

PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
January 4, 2017  
7:30 p.m. Anticipated Public Session  
NEW EGYPT HIGH SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT

The educational programs of the New Egypt Schools shall foster high expectations, in academics and behavior, giving attention to all students' individual needs. We are resolved to ensure all students achieve the New Jersey Common Core State Standards and the Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels, children will be provided a variety of activities and experiences that allow them to mature into lifelong learners, who are critical thinkers, and who cooperate with others as they grow and learn in our democratic society.

2016-2017 District Goals

1. *To develop and create a three (3) year and five (5) year Strategic Plan with input from all stakeholders and constituents to provide direction for the district.*
2. *To address and improve morale, communication and culture as evidenced by improved stakeholder feedback and the development of a district communication plan.*
3. *To improve student performance in ELA/Math by demonstrating positive growth for all students across all grade levels using multiple measures as defined by stakeholders.*

2016-2017 Board Goals

1. *To develop a strategic plan.*
2. *To improve morale, climate and culture through greater community, student and staff participation.*
3. *To continue participation in district financial planning.*

*Board of Education approval September 14, 2016*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gately, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

In compliance with the Open Public Meeting Act, this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting has been given in the form of an Annual Notice contained in Resolution No. 2015-2, which Resolution was immediately thereafter posted upon the bulletin board in the main office of all four schools and the Board Secretary’s office and disseminated within seven (7) days of passage to the Asbury Park Press and The Trenton Times, and a copy of such resolution was filed with the Plumsted Township Clerk. No advance written notice of this meeting was requested and paid for by any person according to the record of the Secretary of the Board. I direct the Secretary of the Board to enter into the minutes of this meeting this public announcement.

III. FLAG SALUTE – Mr. Gately led all in the salute to the flag.

IV. REORGANIZATION

A. Election Results

Mr. Gately, Board Secretary, presented the election results of the 2016 Official School election held on November 8, 2016.

Leslie Septor	1,574
Joseph Surdo	1,635

Two (2) Board of Education members were elected to fill two (2) expired three (3) year terms as follows:

Leslie Septor	1,574
Joseph Surdo	1,635

B. Administer the Oath of Office

Mr. Gately administered the oath of office to Mrs. Septor and Mr. Surdo.

V. ROLL CALL/REORGANIZATION

Roll Call

Mrs. Potter	Present
Mr. Probasco	Present
Mrs. Sempervive	Present
Mrs. Septor	Present
Mrs. Soles	Present
Mr. Surdo	Present
Mr. Witham	Present

A. Election of President

Mr. Gately called for the nomination of the President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Probasco to nominate Mrs. Soles as the Board President.  
That motion was seconded by Mrs. Septor

B. Close nominations for the Office of the President of the Board

A motion was made by Mr. Probasco to close nominations for election of Board President.  
Seconded by Mrs. Potter

Roll Call

Yes	Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Sempervive, Mrs. Septor, Mr. Surdo, Mr. Witham
No	None
Abstain	Mrs. Soles

The following roll call vote was taken for motion to nominate Board President.

Roll Call

Yes	Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Septor, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Sempervive, Mr. Surdo, Mr. Witham
No	None
Abstain	Mrs. Soles

C. Election of the Vice-President

Mr. Gately called for the nomination of the Vice President of the Board of Education.

A motion was made by Mrs. Soles to nominate Mrs. Septor as the Vice President of the Board.  
That motion was seconded by Mr. Probasco.

D. Close nominations for the Office of the Vice President of the Board

A motion was made by Mrs. Soles to close nominations for Mrs. Septor as the Vice President of the Board.  
Seconded by Mr. Probasco

Roll Call

Yes	Mrs. Soles, Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Sempervive, Mr. Surdo, Mr. Witham
No	None
Abstain	Mrs. Septor

The following roll call vote was taken for motion to nominate the Vice President.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Soles, Mr. Probasco,  
Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Sempervive,  
Mr. Surdo, Mr. Witham

No

None

Abstain

Mrs. Septor

VI. REORGANIZATION MOTIONS

A. Code of Ethics

Mr. Probasco moved with a second by Mrs. Sempervive that VI.A be approved:

1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

The Board of Education Members had the required Board of Ethics Training session as required under N.J.A.C. 6:3-1.3 and N.J.A.C.6A:30.

