

Minutes
PLUMSTED TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
REORGANIZATION MEETING
January 4, 2023
7:00 p.m. Anticipated Public Session
NEW EGYPT HIGH SCHOOL

Vision Statement

“Unleashing Unlimited Opportunities . . . Empowering One Warrior At A Time!”

Mission Statement

The Plumsted Township School District shall inspire all students to realize their personal potential. A rich and challenging learning environment, in partnership with the community, will develop critical thinkers, lifelong learners and productive citizens in an emerging global society.

2022-2023 Board of Education Goals

1. *The Plumsted Township Board of Education will continue to maintain transparent communication through various media platforms to highlight news districtwide as well as inform the community of legally permissible topics/information at monthly Board of Education meetings.*
2. *The Plumsted Township Board of Education supports the implementation of targeted professional development to address ways to reduce the number of out of district placements for students with special needs, vertical articulation across grade levels to promote cohesion within the curriculum, and personalized learning opportunities that promote increased college and career readiness and student/teacher retention.*
3. *The Plumsted Township Board of Education supports the implementation of a district five-year strategic plan aimed at teacher retention and appreciation and providing a safe, supportive learning environment that promotes self-worth and encourages productive contributions in a constantly evolving global society. The Superintendent will develop strategic planning committees who will work cohesively with the Board of Education to provide regular comprehensive updates. Prior to the start of Year 5 initiatives and strategies a thorough review and evaluation of Year 4 outcomes will be conducted with the Board of Education and District Stakeholders.*

2022-2023 District Goals

1. *The Plumsted Township School District will create and begin the implementation of a New Teacher Academy to support and retain new teachers. These four year cohorts will be designed to offer targeted training and professional learning to foster growth and collaboration among new teachers with the guidance of master teachers and administration.*
2. *The Plumsted Township School District will establish three community committees and host three meetings over the course of the 2022-2023 school year to engage an array of stakeholders in collaborating on district initiatives:*
 - *Equity Committee*
 - *Curriculum Committee*
 - *Success, Recognition and Promotion Committee*
3. *The Plumsted Township School District will support staff and expand expertise in data analysis and implementation of differentiated instruction to facilitate student learning and mastery of New Jersey Learning Standards while increasing NJSLA results.*

Board of Education approval October 12, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Gately, Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 7:00 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. 2021-1, 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, Board Secretary, led all in the salute to the flag.

IV. REORGANIZATION

A. Election Results

Mr. Gately, Board Secretary, presented the election results of the 2022 Official School Election held on November 8, 2022.

Earl Meroney	1,217
Andrea Molnar	1,043
Kelly Morgan	1,112

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

Earl Meroney	1,217
Kelly Morgan	1,112

B. Administer the Oath of Office

Mr. Gately, Board Secretary, administered the oath of office to Mr. Earl Meroney and Mrs. Kelly Morgan.

V. ROLL CALL/REORGANIZATION

Roll Call

Mr. Burnett	Present
Dr. Giardina	Present
Mr. Goodman	Present
Mr. Meroney	Present
Mrs. Morgan	Present
Mrs. Potter	Present
Mrs. Raywood	Present

A. Election of President

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

A motion was made by Mr. Burnett to nominate Mrs. Potter as the Board President.
Seconded by Dr. Giardina.

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

Roll Call

Yes	Mr. Burnett, Dr. Giardina, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Raywood
No	None

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

Roll Call

Yes	Mr. Burnett, Dr. Giardina, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Raywood
No	None

C. Election of the Vice-President

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

A motion was made by Mrs. Potter to nominate Mr. Burnett as the Board Vice President.
Seconded by Mrs. Raywood.

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

Roll Call

Yes	Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Burnett, Dr. Giardina, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan
No	None

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

Roll Call

Yes	Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Burnett, Dr. Giardina, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan
No	None

VI. REORGANIZATION MOTIONS

A. Code of Ethics

Mr. Burnett moved with a second by Dr. Giardina that VI.A1. 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 interests 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. Burnett, Dr. Giardina,
Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Raywood,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

B. Adoption of Official Newspapers

Mrs. Raywood moved with a second by Dr. Giardina that VI.B1. 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 2022-2023 school year.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Raywood, Dr. Giardina,
Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Burnett,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

C. Parliamentary Procedures

Mr. Burnett moved with a second by Dr. Giardina that VI.C1. be approved

1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

To adopt Robert's 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 2022-2023 school year.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Burnett, Dr. Giardina,
Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Raywood,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

D. Board Policies/Regulations

Mrs. Raywood moved with a second by Dr. Giardina that VI.D1. be approved

1. Recommend the Board approve the following item:

The adoption of all existing Board Policies and Regulations.

Roll Call

Yes

Mrs. Raywood, Dr. Giardina,
Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Burnett,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

E. Doctrine of Necessity

Mr. Burnett moved with a second by Mrs. Raywood that V.I.E1. 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.

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Burnett, Mrs. Raywood,
Dr. Giardina, Mr. Goodman,
Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan,,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

VII. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Giardina moved with a second by Mr. Burnett that VII.A be approved:

- A. Recommend that the Board approve the reorganization meeting agenda for January 4, 2023.

Roll Call

Yes

Dr. Giardina, Mr. Burnett,
Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Raywood,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

VIII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Giardina moved with a second by Mr. Burnett that VIII be approved:

- A. The minutes are presented for necessary correction and approval for the regular meeting on December 14, 2022.

Roll Call

Yes

Dr. Giardina, Mr. Burnett,
Mr. Goodman, Mrs. Raywood,
Mrs. Potter

Abstain

Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan

No

None

IX. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

- A. Board Meeting dates:

The remaining Board of Education meetings will be held: (pending the vote on motion E.3)

February 8, 2023

August 16, 2023

March 8, 2023

September 13, 2023

April 19, 2023

October 11, 2023

May 10, 2023

November 15, 2023

June 14, 2023

December 13, 2023

July 12, 2023

January 3, 2024 (reorganization meeting)

- B. [Student Enrollment](#)

- C. [Fire/Drill/School Security Drills](#)

- D. [Suspension List](#)

X. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COMMENTS - None

XII. SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Halperin-Krain, Superintendent, commented on the following:

HIB Report

Happy New Year to everyone

Reminder of the upcoming Ocean County Prosecutor's Office Cyber Safety Presentation

XIII. PRESENTATION/AWARDS

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS - None

XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S AGENDA

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

A. Finance Motions

Mr. Burnett moved with a second by Dr. Giardina that A.1 - A.9 be approved:

1. Recommend approval of all bills and claims for January 4, 2023, which have been examined by members of the Finance Committee and are presented for approval.
2. Recommend approval of all bills and claims for January 4, 2023, which required handwritten checks after the December 14, 2022, Board of Education meeting. Bills and claims list were approved, and were examined by the members of the Finance Committee and are presented for approval.
3. Recommend ratification of the transferring of funds, for the period ending November 30, 2022.
4. Recommend approval of the Board Secretary's Report for the period ending November 30, 2022, and the Treasurer of School Monies Report, for the period ending November 30, 2022.
5. Recommend approval that Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)3, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies that as of November 30, 2022, 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.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(a), that the District financial accounts have been reconciled and are in balance.
6. Recommend approval that the Plumsted Township Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)4, certifies that as of November 30, 2022, 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:23A-16.10(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
7. Recommend approval of the New Egypt Middle School drama production of "12 Angry Villains", to be held on May 19, 2023 and May 20, 2023 in the amount of \$225.00, funded by student activities, and at no cost to the Board of Education.
8. Recommend approval of an agreement with Riverside Insights to provide 180 CogAT testing licenses for grades 2-5 at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, at a cost of \$2,871.00.

- 9. Recommend approval of the carryover from the ESEA consolidated grant for the 2021-2022 application year as follows:

Title I: \$35,346.00
 Title II: \$46,815.00

Roll Call

Yes	Mr. Burnett, Dr. Giardina, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney, Mrs Morgan, Mrs. Raywood, Mrs. Potter
No	None

B. Personnel Motions

Dr. Giardina moved with a second by Mrs. Raywood that B.1 - B.3 be approved:

- 1. Recommend the acceptance of the resignation of Dr. Jonathan Ogbonna, Part Time Director of Special Services, effective January 20, 2023, with regrets.
- 2. Recommend revision of approval of Elizabeth Young, as a School Psychologist, at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, effective on or before February 16, 2022 , at a salary of \$85,528.00, equal to MA+30, Step 17, of the PTEA/PTBOE Collective Bargaining Agreement, pending the successful completion of the application process by the Superintendent of Schools, and that the criminal history clearance is obtained through the State of New Jersey in accordance with the law.
- 3. Recommend approval to compensate staff members to participate in the Title III Parent Advisory Night’s on January 18, 2023 and May 5, 2023, at the non-instructional rate of \$40.00 per hour, not to exceed two (2) hours per session, [as per the attached](#).

Roll Call

Yes	Dr. Giardina, Mrs. Raywood, Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney, Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Burnett Mrs. Potter
No	None

C. Policy

D. Professional Development/Travel Reimbursements

Mr. Burnett moved with a second by Dr. Giardina that D.1 be approved:

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

Roll Call

Yes

Mr. Burnett, Dr. Giardina,
Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney,
Mr. Morgan, Mrs. Raywood,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

E. Other Motion

Dr. Giardina moved with a second by Mrs. Raywood that E.1 - E.7 be approved:

1. Recommend receipt of the HIB (Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying) Report on January 5, 2022, by the Board of Education.
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:](#)
3. Recommend approval of [resolution 2022-2023](#), Open Public Meeting Act.
4. Recommend approval to accept \$750.00 from the New Jersey Mental Health Association, as part of the Mental Health First Aid Grant, to be used for related support materials for the teaching of Mental Health First Aid.
5. Recommend approval of student teachers and their assignments, [as per the attached:](#)
6. Recommend approval of Eyes of the Wild, Wallaby Tales LLC, to present a living things assembly on February 9, 2023 for preschool and kindergarten students at the Dr. Gerald H. Woehr Elementary School, at a cost of \$340.00, generously sponsored by the PTO, and at no cost to the Board of Education.
7. Recommend approval to co-sponsor one 11th grade male student to attend The American Legion Jersey Boys’ State program at a cost of \$275.00 to be held at Rider University from June 18-23, 2023.

Roll Call

Yes

Dr. Giardina, Mrs. Raywood,
Mr. Goodman, Mr. Meroney,
Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Burnett,
Mrs. Potter

No

None

F. Facilities

G. Field Trips

1. Recommend approval of the attached field trips: None

XVI. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY SCHOOL RELATED TOPIC

Mrs. Caines, Hemlock Drive, New Egypt, NJ - Homeschoolers to participate in extracurriculars?
Casey Crawford, 46 Ivins Drive, New Egypt, NJ - Questions concerning homeschoolers participating.
Jessica, Monmouth Road - Questions concerning homeschoolers?
Karen Lamport, 6 Harrison Court - Question whether residents receive “tax break” / fairness issue.

XVII. NEW BUSINESS

XVIII. OLD BUSINESS

XIX. BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMENTS

XXI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Burnett made a motion to adjourn at 7:27 p.m.
Seconded by Dr. Giardina, Passed unanimously.