanked Mr. Yagaloff for his very comprehensive report.

3. Spanish 5 and SEL (Senior Experience Learning)

Mr. Murray reviewed the course. This is a course of study both inside and outside of school for those students who have an interest in social-emotional learning through participation in service minded activities.

Mr. Cepeda asked how it was that Spanish 5 was chosen.

Mr. Murray explained students are giving back.

Mr. Dempsey stated that many schools have this program on many different classes.

Mrs. Pierno asked if Mr. Murray could see something like this for our school.

Mr. Murray stated yes for the whole grade.

Mrs. Bernstein stated this is a way of giving students an opportunity to enhance their high school experience. It gives them an opportunity to be more civic minded. She spoke of the vision of this course.

Mr. Murray applauded Ms. Christina Visbal for her efforts.

Mrs. Rothman noted that the Board was very impressed when they visited this program last year. A course such as this is consistent with raising academic standards.

Mr. Murray explained why he would like to remove this from the Spanish 5 program and place the course in the Business Department. It could be a part of the Internship Program whereby students could attain business credit for participating in it.

Mrs. Rothman stated it would be a good transition to college.

Mrs. Bernstein stated this is something we would like to hear more about. It speaks to our school climate goals. It sounds very interesting.

External Grading of Assessments

Ms. Gierasch spoke of the complaints from parents that teachers were pulled out of the class early in the year for training purposes. She noted that sending out the exams would expedite the process and limit the loss of instructional days.

Ms. Gierasch reviewed how the tests are graded now. The time out of the classroom by teachers is a lot. She reviewed the possibility of sending out New York State ELA and Mathematics assessments to a scoring company. Ms. Gierasch reviewed the cost of scoring. This would include receiving reports as well. She reviewed the costs when we utilize our own teachers to score and the cost of substitutes in the classroom. The substitute cost is aidable. The advantage to external grading is that teachers would be out of the classroom less and the disadvantages are related to cost.

Mr. Cepeda asked if we were looking at having retired teachers do scoring.

Mr. Dempsey stated that they would have to be trained and you would have to have sufficient personnel to score.

Mr. Lieberman asked if we have enough of our own retired teachers to do this.

Mr. Dempsey stated it would require 82 people.

Mrs. Rothman expressed her concern about the changes in the cut score. We had to provide more AIS. Is there a chance that we would see a large number of students in need of AIS. She asked if there was a difference in other districts when teachers graded the papers as opposed to when they were graded by outside people.

Ms. Gierasch explained the training of the teachers who mark the papers. Outside personnel are trained the same way. Other districts were happy with the results provided by the outside firm.

Ms. Gierasch stated this is the last year teachers will have the opportunity to converse and/or review the papers after they have been scored. Field test questions will be imbedded within the assessment. Therefore, the tests will be secure following their administration.

Mrs. Pierno asked if there is a benefit to having our teachers score the test.

Ms. Gierasch stated there is a benefit but they are out of the classroom for a considerable amount of time.

Mrs. Pierno asked if the scoring exam company can go into our system.

Mrs. Bernstein asked if there are other negatives in sending the exams out to be scored besides the fact that teachers see the results immediately when they mark them.

Mr. Bettan asked the overall feeling of the staff. Would they like the tests graded by the outside company.

Ms. Gierasch stated that the feeling is mixed.

Mr. Dempsey stated that they are not grading their own students.

Mrs. Bernstein asked where the money would come from.

Public Participation

Ms. Cheryl Dender, on behalf of PTA Council, updated the Board on events in the schools. At Stratford Road, Health Awareness Week was a big hit. At Family Fitness night they had a dentist, orthodontist, pediatrician, chiropractor, nutritionist and optometrist explaining how to take care of your health.

Old Bethpage is currently doing PARP. They had a crime prevention meeting along with other PTA units. Pasadena had the National Circus come in. They had a meeting on internet safety and how to prevent break-ins. They are also doing PARP week. PTA brought in a Native American presentation for the fourth graders.

Parkway had an assembly program on Slim Goodbody for the 1st grade. PTA brought in illustrator Paul Zelinsky and purchased an age appropriate book for each child.

PTA brought in a nutritionist to discuss how to understand food labels at the K-Center. They too are doing PARP.

At POB Middle School an artist is coming in for the Greek units. Miss New York State is coming to the school in February.

Mr. Jacque Wolfner reported on the BOCES Advisory Committee. He is disturbed by the increase in the BOCES budget of about 5.4%.

Mr. Cepeda asked Mr. Wolfner what they cut from last year's budget.

Mrs. Jane Pace discussed fund raising at the high school. She stated that students go off campus to purchase non-nutritious items.

Ms. Ellen Lessman from the POB Concerned Parent on Bullying Committee asked when the bullying survey would be distributed.

Mr. Dempsey responded.

Mrs. Stefanie Nelkens asked Mr. Dempsey to consider utilizing delayed openings when there is inclement weather. She was concerned about the safety of the kids and staff getting into school.

Mr. Dempsey stated he is the one that makes the decision regarding delayed openings.

She spoke about a book her son is reading in POB Middle School. She stated the book is not allowed to be taken home because there are not enough books. She expressed her views that in a \$130,000,000 million budget, there should be sufficient money to purchase books. She got a copy of the book from the Public Library.

Ms. Gierasch stated that each building is submitting their budget requests for next year.

Ms. Nelkens reiterated that the school should provide the books.

Mr. Richard Siegelman a retired teacher discussed the Senior Experience Learning project, and the Siemens semi-finalists.

Mrs. Susan Stewart thanked PTA for providing books. She spoke about statistics regarding Project Challenge that were discussed at a prior Board Meeting. She believes the number mentioned was incorrect.

Mrs. Schulman noted that the number was corrected at the last Board Meeting.

Mrs. Stewart discussed what the Project Challenge children were learning. She stated they are learning 100% of the curriculum in 80% of the time. They take three languages. Ninety-five percent of these children take music and they play sports. They are pulled from their specials. She stated in Project Challenge they don't have to explain being smart. She stated you can't study for an I.Q test. She discussed the difference between a bright child and a gifted child. Project Challenge is not only about science.