RESOLVED, that the New Jersey School Boards Association "Code of Ethics" shall be considered the official Code of Ethics of the Plumsted Township Board of Education:

- a. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- b. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
- c. I will confine my Board action to policy-making, planning, and appraisal and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- d. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow Board members, to see that they are well run.
- e. I will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the Board.
- f. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan, political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- g. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow Board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
- h. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- i. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- j. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Sempervive,  
Mrs. Potter, Mr. Surdo,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

B. Adoption of Official Newspapers

Mr. Probasco moved with a second by Mrs. Potter that VI.B be approved:

1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

To authorize the Asbury Park Press and The Trenton Times be adopted as the official newspapers to be used for the advertisement of meetings and legal ads and all other necessary public notifications for the 2016-2017 school year.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Potter,  
Mrs. Sempervive, Mr. Surdo,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

C. Parliamentary Procedures

Mrs. Sempervive moved with a second by Mrs. Potter that VI.C be approved:

1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

To adopt Roberts Rules of Order as the official parliamentary procedure manual to be used to conduct meetings and appoint the Board Secretary and Board Attorney to act as the parliamentarians for the 2016-2017 school year.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Sempervive, Mrs. Potter,  
Mr. Probasco, Mr. Surdo,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

D. Board Policies/Regulations

Mr. Probasco moved with a second by Mr. Witham that VI.D be approved:

1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

The adoption of all existing Board Policies and Regulations.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Probasco, Mr. Witham,  
Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Sempervive,  
Mr. Surdo, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

E. Doctrine of Necessity

Mr. Probasco moved with a second by Mrs. Potter that VI.E be approved:

1. Recommend the board approve the following item:

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Act, N.J.S.A. 18AA:12-21 et seq. was enacted by the New Jersey State Legislature to ensure and preserve public confidence in school Board members and school administrators and to provide specific ethical standards to guide their conduct; and

WHEREAS, questions have arisen regarding how a Board should invoke the Doctrine of Necessity when a quorum of a Board of Education has conflicts of interest on a matter required to be voted upon; and

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Commission has provided some guidance in Public Advisory Opinion A03-98 (April 1, 1998) but finds that there is a need to repeat and clarify its opinion; and

WHEREAS, the opinion set forth that, when it is necessary for a Board to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity, the Board should state publicly that it is doing so, the reason that such action is necessary and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

WHEREAS, the opinion further provided that if the Board must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity not just to vote, but also to form a negotiations committee because it is without even three members to serve as a committee, then the Board must determine whether to act as a committee of the whole or to choose a smaller negotiations committee from among its members after stating publicly its reason for doing so as set forth above; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with the Legislative purpose as set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:12-22(a) the School Ethics Commission views public disclosure of conflicts of interest to be paramount when it is necessary to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the School Ethics Commission hereby requires Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that must invoke the Doctrine of Necessity to adopt a resolution setting forth that they are invoking the Doctrine, the reason for doing so and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Boards of Education and Charter School Boards of Trustees that invoke the Doctrine are directed to read the resolution at a regularly scheduled public meeting, post it where it posts public notices for 30 days and provide the Commission with a copy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission shall distribute this Resolution to the county superintendents for distribution to the school districts and charter schools, the New Jersey School Boards Association, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials and the New Jersey Education Association.

Discussion: Mr. Probasco asked that E.1, Doctrine of Necessity be explained. Mr. Supsie explained the Doctrine of Necessity.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Potter,  
Mrs. Sempervive, Mr. Surdo,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Probasco moved with a second by Mrs. Potter that VII.A be approved:

- A. Recommend that the Board approve the reorganization meeting agenda for January 4, 2017.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Potter,  
Mrs. Sempervive, Mr. Surdo,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - None

IX. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- A. Board Meeting dates:

The remaining Board of Education meetings will be held: (pending the vote on motion E.2)

January 25, 2017	July 12, 2017
February 8, 2017	August 23, 2017
March 8, 2017	September 13, 2017
April 19, 2017	October 11, 2017
May 10, 2017	November 8, 2017
June 21, 2017	December 13, 2017
	January 3, 2018 (reorganization meeting)

- B. Student Enrollment - None

- C. Fire/Drill/School Security Drills - None
- D. Suspension List - None
- X. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS - None
- XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS  
Julian Viera, Student Representative, commented on the following:

Winter Sports

- XII. SUPERINTENDENT’S COMMENTS  
Mr. North, Superintendent, comment on the following:

Girls Basketball  
Raking Leaves at Jensen’s Deep Run Community

- XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

- XIV. PRESENTATION/AWARDS

- A. Student Athletics Presentations – Chris Balent, Supervisor of Athletics

- XV. SUPERINTENDENT’S AGENDA

The following items are presented for approval as recommendations by the Superintendent of Schools:

- A. Finance Motions

Mr. Witham moved with a second by Mrs. Potter that A.1 – A.5 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of all bills and claims for January 4, 2017, which have been examined by members of the Finance Committee and are presented for approval.
2. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with Garden State Transport to provide transportation for one (1) student to DCF Ocean Center in Toms River from December 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017, at a rate of \$50.00 per day for 90 days, at a total cost of \$4,500.00.
3. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with the Division of Children and Families Regional School - Ocean Campus for tuition for the 2016-2017 school year for student number 203063, at a total cost of \$25,328.64.
4. Recommend approval of a proposal with Staff Development Workshops, Inc, to provide three (3) days of staff development training, at a cost of \$1,600.00 per day, not to exceed \$4,800.00.



5. Recommend approval of an amendment of the carryover from No Child Left Behind (NCLB) for the 2016-2017 application year as follows:

Title I	\$24,975
Title IIA	\$ 4,241
Title III	\$ 3,379

Roll Call

Yes	Mr. Witham, Mrs. Potter, Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Sempervive, Mr. Surdo, Mrs. Septor, Mrs. Soles
No	None

B. Personnel Motions

Mrs. Potter moved with a second by Mrs. Sempervive that B.1 – B.3 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of a Medical leave of absence for Andrea Aprea, New Egypt Primary School ESL Teacher:

<u>LEAVE</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>THROUGH</u>
Medical Leave with pay, with benefits	December 12, 2016	January 6, 2017

2. Recommend approval of the substitute teachers for the 2016-2017 school year, [as per the attached list](#):
3. Recommend approval of Kindergarten and 1st Grade staff to participate in a Benchmark/Curriculum preparation day on January 24, 2017, [as per the attached list](#):

Roll Call

Yes	Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Sempervive, Mr. Probasco, Mr. Surdo, Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor, Mrs. Soles
No	None

C. Policy

D. Professional Development/Travel Reimbursements

Mr. Probasco moved with a second by Mr. Witham that D.1 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of the [attached staff professional development](#):

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Probasco, Mr. Witham,  
Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Sempervive,  
Mr. Surdo, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

E. Other Motion

Mr. Probasco moved with a second by Mrs. Sempervive that E.1 – E.3 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of [resolution 2016-2017 No. 4](#), Open Public Meeting Act.
2. Recommend approval of student interns and their assignments, [as per the attached list](#):
3. Recommend approval to co-sponsor one 11<sup>th</sup> grade male student to attend The American Legion Jersey Boys' State program at a cost of \$250.00 to be held at Rider University from June 18, 2017 to June 23, 2017.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Sempervive,  
Mrs. Potter, Mr. Surdo,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

F. Facilities

G. Field Trips

Mrs. Potter moved with a second by Mr. Witham that G.1 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of the [attached field trips](#):

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Potter, Mr. Witham,  
Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Sempervive,  
Mr. Surdo, Mrs. Septor,  
Mrs. Soles

No

None

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL RELATED TOPIC - None

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Soles welcomed Mr. Surdo to the Board and welcomed back Mrs. Septor.

XVIII. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. North commented on the introduction of the Strategic Plan at the January 25, 2017 meeting.

XIX. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

Mrs. Potter thanked the PTO for supporting the primary school and elementary school field trips.

Mr. Probasco commented on the recognition of the students.

Mrs. Soles wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mrs. Soles thanked the Board for their nomination of Board President.

Mr. Witham commented on the fence at the elementary school.

Mr. Probasco moved that the Board go into executive session at 8:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing student matters and potential contracts.

Seconded by Mrs. Sempervive, Passed unanimously.

XX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.) permits bodies to discuss certain matters in closed sessions, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq.), such a meeting may be held in private;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that:

1. The Board shall meet in closed session on these matters; and
2. The matters to be discussed in private may be shared with the public at such other time as the Board may determine that there is no longer any requirement for confidentiality.

Mr. Probasco made a motion to adjourn at 8:56 p.m.

Seconded by Mrs. Sempervive, Passed unanimously.

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Sean Gately  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary