

PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
August 27, 2014  
6:30 p.m. Executive Session  
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 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.

*District Goals*

- *Increase Language Arts proficiency percentages by up to 10% + in grades (3-8)*
- *Increase Mathematics proficiency percentages by up to 10% + in grades (3-8)*
- *Increase the percentage of students taking the SAT and student performance on the SAT by 10% +*
- *Restructure the Guidance Department to better serve students*
- *To continue to improve communications with stakeholders (staff, students, Board, parents and community members)*

*Board of Education approval 09.25.2013*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Miller, President, called the meeting to order at 6:37 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. 2013-12 and revised in Resolution No. 2013-17, 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. ROLL CALL

Mr. Miller	Present
Mrs. Septor	Present
Mr. Midgett	Present
Mr. Probasco	Present
Mrs. Soles	Present
Mrs. Wig	Present
Mr. Witham	Present

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Jones, Superintendent  
Mr. Gately, Business Administrator/  
Board Secretary  
Mr. Stein, Board Attorney

Mrs. Wig moved that the Board go into executive session at 6:39 p.m. for the purpose of discussing student matters and vendor contracts.

Seconded by Mr. Midgett, Passed unanimously.

IV. 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.

Mrs. Soles made a motion to go out of executive session at 7:48 p.m.



Mrs. Septor moved with a second by Mrs. Wig that VIII.B be approved:

- B. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the regular meeting on July 23, 2014.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Septor, Mrs. Wig,  
Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Soles,  
Mr. Witham, Mr. Miller

No

None

Abstain

Mr. Midgett

Mrs. Wig moved with a second by Mrs. Soles that VIII.C be approved:

- C. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the special meeting on August 12, 2014.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Wig, Mrs. Soles,  
Mr. Midgett, Mr. Probasco,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mr. Miller

No

None

IX. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- A. Board Meeting dates:

The remaining Board of Education meetings will be held:

September 10, 2014  
October 8, 2014  
November 12, 2014

December 17, 2014  
January 7, 2015 (reorganization meeting)

- B. Student Enrollment

GRADE	SEPTEMBER 5, 2013	JUNE 25, 2014	DIFFERENCE
PK- 3	16	21	+5
PK-4	29	30	+1
Kindergarten AM	81	81	0
Grade 1	99	95	-4
Grade 2	89	89	0
Grade 3	90	89	-1
Grade 4	97	94	-3
Grade 5	126	125	-1
Grade 6	122	124	+2
Grade 7	145	143	-2
Grade 8	144	149	+5
Grade 9	134	136	+2
Grade 10	140	138	-2
Grade 11	113	112	-1
Grade 12	145	145	0

Grade 12+	4	4	0
Totals	1574	1575	+1
Out of District	8	12	+4

X. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Probasco gave an update on facilities.

Mr. Gately gave an update on the solar project.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Dr. Jones commented on the following:

- NEPS held Kindergarten Orientation and Preschool Orientation this week for hundreds of eager students and parents. The events were well attended by our incoming families. The students and parents received information about the school, met the teachers, visited their classrooms, and some even took a ride on a school bus!
- New Staff Orientation on Tuesday
- First Day for Staff is September 2
- First day for students is September 3
- Reminder about our Back to School nights:
  - High School - September 11
  - Middle School - September 16
  - Primary School - September 17
  - Elementary School - September 18
- I will be holding Superintendent Roundtable meetings at 5:30 p.m. on each of the Back to School nights in each school media center.
- I want to thank Joe Occhiuzzo and Ed Novatkowski and the Aramark staff for all of the hard work getting things ready for school. The buildings look great!
- We are excited about the new school year and we are looking forward to next week when our students arrive.