Mrs. Lieberman noted that at the Board Meeting at which Project Challenge was discussed the discussion was about making the program better. The Board's concern was that the program be a strong program and a true gifted program. We want to raise the bar and increase rigor.

Mr. Wolfner asked for a full explanation of item 3c and 3f under Finance.

Mr. Ruf responded.

Routine Business

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the following routine business items including the pink sheets:

1. Students

Student Placements

That the Board of Education approve the student placements as recommended by Pupil Personnel Services.

2. Personnel

Professional Staff – Returning from Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Maureen Eglinger	Elementary Teacher Parkway Elementary	Jan.31, 2011	\$101,703 Step 13MA 30L1 To be Prorated
Lina Seaton	English Teacher POBJFK High School	Feb. 1, 2011	\$107,468 Step 13MA 60L1 To be Prorated
Maria Stamatiou	Social Studies Teacher POBJFK High School	Feb. 1, 2011	\$110,691 Step 15MA 30L1 To be Prorated

Non-Teaching Personnel I- Leave of Absence

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Alan Goodman	Cleaner POBJFK High School	April, 15, 2010- April 15, 2011	
Robin Klausner	Bus Attendant PT 1 hour per day	Jan. 18, 2011- May 4, 2011	
Renee Rose	ABA Special Ed. Teacher Aide-Mattlin Middle 6 hours	Jan. 25, 2011 – July 26, 2011	

Non-Teaching Personnel – Probationary Appointment

Renee Rose	Senior Typist Clerk Part Time – Pupil Personnel Services Replaced Bonnie McGowan who took Another position	Jan. 25, 2011	\$18,632 Step 3 To be prorated
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Appointment

Tara Castagna	ABA Special Ed. Aide 6 hours – Mattlin M.S.	Jan. 25, 2011	\$20,916.36 To be prorated
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Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution

That the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District, location code 72857 hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement system based on the time keeping system records or the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the clerk of this body:

District Clerk	6 hours per day	07/01/2010/	Participates in	20 Days/
Harriet Fischer		06/30/2011	Employer's Time	month
			Keeping System	

And that the following Affidavit be posted on our website for at least 30 days:

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

Location Code: 72857

Employer Name: Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District

Affidavit attesting that the Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution was posted and available to the public for a minimum of 30 days.

State of New York

County of Nassau

Harriet Fischer being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. That she is the District Clerk of the Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD.
2. That the posting of the Resolution began on January 25, 2011 and continued for at least 30 days.
3. That the Resolution was posted and available to the public on the Employer's website at pob.k12.ny.us

Name_____

Title_____

Non-Teaching Personnel – Appointment/Additional Compensation

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Joann Catanese	Acting District Clerk	February 7, 28 And March 7, 2011	Comp. time as per verified time sheet

Non-Teaching Personnel – Change of Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Proposed Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Christine Sausa	Cafeteria/ Recreation Aide Old Bethpage Elementary School-2 hours Per day	Library Monitor Mattlin M.S. School 4 hours per day (Replacing Janine Ercolano who took Another position)	Jan. 25, 2011	\$14,798.56 To be prorated

Personnel Recommendation – Facilitators – Staff Development

<u>Name</u> <u>Facilitators</u>	<u>Course</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Blaise Martinelli	ELA Smartboard Collegial Circle	School Year 2010-2011	3	\$53.76
Cindy McNamara	Articulation Among Special Educators- Collegial Circle	“	4	\$53.76
Kristin Goetz	Collegial Circle for the Daily 5	“	4	\$53.76
Joanne Levy	Elementary Librarians’ Collegial Circle	“	3	\$53.76
Raymond Horton	Infinite Campus Gradebook Collegial Circle	“	Up to 2 hours	\$53.76

Coaching Recommendations – School Year 2010-2011

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Brian Gurney	Head Coach, MS Baseball	3-11	\$3494
Jennifer Zito	Ass't Coach, Women's JV Lacrosse	3-11	\$4239

Appointment – Professional Staff – TAG Program – School Year 2010-2011

Amy Bitondo	Teacher	1/25/11-6/30/11	\$65.00 p.h.
Amanda Chad	Aide	1/25/11-6/30/11	\$25.00 p.h.

Personnel Recommendations – Chaperones

Karen Baker	Chaperone	School Year 2010/2011	\$90.36/sess.
Suzanne Bishop	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.
Ryan Cone	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.
Arlene Maupin	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.
Jason Obloj	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.
Lisa Swierkowski	Chaperone	“	\$90.36/sess.

Appointment – Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Thomas Sena	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	1/24/11	\$137.19
Christine Cassidy	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	1/24/11	\$137.19

Non-Teaching Personnel – Substitute

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Edward Carlino	Security Aide Part Time Substitute	1/25/11	\$24.27 p.h.
Amanda Chad	“ “	1/25/11	\$8.50 p.h.

Non-Teaching Personnel – Adult Education Registrar

Karen Psillos	Adult Education Registrar	1/24/11	\$17.00 p.h.
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Non-Teaching Personnel – Resignation

Michael Fabrizio	Cleaner Mattlin Middle School	Jan. 24, 2011 (close of business)
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Appointment Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Nicholas Tremaroli	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	1/24/11	\$137.19
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Adult Education Out of District Consultants

The following people are Out of District Consultants and are paid through their business. The invoice us at the following rates:

Christine Barra (4 classes)	Strength Training, \$53/per session; Two 9 week sessions; 9-45 minute sessions Tuesday AM and Friday AM Aerobics, \$53/session; 8 week 8-45 min sessions Body Sculpting, \$53/session; 8-45 min sessions
Ira Bergman	Estate and Asset Conservation – No Fee Paying for Custodial Care – No Fee All 2 hour – one session only
Ellen Cervone	Scrapbooking – Six-1.5 hr. sessions (from 7 sessions) \$24/hr.1.5=\$36+\$15.50 prep and cleanup fee=\$51.50/session
Ellen Cohen	Theta Healing \$18 per person per session, one session
Surekha Daftary	Knitting - \$24/hr. 1=\$48 plus \$8.50/session=\$56.50/session 8 two hour sessions
Pat Dimatos	Floral Design – 8-2 hr. sessions \$24/hr 2=\$48+9.50 prep fee = \$57.50 (maybe seven sessions depending on enrollment)
Dina Elardo (2 seminars)	Notary Public Preparation Class; 3 hrs. - \$25/hour Notary Signing Agent Class; 2 hours - \$25/hour Both one session only
Richard Fiore (2 classes)	Social Dancing - \$63.00 per session – 8 sessions Rhythm Dancing - \$63.00 per session - 8 sessions Both \$42 1.5 hr=\$63 including prep and breakdown fee
Barry Fox	How Long Islander can Beat the high Cost of College \$100/session fee; One two hour session

Adult Education Out of District Consultants (continued)

Amy Giliberto	English as a Second Language 8 – 2 hr sessions \$24 2=\$48+9.50 prep fee=\$57.50/session
(2 classes)	Word 2007 for Beginners – 8-2 hour sessions \$24/hr 2=\$48+\$9.50 prep fee = \$57.50/session
Marjorie Glazer (2 classes)	Spanish Beginner 8 – 2 hour sessions Spanish Intermediate 8 – 2 hour sessions \$24/hr 1.5=\$36/session
Sidney Gubell	Bridge for Advanced Beginners 2 – 8 two hr sessions (from 6 Sessions) \$24 2 hour= \$48+8.50 prep fee= \$56.50/session
(one class & one Seminar)	How to Sell your Home in NY; one 2 – hour session \$24 X 2 = \$48/session
Olena Kropp	Heart Saver CPR & AED \$24/hour for 3 1/2 hour – One session \$24 3.5=\$84 (2-3.5 hr. seminars)
	Tot Saver (CPR & First aid for Children \$24/hour for 3 ½ hours – one session \$24 3.5=\$84
Sharon Kovaes-Gruer (2 seminars)	Planning for your Child with Special Needs – one 2 hr. session – no fee Veterans Administration Benefits – one 2 hour session – no fee
David Lippa	Line Dancing - \$48.75 per session – 8 sessions \$24 1.5=\$36+\$12.75 prep fee = \$48.75/session
George Manolakes (2 classes)	Computer Excel - \$24/hour plus \$19 prep fee=\$67/session 2 hour session; total Six sessions Computer Excel - \$24/hour plus \$19 prep fee=\$67/session 2 hour session; total six sessions

Adult Education Out of District Consultants (continued)

Ellen Makofsky (2 seminars)	Elder Law – no fee – one 2 hour session How to Leave Money to Heirs – No Fee – one 2 hr. session
Samuel Miller	Long Term Care Planning – No fee; one 1 hour session
National Traffic Safety Institute	Defensive Driving \$15 per person plus \$180.00 instructor fee 2 three hour sessions
Elyce Neuhauser	Pilates \$75/session, 8 – one hour sessions (from \$70/session)
On-Balance Ltd (2 classes)	Yoga, \$75 per sessions; 8 sessions each 1.5 hrs Yoga, \$75 per session; 8 sessions each 1.5 hrs.
Brian Oxer	Volleyball Rec. – 10 1 ½ hour sessions \$36.00 per session
Ann Peltier Oyster Bay Power Squadron Educational Officer	America's Boating Course 3 rd Edition 7 or sessions depending on enrollment Fee Paid directly to Oyster Bay Power Squadron from student
Carol Rodriquez (3 classes)	Zumba Session A – 8 one hour sessions \$75 per session (from \$70/session) Zumba Session B – 8 one hour sessions \$75 per session (from \$70/session) Zumba Earlybird Session C – 9 (nine) 45 minute sessions @\$70/session
Carol Ann Roth	Water Aerobics - \$50.00 per session – 8 – 1 hour sessions

Adult Education Out of District Consultants (continued)

Pam Serla	Volleyball Beginner - \$35.00/session – 10- 1 ½ hr. sessions Volleyball advanced - \$45.50/session (included \$9.50 for prep) 10 – 1 ½ hour sessions
Vincent Serio	Getting Acquainted with Social Security - \$50.00/session \$24 2.5=\$60 (one-2 ½ hour class)
Pauletter Silber (2 classes)	Meditation for Deep Relaxation - \$50/session Eight one hour sessions Tai Chi and Qigong - \$50/session Eight one hour sessions
Joanne Stockinger	Sewing for Beginners – Eight 1 ½ hr. sessions \$24 1.5=\$36+\$16 prep/cleanup fee=\$52/session Sewing for Advanced Beginners – Eight 1 ½ hour sessions \$24 1.5=\$36+\$16 prep/cleanup fee - \$52/session
Eleanor Terrarosa	Painting & Sketching – 8 – 2 ½ hour sessions \$24/hr 2.5 hrs.-\$60/session
Janet Walter	Mah Jong – 8 2 hour sessions \$24/hr 2=\$48+9.50= \$57.50/session

3. Finance

a. Contract – Health & Welfare Services (St. Edwards – 7 Students
Our Lady of Mercy – 8 Students) 2010-2011

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign a contract for the 2010-2011 school year with Syosset Central School District to provide seven students from St. Edwards and eight students from Our Lady of Mercy with health and welfare services as listed in the contract.

b. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment – POB Middle School Kitchen

That the Board of Education declares obsolete for disposal purposes the following equipment:

Mixer	00325020102181
Steamer	00002677
Kettle	20102187, 00002676, 003247

c. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment - POBJFK High School

That the Board of Education declare obsolete for disposal purposes the items listed on the memo from Christopher Donarummo dated January 7, 2011.

d. Donation – Science Research

That the Board of Education authorize the acceptance of a donation in the amount of \$500 to the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District.

e. Contract – Health & Welfare – 2010/2011

That the Board of Education authorizes the President of the Board to sign the Health & Welfare contracts for students residing in the following school districts and attending HANC for the 2010-2011 school year.

Bellmore (1)	Great Neck (7)	Jericho (3)
Oyster Bay (3)	Westbury (2)	Bethpage (1)
Half Hollow (6)	Locust Valley (1)	(Port Washington (1)
Commack (2)	Herricks (3)	Merrick (6)
Roslyn (9)	East Meadow (2)	Hicksville (2)
Mineola (5)	South Huntington (2)	East Williston (5)
Huntington (2)	North Bellmore (5)	Syosset (5)

f. Budget Reports

That the Board of Education approve the following:

- Approval Transfer as of January 24, 2011
- Informational Transfers as of January 24, 2011
- Budget Status Report as of December 31, 2010
- Revenue Status Report as of December 31, 2010
- Quarterly Vendor Report as of December 31, 2010

g. Treasurer Reports

That the Board of Education approve the following:

- Treasurer's Report for November, 2010
- Trial Balance as of November 30, 2010
- Cash Flow Projection as of November 30, 2010

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education Meeting of January 10, 2010.

New Business

1. Resolution – Agreement for Legal Services

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mr. Cepeda that the Board of Education approve the following resolution for Legal Services:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District hereby approves an Agreement for Legal Services dated January 24, 2011 between the Board of Education of the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District and Hamburger, Maxson, Yaffe, Knauer & McNally, LLP and authorizes the Board President to execute said Agreement.

Discussion:

Mr. Guercio stated that the second round of litigation is necessary. It should be overturned as a matter of law. There is so much more publicity surrounding these efforts. Some of the districts support the legislation and others don't. Some districts think they may make money on this. If Plainview-Old Bethpage is a district that would be paying judgments, Plainview-Old Bethpage should participate. Mr. Guercio stated that under those circumstances, it is hard to think of a reason not to participate.

Mr. Dempsey stated that as of today, seventeen Nassau County districts have agreed to participate.

2. Additional Staff Development Courses and Facilitators – 2010-2011

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the following additional courses and instructors for the 2010-2011 school year:

	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
ELA Smartboard Collegial Circle	3	Blaise Martinelli
Articulation Among Special Special Educators –Collegial Circle	4	Cindy McNamara
Collegial Circle for the Daily 5	4	Kristin Goetz
Elementary Librarians’ Collegial Circle	3	Joanne Levy
Infinite Campus Gradebook-Collegial Circle	up to 2	Ray Horton

3. Circulation of Policy 7580, Anti-Bullying and Harassment

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Schulman seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education approve the circulation of Policy 7580, Anti-Bullying and Harassment for review and comments.

Discussion:

Mr. Dempsey stated it will be placed on our website.

Mr. Jonas reviewed the policy. He stated this is a draft of the policy and it is open for comments.

Mrs. Lieberman suggested that on page 3, “cyber bullying” replace “**Electronic communication**”.

Mrs. Lieberman thinks the word, “jokes” on page 2 goes too far.

Mrs. Lieberman stated she did not see anything regarding sexting.

Mrs. Schulman thinks that jokes can be a form of bullying.

3. Circulation of Policy 7580, Anti-Bullying and Harassment (continued)

Mrs. Lieberman believes it is one step too far.

Mrs. Rothman stated that bullying is pervasive. It is persistent.

Mrs. Pierno discussed corrective actions. She asked about the overlapping of this policy with the Code of Conduct.

Mrs. Bernstein expressed her views that she would like to see some wording about a “safe environment”

Mrs. Schulman asked about the time frame.

Mr. Jonas responded.

Mr. Guercio stated that this would be the first time the policy is circulated. It will possibly be circulated after than.

4. Field Trips

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education approve the field trip on the memo of January 24, 2011.

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Cepeda, seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session.

The meeting was recessed at 11:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriet Fischer
District Clerk

Approved: _____
Gary Bettan, President

The meeting was reconvened at 11:50 p.m.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Pierno, seconded by Mr. Cepeda that the Board of Education appoint Arthur Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Adjournment

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Gary Bettan, President

Minutes of School Board Meeting – January 10, 2011

Board Room – Administration Building – Mattlin Middle School

Present: Mr. Bettan, Mrs. Pierno, Mrs. Lieberman, Mrs. Rothman, Mrs. Bernstein,
Mr. Cepeda, Mrs. Schulman.

Also Present: Mr. Dempsey, Mr. Jonas, Ms. Gierasch, Mr. Ruf,
Mr. Christopher Guercio, Mrs. Fischer.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Bernstein, seconded by Mrs. Pierno that the Board of Education appoint Mr. Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Schulman, seconded by Mrs. Lieberman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Gary Bettan, President

There were approximately 30 district residents and staff members present.

Mr. Bettan called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. and welcomed everyone to tonight's Board of Education meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mr. Bettan requested a moment of silence remembering the victims of the shooting in Arizona.

Mr. Bettan welcomed everyone to this evening's Board of Education meeting, the first of the New Year. He wished everyone a Happy New Year. He stated tonight's meeting will be divided in two parts.

We will have a brief meeting to share announcements and vote on some routine business matters. We will have public participation during this meeting.

Mr. Bettan stated that we will use our workshop format for the second part of the meeting. He stated we will be discussing the district's long term vision for our high school curriculum by content area. Our chairpeople and directors have been working with the teachers in the departments over the past several months on this project. They have been evaluating what is working and what needs improvement in our district. They spoke to and polled students to find out what new courses they would like to see and also gathered information and data about course offerings in neighboring districts and other districts that are similar to ours.

The areas that we will be hearing about tonight are: Music, Social Studies, Science, World Languages and Guidance.

We will cover the remaining departments at our next meeting on January 24th.

Mr. Bettan thanked all our chairpeople and staff for their efforts on this very important project. The discussions are focused on the high school. He noted the decisions we make will trickle down into the middle and elementary school curriculums. Mr. Bettan stated that some of the suggestions may be low cost to the district and easy to implement. Others may be more costly and require more time to do. He expressed his views that it is important to have a vision and start creating a road map on how we will move our district into the future. He stated the Board will welcome feedback on these topics during public participation at our next meeting.

Board Announcements

Mrs. Schulman spoke of a Social Studies program she attended "Who Wants To be a Millionaire". She extended her congratulations to the 6th graders who participated and were involved. Everyone had a wonderful time. She also congratulated the teachers involved.

Mrs. Bernstein noted there were very favorable articles in NEWSDAY about our gymnastic team. She congratulated our gymnastic team. Mrs. Bernstein noted that at one time, Bethpage and Plainview were a combined gymnastic team. Two or three years ago our team was ordered to separate from Bethpage. Our team is 4-0 so far this season.

Mr. Cepeda stated that Friday night was a cappella night. It was a fabulous night. Every student showcased his/her talent. Everyone had a wonderful time. Parents were enthralled with how good our students are. He thanked and congratulated everyone involved in putting together such a wonderful evening.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that last weekend's tragedy in Arizona is a teachable moment. We have to talk to kids about the power of words. We have to spend a little time to talk about our students being responsible citizens of the world.

Mrs. Pierno stated that on January 18, Concerned Citizens of Plainview-Old Bethpage are having a forum on Crime in the Community at the Plainview-Old Bethpage Public Library. She urged everyone to attend.

Mrs. Schulman was pleased to note that an alumnus of Plainview-Old Bethpage High School, Mark Mendelson had an article in THE NEW YORKER MAGAZINE.

Mr. Bettan stated that over the "break", he read and heard about a new item that he found disturbing. Mark Twain's novel, "ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN" will be edited to remove all instances of the "N" word and the word "injun". He stated that some of the most important and thought provoking literature ever written has been banned or censored at one time or another, including HUCK FINN.

Mr. Bettan stated that he does not and will not support the re-writing of literature in order to make it more palatable. He stated we should be using our discomfort to have more thought provoking discussions with our students. It is his hope that our district would never give in to this form of political correct censorship and purchase this new version of Mark Twain's classic American tale.

Superintendent's Announcements

Mr. Dempsey stated that on February 2 there will be an internet safety presentation. Parents and community members are invited.

Mr. Dempsey discussed the impending snow storm. He explained the decisions that have to be made regarding activities when snow is forecast. He thanked all staff members for their evaluation of last week's snow.

Mr. Dempsey reviewed the State's financial update. He noted that comments from Governor Cuomo and other members of the legislature lead us to believe that there will be some sort of tax cap. How it is formulated and imposed will affect school districts in the future. He spoke of the possible additional loss of state aid and the impact on budget development

Mrs. Bernstein asked if it were possible for the PENNYSAVER to provide free space to advise the community about the Internet Safety Presentation. We would be able to reach a larger group of citizens.

Mr. Bettan stated that during the last Board of Education meeting, there were discussions about Project Challenge. He spoke of a participation number of 20%. He stated that one building had a number of 20%. This number is not reflective of our overall enrollment. He requested Ms. Gierasch gather the real numbers for presentation to the Board.

Ms. Gierasch was pleased to report that 40 students from Plainview-Old Bethpage Middle School and Mattlin Middle School received awards from an American Mathematics Competition. She congratulated the students, their parents and their teachers.

Mrs. Schulman spoke of comments regarding acceleration made during Public Participation at the last Board Meeting. She expressed her views that those students are not the only ones that know how to behave.

Public Participation

Mrs. Stefanie Nelkens discussed math. There are 73 days of school before the assessment exams. She discussed the pacing guide. She believes the pacing chart is off by 14 days. There is a lot of material to get through. She discussed the after school assessment reviews. This she believes is unacceptable. They go to school once a day. This should be sufficient. It is difficult for parents to get them to and from the after school programs. Pacing should be looked at very closely. There should be time during the school days for the work to be taught, reviewed and checked. Ms. Nelkens stated the work has to be checked.

Mr. Dempsey stated that after school programs are instituted at the suggestion of the parents.

Routine Business

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the following routine business items:

1. Students

Student Placements

That the Board of Education approve the student placements as recommended by Pupil Personnel Services.

2. Personnel

Non-Teaching Personnel – Change of Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Proposed Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
William Geyer	Groundskeeper Buildings & Grounds	Temporary Maintainer Buildings & Grounds Replacing J. Diemicke who is on LWOP	1/11/2011 thru 6/30/2011	\$68,537.+ \$1,000 To be prorated

Leave without pay from Groundskeeper position while serving Temporary Maintainer position

Co-Curricular Activities – School Year 2010/2011 – Plainview Middle School

Craig Coyle	Piano Accompanist Grade 6 Winder Concert	School Year 2010/2011	2 Rehearsals @ \$50/per rehearsal 2 Concerts @ \$50/per concert
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Coaching Recommendations – Change of Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>Present Position</u>	<u>Proposed Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Ryan Coyne	Assistant Coach JV Men's Lacrosse	Head Coach JV Men's Lacrosse	3/11	\$4711

Coaching Recommendations – School Year 2010/2011

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Patrick Brown	Ass't Coach, JV Men's Lacrosse	3/11	\$3960
Ivan Dunat	Ass't Coach, MS Men's Lacrosse	3/11	\$2732
Devin Fassberg	Head Coach, MS Women's Basketball	1/11	\$3494
James Horan	Head Coach, MS Men's Volleyball	1/11	\$3778
Stephen Jacobs	Ass't Coach, JV Men's Lacrosse	3/11	\$3960

Appointment – Professional Staff – TAG Program – School Year 2010-2011

Frank Carbone	Coordinator	School Year 2010/2011	\$100/hr. (up to 50 hrs.)
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NOTE: Position until seamless transition is completed

Personnel Recommendations – Chaperones

Justin Avroch	Chaperone	School Year 2010/2011	\$90.36/sess.
Simone Chase	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Leslie Corbett	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Janine Ercolino	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Edward Hanlon	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Barbara Hayes	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Gina Ingelese	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Donna Iovino	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Vincent Passarelli	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Regina Rosato	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.
Christine Sardinia	Chaperone	"	\$90.36/sess.

Appointment - Per Diem Substitute Teacher

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Effec. Date</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Doug Peterson	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	1/10/11	\$137.19
Melissa Russotto	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	1/10/11	\$137.19
Joseph Ruggiero	Per Diem Substitute Teacher	1/10/11	\$143.45

Non-Teaching Personnel – Substitute

Jeanne Walsh	Typist Clerk Part Time Substitute	1/11/11	\$12.25 ph
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3. Finance

a. Award of Bid #574 – Chair Lift Reconstruction Project At Mattlin Middle School

That the Board of Education award Bid #574 to Mercury Elevator Corporation for a total amount of \$11,400.

b. Transportation Contract

That the Board of Education approve the SENTCO transportation contract between the Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD and Educational Bus Transport for the transportation of one student who started mid-year at the Sagamore Children’s Psychiatric Center.

c. Adoption of Resolution To Approve the Contract for the Elevator Replacement Projects at POB Middle School and POBJFK High School

That the Board of Education adopt the following resolution to approve the contract with Mercury Elevator Corporation, and authorize the Board President to sign the AIA contract:

WHEREAS, it has been determined that Mercury Elevator Corporation, was the lowest responsible bidder in connection with the bids for the Elevator Replacement Projects at POBJS and POBJFK HS; and

WHEREAS Mercury Elevator Corporation, was awarded the bids to perform such work;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby approves the Agreement with Mercury Elevator Corporation to perform such work and authorizes the Board President to execute same.

d. Payment of Bills
January 2011

General Fund A	\$5,579,773.14
Trust & Agency	\$4,055,970.12
Federal	\$ 144,409.45
School Lunch	\$ 118,817.51
Capital	\$ 4,217.73
Child Care	\$ 191.36
Debt Service	\$1,461,837.50
Net Payroll	\$5,835,748.79

4. Miscellaneous

Approval of Minutes

That the Board of Education approve the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of December 20, 2010.

New Business

1. Field Trips

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Cepeda seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education approve the field trip on the memo dated January 10, 2010.

2. Revision of District's Cell Phone Regulation

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Rothman, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein that the Board of Education approve the following revision to the Cellular Telephone Regulation #6830.2R:

No Restrictions plus data plan

Assistant Superintendents (2)

Director of Technology (1)

No Restrictions

Superintendent (1)

Assistant Superintendents (1)

Building Principals (8)

Transportation Specialist & District Safety Officer (1)

Directors (3)

Revision of District's Cell Phone Regulation (continued)

Administrative Assistant for Facilities (1)
Supervisor of Building & Grounds (1)
Security (1)
Athletic Trainer (1)
Director of Child Care and 4th R Program K(1)
Food & Supply Distributor (1)
Chairperson of Science (1)
Computer Services & Support Technician (1)
Athletic Coordinators (2)
Literacy Coordinator (1)
Coordinators of TAG Programs (2)

Restricted Outgoing

Nurse Coordinator (1)
Head Custodian (7)
Assistant Head Custodian (3)
Maintainers (8)
Groundskeepers (5)
Custodian in Charge (1)
Custodian (1)
Asst. Supervisor of Transportation (1)
Mail & Supply (1)
Senior Stores Clerk (1)
District Bus Driver (1)
Supervisor of B&G Secretary (1)
Middle School Assistant Principals (4)

Middle School Nurse (2)

Direct Connect Only

High School Assistant Principals (3)
HS Secretary (1)
HS Nurse (1)
Dean (1)
Security Guards (8)
Child Care Workers (7)

District cellular telephones are provided for business purposes. Employees will be required to acknowledge in writing that they understand this and that they will be held responsible for any misuse of a district cell phone.

Recess

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Schulman that the Board of Education recess the regular meeting to enter into a Workshop meeting.

The regular meeting was recessed at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Harriet Fischer
District Clerk

Approved: _____
Gary Bettan, President

Mr. Bettan welcomed everyone to the Workshop portion of tonight's meeting.

Ms. Gierasch stated that we will have several presentations regarding the offerings at the high school in the future. Our chairs and directors have been working diligently analyzing our current high school offerings particularly in comparing them to Syosset, Jericho, Great Neck, Half Hollow Hills and Oceanside. The chairs and directors are here tonight to share their vision, program highlights and proposals for revisions to current courses and new courses.

Ms. Gierasch stated that each department will present their proposal to stand by itself. She noted however, that each proposal can impact on another department's offerings.

Ms. Gierasch was pleased to note that our high school course offering guide is ready to go to print.

Mr. Jim Murray and Ms. Laurie Lynn will be at the table to also any questions members of the Board may have.

Music

Ms. Gierasch stated Mr. Josh Golbert will share some of the music program's highlights in comparison to the other districts. He will speak of his proposals and his vision for the future.

Mr. Golbert stated we have one of the strongest guitar programs on Long Island. We presently offer four sections. 60 students from this program attended the NYSSMA solo festival last year.

Mrs. Pierno noted that we have symphonic band in the 9th and 10th grades. We don't have any in the 11th and 12th grades. What is the reason.

Mr. Golbert stated we have a mixture.

Mr. Golbert stated we have a strong Music Theory 1 and AP Music Theory program. Students use the skills they develop in AP to do their own composing and arranging for both department activities like "a cappella" and jazz ensemble.

Mr. Golbert would like to offer a "Music In Our Lives" course. It would be an overview course, given for a full year and be given daily.

Mr. Cepeda stated that it would be a music appreciation course.

Mrs. Rothman spoke of what Half Hollow Hills offers in the 9th, 10th, and 11th years.

Mrs. Bernstein expressed her views that it seems to be a wonderful opportunity particularly for children not necessarily musically gifted.

Mr. Cepeda asked if guitar enrollment would decrease.

Mr. Golbert stated no.

Mrs. Pierno questioned if it could draw students from the Art Department.

Mrs. Schulman asked the level of interest in other districts.

Mr. Golbert stated that the enrollment is robust.

Mr. Bettan asked if a course like the Music Appreciation course could be taught to a larger enrollment.

Mr. Golbert stated it would be taught to a normal class size.

Mrs. Lieberman stated that we would need a number to make it run.

Mrs. Pierno asked Ms. Lynn if 9th graders could take this.

Ms. Lynn stated they would need room in their day.

Ms. Gierasch stated we would need to see the whole proposal.

Mrs. Lieberman stated it is wonderful that children have an option to choose. She spoke about the show choir that Oceanside provides.

Mrs. Lieberman expressed her views that she would like to see some exciting programs such as the show choir.

Mr. Golbert discussed the Electronic Music course. It would meet daily for a half a year. It would provide another option after taking Music Theory 1.

Mr. Cepeda asked if he is talking about students using a board.

Mr. Golbert stated it is more about learning about monitoring a board and learning about acoustics . He stated he would like an electronic music course that would be a follow up to music theory.

Mrs. Pierno asked if colleges look for this as part of a student's high school experience.

Mr. Golbert stated they look for participation in NYSSBA. They look for theory and auditions.

Mr. Bettan asked if we have any labs in the high school.

Mr. Murray stated it is very hard to find a location in the building right now. Space is tough.

Mrs. Bernstein asked in terms of all our music programs, are they being utilized the way we would want them to be.

Mr. Golbert stated that our programs are very strong. He stated that 128 students are participating in All County.

Mrs. Lieberman complimented Mr. Golbert and his Department. She asked if he could have just one thing next year, what would it be.

Mr. Golbert said he would like the music class.

Mrs. Bernstein expressed her views that our Music Department is a credit to the Plainview-Old Bethpage School District.

Social Studies

Ms. Maria Carnesi discussed her visions K-12. She would like a vertically aligned course of study in social studies that provides our students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills and civic understandings necessary to function effectively in American society. The instruction provided should be active, engaging, meaningful and effective. Ms. Carnesi spoke of the strengths of the social studies program. She spoke of staff development, nurturing of an instruction culture where teachers talk about teaching and learning. She briefly spoke of the creation of social studies curriculum in grades three and four. She spoke about the “wall” students hit when entering high school.

She spoke of our current Global History 9 Honors course and how it should be modified in order to ease the transition from middle school to high school and promote greater degrees of rigorous study.

Mr. Bettan stated that the 9 Honors course is a tough course. Students need more work in the 8th grade. He spoke about the “wall” students hit when entering high school.

Ms. Carnesi discussed pre AP courses. She discussed smaller class size in 9 Honors. She would like more rigor in student choices and more AP choices. She would like to create a workshop environment and purchase another text book.

Mr. Cepeda asked if she would like to retool the course. He discussed staffing implications.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that it is a wonderful plan. A lot of students have had experience with AP courses and they are more willing to stretch themselves.

Ms. Carnesi stated that all students are looked at. She spoke about children opting out and dropping down.

Ms. Carnesi discussed the 8th grade social science research program.

Mrs. Schulman discussed moving it down to the lower grades. What is the biggest piece that the 8th graders are missing.

Ms. Carnesi stated there are benchmarks that the 8th grader should meet.

Mrs. Lieberman asked how other districts are doing it.

Ms. Carnesi stated other districts have a 9 period day.

Ms. Pierno expressed her view that pre-AP in the 9th grade is really smart to do. She questioned the curriculum writing hours. It seems to be a large amount.

Ms. Carnesi explained the need for so many hours. She stated that there would be curriculum writing projects in grades five, and six and there would be a need for new materials. These projects would allow for revision of the curriculum in grades three and four.

Mrs. Lieberman expressed her views that when we do it, we want to have a really good and rich curriculum.

Mrs. Pierno asked about the social science research.

Mrs. Pierno discussed the AP psychology class. There have been requests for a more formal program in social science.

Ms. Carnesi discussed the “marrying” of the content and skill of Global History 10 Honors and English 10 Honors. She stated it would not cost any more money.

Ms. Carnesi discussed pre AP courses. She discussed smaller class size in 9 Honors She would like more rigor in student choices and more AP choices. She would like to create a workshop environment and purchase another text book.

Ms. Carnesi reiterated her comments that the dedicated, talented and skilled teachers in our school district are committed to the success of the students

Mr. Bettan, on behalf of the Board of Education, thanked Ms. Carnesi for her very comprehensive and informative report.

Science

Ms. Barry discussed the current high school science program. It meets the needs of all our students. Plainview-Old Bethpage is the only district that has an EMT program where our students leave high school as New York State certified practitioners. We are the only district that offers an Anatomy and Physiology course for college credit. Some of our students double up in the 11th grade to take Physics with another Science AP course. Ms. Barry noted that our district and Jericho are the only research programs with open enrollment. In other districts, research is mandatory for Honors. She also stated that the districts surveyed have a true 9 period day. We do not.

Ms. Barry stated that she would like to slightly modify the curriculum for the current Environmental Science to include Long Island Geology. She also would like to develop a course dealing with Health Fields. Students would be able to visit sites and shadow workers in the office and or hospital settings. She spoke of a possible collaboration with North Shore Long Island Jewish Hospital and Hofstra University which she was very excited about.

She spoke of the creation of a genetics course at the high school. Students would learn a form of genetics. This course would offer a foundation to any student seeking a career in a health related field. The expense would be in the start up equipment, supplies and staffing.

Mrs. Bernstein asked if the hospital would be willing to underwrite some of the costs for the creation of a genetics course.

Ms. Barry stated we could ask.

Mrs. Lieberman asked about a Marine Science course. She stated this would be an excellent idea to bring this course back

Mrs. Rothman expressed her views that a health related field course is very visionary. She asked if North Shore Hospital could share with us the equipment that is very expensive.

Mrs. Pierno asked about the criminalist and forensics courses.

Ms. Barry explained the differences.

Mrs. Pierno discussed the possibility of New York State changing the graduation requirement. Would some of the courses that we are talking about satisfy the requirements.

Ms. Barry stated they would.

Mr. Bettan stated that perhaps our business department should be looking at a course dealing with medical billing. This too is a related field.

Mrs. Bernstein expressed her views that these are wonderful career exploration goals.

Mr. Bettan thanked Ms. Barry for her fine report.

World Languages

Mr. Brian O’Sullivan spoke of the achievements of our students. He spoke of how well they did on the AP Language Examinations in Spanish and French. 100% passed. He stated in the New York State Regents exam, 100% passed Spanish and 99% passed French and Italian.

Mr. O’Sullivan stated that compared to other districts the choices our students have in world languages is limited. He would like to offer students the opportunities to study American Sign Language, French, Italian or Spanish in grades 9-12.

Mrs. Schulman asked how many of our students are taking AP Spanish.

Mr. O’Sullivan stated that 34 are taking AP Spanish.

Mr. O’Sullivan would like to have more opportunities in French 1.

Mr. Cepeda asked a breakdown of the costs.

Mr. O’Sullivan reviewed the costs if 25 students were to enroll in American Sign Language. There would also be staffing implications of an additional .2 to .4.

Mrs. Bernstein expressed her views that American Sign Language is a wonderful opportunity for our students. She spoke of her own daughter’s experience in college with this course. There was a waiting list to get into the class.

Mrs. Rothman spoke of American Sign Language and the opportunity it presents. She discussed how it would affect students who have difficulty with a foreign language. She also stated that a fast growing language on the college campus is Arabic.

Mrs. Lieberman discussed our Chinese program. She would like to see more languages introduced to the students in our district.

Mr. O'Sullivan gave a brief overview of his vision for the world language program. He discussed the Adelphi University program that we use. He spoke of the Syracuse University Spanish 201 and French 201 that he would like to institute. He discussed how this program would work. He discussed the differences between the two programs.

Mr. Bettan discussed the cost. He believes it would not be as expensive as it might seem. The students seem to take one course. We would be giving them more choices.

Mrs. Pierno asked if 9th graders that are taking one foreign language can be offered American Sign Language in addition to their other language.

Mr. O'Sullivan stated they can take an additional language or just that language.

Mrs. Pierno stated we only have an eight period day. She could see them wanting to take American Sign Language and a foreign language.

Mr. Dempsey discussed the obstacles to taking American Sign Language.

Mrs. Pierno discussed the Adelphi University course and the Syracuse University course. She asked if there is a 100 Syracuse University Course.

Mr. O'Sullivan discussed the level of courses offered.

Mrs. Schulman discussed the 92% of colleges giving credit for the Syracuse University course.

Mrs. Bernstein expressed her view that she would like the Board to have an opportunity to further discuss our World Language program.

Mr. Bettan thanked Mr. O'Sullivan for his report.

Guidance

Ms. Laurie Lynn discussed the three part plan for the students' transition from the 8th grade to the 9th grade. This year the 8th grade students visit the high school on January 28. We have "High School 101" on three dates. In January academic issues are discussed. In April social issues are discussed and in May/June emotional issues are discussed. Ms. Lynn also spoke of the mentoring program.

Ms. Schulman discussed our mentoring and self-selecting program.

Ms. Lynn stated teachers and counselors recommend.

Ms. Schulman asked what is the training.

Ms. Lynn stated adults are always present.

Mrs. Pierno expressed her views that "high school 101" is a fantastic idea. She asked the time of day it takes place.

Ms. Lynn stated it takes place during the 9th period.

Mrs. Pierno asked if the 8th graders have been asked what they want to see.

Ms. Lynn responded.

Mrs. Bernstein would like to hear how it is working—whether it is good or bad.

Mrs. Bernstein stated that everything said so far seems to show that we are on a better path. However she is disappointed that we are moving away from individual conferences. She expressed her concern that students may be reluctant to discuss problems in "high school 101"

Mr. Murray stated it is very different now. From the first day of school, counselors are meeting with the students. Every sophomore has been seen starting in December.

Mrs. Bernstein questioned whether most children at these ages will ask for a private conference.

Mrs. Schulman stated that it may not be so obvious that a student needs a private conference.

Ms. Lynn stated that any student that self-selects has to be seen.

Mrs. Pierno stated that it is fabulous that we are doing the scheduling earlier. She spoke of “high school 101” where the two guidance counselors are walking around the room. She is concerned that they really don’t know the kids.

Ms. Lynn explained what happens when an entire English class comes down for conferences.

Mrs. Pierno stated that if the guidance counselor is walking around and not advising the student on what to take, the student is not getting guidance.

Ms. Lynn stated they are there to explain the process. The student can request an individual conference.

Mrs. Pierno spoke of the negatives that occur in group counseling.

Ms. Lynn expressed her views that value of group discussions out weight the bad.

Mrs. Pierno expressed her concern that students are choosing their schedules but they are not discussing this with their own guidance counselor. She stated it would be great if we could “marry” the two methods.

Mrs. Pierno asked what percentage of kids checked off the box.

Ms Lynn is not sure.

Ms. Pierno asked if teachers need to wait until the mid term to make course recommendations

Ms. Lynn stated they do.

Ms. Lynn spoke of electronic submission of high school transcripts to colleges.

Ms. Lynn discussed her goal of more formal, structured meetings with individual students and their parents at the 9th grade level. She compared the number of students our guidance counselors service to the number of students guidance counselors in other district service. She expressed her views that we need more guidance counselors.

Mr. Murray stated that the role of the guidance counselor continues to change. He explained what they do.

Mr. Bettan thanked all the presenters this evening. It was a very informative and interesting workshop.

Executive Session

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Lieberman, seconded by Mrs. Rothman that the Board of Education recess to Executive Session for the purpose of personnel matters.

The meeting was recessed at 11:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriet Fischer
District Clerk

Approved: _____
Gary Bettan, President

The meeting was reconvened at 11:50 p.m.

Acting District Clerk

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mr. Cepeda, seconded by Mrs. Bernstein that the Board of Education appoint Arthur Jonas Acting District Clerk.

Adjournment

Resolved unanimously upon motion by Mrs. Schulman, seconded by Mrs. Pierno that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Jonas
Acting District Clerk

Approved: _____
Gary Bettan, President