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

XIV. PRESENTATIONS/AWARDS

A. Warrior Day Camp/Adventure Camp Activities for the 2014 season presented by Kathleen Chesmel

XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

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

A. Finance Motions

Mr. Midgett moved with a second by Mr. Probasco that A.1 – A.16 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of all bills and claims for August 27, 2014, which have been examined by members of the Finance Committee and are presented for approval.
2. Recommend approval of all bills and claims for August 27, 2014, which required hand written checks after the July 23, 2014 bills and claims list was approved, which have been examined by members of the Finance Committee and are presented for approval.
3. Recommend ratification of the transferring of funds.
4. Recommend approval of the Board Secretary's Report ending June 30, 2014 and the Treasurer of School Monies Report for the period ending June 30, 2014.
5. Recommend approval that Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A – 2.12(c)3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies that as of June 30, 2014, no budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contracted orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8, that the District financial account have been reconciled and are in balance.
6. Recommend approval that the Plumsted Township Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4 certifies that as of June 30, 2014, after review of the Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the Business Administrator/Board Secretary and other appropriate district officials, that to the best of their knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.12(c)4 I-VI and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
7. Recommend approval of a parental contract for student transportation for their child to and from the New Egypt High School for the 2014-2015 school year at a cost of \$6,300.00.
8. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with Legacy Treatment Services – The Mary A. Dobbins School to provide education services for one (1) student for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$68,565.00.
9. Recommend approval of a contract with Manchester Township Board of Education for tuition for one (1) student for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$56,763.00.
10. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with Alpha School for tuition for one (1) student for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$91,799.80.
11. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with Alpha School for tuition for one (1) student for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$61,627.00.
12. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with Mercer County Special Services School District for tuition for one (1) student for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$110,145.00.
13. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with Mercer County Special Services School District for tuition for one (1) student for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$69,195.00.

14. Recommend ratification of approval of a contract with Mercer County Special Services School District for tuition for one (1) student for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$43,685.00.
15. Recommend approval of a contract with Beautiful Minds of Princeton L.L.C. to provide special education consulting, training and assessment to assist the Child Study Team for the 2014-2015 school year at a rate of \$105.00 per hour, not to exceed \$25,200.00.
16. Recommend approval of the following meal prices for the 2014-2015 school year:

	<u>Full Price</u>	<u>Reduced Price</u>
PS/ES breakfast	\$1.25	\$.30
MS breakfast	\$1.25	\$.30
HS breakfast	\$1.25	\$.30
PS/ES lunch	\$2.25	\$.40
MS lunch	\$2.50	\$.40
HS lunch	\$2.60	\$.40

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Midgett, Mr. Probasco,  
Mrs. Soles, Mrs. Wig,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mr. Miller

No

None

B. Personnel Motions

Mrs. Septor moved with a second by Mrs. Wig that B.1 – B.22 be approved:

1. Recommend ratification of acceptance of the resignation of Patricia Wunsch as high school music teacher, fine arts department lead teacher, band director and chorus director, effective August 4, 2014, with regrets.
2. Recommend ratification of acceptance of the resignation of Stacy Wharton as NEED counselor, effective July 16, 2014, with regrets.
3. Recommend approval of Douglas Grotto as high school music teacher effective September 2, 2014 at a salary of \$54,591.00 equal to BA Step 1, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
4. Recommend approval of Alyson MacFarland as middle school special education teacher effective September 2, 2014 at a salary of \$56,467.00 equal to MA Step 1, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
5. Recommend approval of Matthew Michaels as middle school mathematics teacher effective September 2, 2014 at a salary of \$54,591.00 equal to BA Step 1, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
6. Recommend approval of Christina DeLeon as middle school mathematics teacher effective September 2, 2014 at a salary of \$56,467.00 equal to MA Step 1, pending the successful completion of the application

process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.

7. Recommend approval of Katherine Weh as elementary school special education teacher effective September 2, 2014 at a salary of \$54,591.00 equal to BA Step 1, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
8. Recommend approval of Anna Batiato as middle school paraprofessional effective September 2, 2014 at a salary of \$13,333.00, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
9. Recommend approval of Laura Madia as lunchroom/playground monitor at an hourly rate of \$8.25 effective September 2, 2014, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
10. Recommend approval of Patrick Schoettmer as a half-time maintenance employee at the rate of \$17.00 per hour up to 30 hours per week, pending the successful completion of the application process established by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
11. Recommend approval of Valarie Mazzarella as mail clerk at an hourly rate of \$8.53 effective September 3, 2014, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
12. Recommend approval of Stefanie Cook as bus aide at an hourly rate of \$8.25 effective September 4, 2014, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
13. Recommend approval of Renee Palumbo to teach 8<sup>th</sup> grade French at the middle school in lieu of prep at the instructional rate of \$47.00 per hour in accordance with the PTEA and PTBOE collective bargaining agreement.
14. Recommend ratification of approval to compensate staff members to participate in summer workshops [as per the attached list.](#)
15. Recommend ratification of approval of secondary curriculum lead teachers at a stipend of \$5,000.00 each for the 2014-2014 school year [as per the attached list.](#)
16. Recommend approval of substitutes for the 2014-2015 school year [as per the attached list.](#)
17. Recommend ratification of approval of the stipend fall coach positions for the 2014-2015 school year [as per the attached list.](#)
18. Recommend approval of the staff stipend positions [as per the attached list.](#)
19. Recommend approval of extracurricular staff positions [as per the attached list.](#)

20. Recommend ratification of approval of NEED Counselors/Site Attendants/Holiday Care for the 2014-2015 school year, pending the successful completion of the application process established by the Superintendent of Schools and that criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law [as per the attached list](#).
21. Recommend approval of staff transfer for the 2014-2015 school year [as per the attached list](#).
22. Recommend approval of certified staff salary adjustments, effective September 1, 2014, pending receipt of official transcripts [as per the attached list](#).

Discussion: Mrs. Soles thanked Mrs. Wunsch and wished her the best of luck.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Septor, Mrs. Wig,  
Mr. Midgett, Mr. Probasco,  
Mrs. Soles (with the exception of B.17),  
Mr. Witham. Mr. Miller

No

None

Abstain

Mrs. Soles (abstained on motion B.17)

C. Policy

Mrs. Wig moved with a second by Mr. Probasco that C.1 – C.2 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 5113](#), Attendance, Absences and Excuses.
2. Recommend approval of the second reading of [Policy 5131.6](#), Substance Abuse.

Discussion: Mrs. Wig asked about the electronic cigarettes. Mrs. Gravel responded that electronic cigarettes are in the policy.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Wig, Mr. Probasco,  
Mr. Midgett, Mrs. Soles,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mr. Miller

No

None

D. Professional Development/Travel Reimbursements

Mrs. Soles moved with a second by Mrs. Wig that D.1 be approved:

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

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Soles Mrs. Wig,  
Mr. Midgett, Mr. Probasco,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mr. Miller

No

None

E. Other Motions

Mrs. Wig moved with a second by Mr. Midgett that E.1 – E.6 be approved:

1. Recommend rescission of a Non-Resident Admissions Agreement for Erin Merwin, high school special education teacher to send her child to New Egypt Primary School for the 2014-2015 school year.
2. Recommend approval of staff to receive tuition reimbursement in the amount of \$225.00 per credit, pending receipt of a grade of “B” or better and proof of payment pending the availability of funds as per the PTEA Collective Bargaining Agreement, [as per the attached list](#).
3. Recommend approval of the district curricular updated and aligned to the New Jersey Core Common Standards [as per the attached list](#).
4. Recommend approval of fall student teachers and their assignments [as per the attached list](#).
5. Recommend that the Board accept a donation of an 1888 Steinway Upright Grand Piano from Patricia and Gregory Wunsch for the high school music program valued at approximately \$3,500.00.
6. Recommend approval of the [Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement](#) between the Plumsted Township Board of Education and Law Enforcement Officials.

Discussion: The Board thanked Mr. and Mrs. Wunsch for their donation.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Wig, Mr. Midgett,  
Mr. Probasco, Mrs. Soles,  
Mr. Witham, Mrs. Septor,  
Mr. Miller

No

None

F. Facilities

G. Field Trips

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL RELATED TOPIC

The following individuals expressed concerns and suggestions regarding their meeting with the superintendent, guidance department, kindergarten orientation and lack of administrators to which members of the Board and administration responded accordingly.

Susan Potter, 94 Sanders Lane, Cream Ridge, NJ  
Kathy Bullock, 43 Highbridge Road, New Egypt, NJ  
Michelle Swanson, 26 Oak Lane, New Egypt, NJ

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Soles gave an update on the status of the Board’s Goals.

XVIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIX. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

Mr. Miller thanked Dr. Chesmel for the presentation.

Mr. Miller thanked Mr. & Mrs. Wunsch for their donation.

Mrs. Septor welcomed everyone back to school.

The Board thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Mrs. Septor made a motion to adjourn at 8:42 p.m.

Seconded by Mrs. Soles, Passed unanimously.

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Sean Gately  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary