The minutes of the regular meeting of the North Plainfield Board of Education held on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 6:00 PM, via electronic conference. Ms. Butler, Board President called the meeting to order and made the following announcement: In accordance with NJSA 10:4-10, required advance notice of this meeting was filed with the Borough Clerk; submitted to the COURIER NEWS, STAR LEDGER, AND Comcast; posted at Watchung School, Borough Hall and the North Plainfield Public Library and the school district website. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Ms. Butler requested the call of the roll:

**Zoom Address for Public Access to the Regular Meeting:**
https://zoom.us/j/541221352?pwd=UnJlSThNWUhnQmc5bTJMZ29LNC9IUT09

*This abbreviated agenda is reflective of the Board’s awareness and concerns regarding the necessity to curtail public gatherings and ensure public safety. The items listed require board action and are of a time sensitive nature. The Board of Education members will be participating in the meeting via electronic means and will not be in person.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aye</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alba Soto</td>
<td>Sandra Dodd</td>
<td>Dr. Mark Krusczynski</td>
<td>Thomas Allen</td>
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<td>Bianka Butler</td>
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<td>Willie Vick Jr.</td>
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A quorum was established

Also present were Dr. Michelle Aquino, Superintendent of Schools; and Donald Sternberg, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator, Joanne Sung, Assistant Superintendent and 9 members of the staff and public.

**Introduction of New Staff**
None.

**Minutes Approval**
Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote to accept the public session minutes of March 11, 2020.

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote to accept the executive session minutes of March 11, 2020.

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote to accept the public session minutes of March 18, 2020.

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote to accept the executive session minutes of March 11, 2020.
Financial Report
None.

Comments from the Public
Theresa Fuller commented on the work at home situation.

Student Representative Report
None.

Presentation
None.

Recommendations from Superintendent of Schools

Personnel

It is understood that the employment of all new personnel is pending completion of the employment process including S-414/3381 documentation.

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of the staff indicated, to the position specified for the 2019-2020 school year, at the salary noted.

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>School</th>
<th>Guide/Step</th>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Effective</th>
<th>Replacing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinny Del Priore</td>
<td>Teacher</td>
<td>SS</td>
<td>MA+30/Step 6</td>
<td>$68,170.00 prorated</td>
<td>4/2/20, or upon release</td>
<td>Corinne McLaughlin</td>
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Alba Soto - Aye          Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye       Dr. Mark Kruszczynski - Aye
Michelle Robertson - Aye  Thomas Allen – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye     

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the resignation of Marcelle Baricelli, teacher at NPMS, effective May 19, 2020.

Alba Soto - Aye          Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye       Dr. Mark Kruszczynski - Aye
Michelle Robertson - Aye  Thomas Allen – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye     

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves Erika Gambuti as a Sheltered Instruction Facilitator at a stipend of $1,000.00. This position is paid through Title 3 Immigrant funding.
Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that for the 2019-2020 school year, the Board of Education approves the individuals indicated to provide teaching coverage as specified at the rate of $33.00 per class period, for up to two class periods per day per individual, effective April 2, 2020 through June 1, 2020.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kaitlen Jaffee</td>
<td>SS</td>
<td>Corinne McLaughlin (resigned)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colleen Strickland</td>
<td>SS</td>
<td>Corinne McLaughlin (resigned)</td>
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<td>Teresa Luu</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Employee #5210 (leave of absence)</td>
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<td>Vanessa DeHart</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Employee #5210 (leave of absence)</td>
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<td>Rebecca Young</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Employee #5210 (leave of absence)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy Hollis</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Employee #5210 (leave of absence)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Cruz</td>
<td>HS</td>
<td>Employee #5210 (leave of absence)</td>
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Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education rescinds the previously approved recommendation to employ Amanda Elliott as a temporary school psychologist for the District for the 2019-2020 school year.

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board hereby approves the employment of Pamela Hinman as Business Administrator/Board Secretary for the District for the 2020-2021 school year. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Pamela Hinman shall be paid the annual salary of $159,000. (Pamela Hinman will replace Donald Sternberg who will retire effective July 1, 2020.)
Curriculum, Instruction & Student Services

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools has provided the Board of Education with reports regarding HIB incidents #

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and the investigations which were conducted following these complaints; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education was advised of any consequences and/or remedial measures related to these matters as well as the Superintendent’s recommendations regarding the results of the investigations; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education votes to affirm the Superintendent’s recommendations on HIB cases #

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Finance, Purchasing & Agreements

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education is approving the First renewal year following the original bid year for the purpose of providing food management services for the district, for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2019 the North Plainfield Board of Education (“Board”) awarded Maschio's Food Service Company a contract for the purpose of providing food management services for the district; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of the public school contracts law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq., the Board has determined that Maschio’s Food Service, Inc., having offices at 525 E. Main Street, Chester, NJ 07930, completed Two years
of service and is compliant and eligible for additional year renewal of services, based on the following:

**Management Fee**- the Local Education Agency shall pay Maschio’s an annual management fee in the amount of $35,700.00 (Thirty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars). The management fee shall be payable in monthly installments of $3,570.00 (Three Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Dollars) per month commencing on July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021.

**Guarantee Return**- Maschio’s guarantees a return to North Plainfield Board of Education (LEA) in the amount of $125,000.00 (One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars). In the event the actual bottom line of the operational report (total revenue from all sources less program costs, including the management fee) is below this amount, Maschio’s shall be responsible for any shortfall with the following conditions as outlined in the contract.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board make the following renewal of contract;

Maschio’s Food Services, Inc. is hereby awarded the contract for food services management the total management fee of $35,700.00 (Thirty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars) and a guarantee of $125,000.00 (One Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator/Board Secretary is authorized to prepare and submit approved addendum to the NJ Department of Education and NJ Department of Agriculture an agreement applicable to this renewal.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Alba Soto - Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson - Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
Dr. Mark Kruszczynski - Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye

Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that the Board of Education approves the appointment of Environmental Safety Management Corporation Extraordinary Unspecifiable Professional Certified Industrial Hygiene Services at a rate of $175.00, an additional $25,000.00, for a total of $50,000.00 for the period of April 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020.

Alba Soto - Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye
Michelle Robertson - Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Sandra Dodd – Aye
Dr. Mark Kruszczynski - Aye
Thomas Allen – Aye
Ms. Dodd moved, seconded by Mr. Allen and unanimously approved by roll call vote that
the Board of Education authorizes the payout of accumulated vacation days for John
Stavick in the amount of $3,420.00. Amount to be adjusted pending final contract amount.

Alba Soto - Aye          Sandra Dodd – Aye
Bianka Butler – Aye      Dr. Mark Krusczynski - Aye
Michelle Robertson - Aye  Thomas Allen – Aye
Willie Vick Jr. – Aye

Committee and Delegate Report
Board Staff – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Communications – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Curriculum – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Finance & Facilities – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Policy Meeting – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Negotiations (NPEA) – None.
NJSBA – No meeting scheduled at this time.
SCSBA – No meeting scheduled at this time.
SCESC – No meeting scheduled at this time.
Personnel – No meeting scheduled at this time.

Assistant Superintendent/Curriculum and Instruction Report
• Remote Learning Update: The North Plainfield School District community, staff
  and students are successfully managing the requirements of district-wide remote
  learning. By effectively using the available district technology, supervisors and
  principals have stayed in constant contact with departmental and grade-level
  teachers to ensure that the needs of our students are being addressed. Our
  administrator efforts continue to be well coordinated as counselors and teachers
  maintain on-going contact with district families. Technology resources are routinely
  assessed and community resources shared to ensure that we address the needs of
  the whole student during these very challenging times.

• PreK, Kindergarten and New-Student Registration: As previously communicated,
  the district kicked-off preschool and new kindergarten student registration on
  preschool and kindergarten families received hardcopy registration packets and in-
  person registration appointments.

As preschool placement has historically been limited and on a first-come, first-served basis,
our District Registrar continues to maintain an organized list of the original registration
appointment dates. Prior to the district closure due to Covid-19, only 35 families were able
to complete registration, but once social distancing guidelines are lifted, the district plans
to continue with in-person registration and appointments will be extended to residents in
the same order as originally scheduled.
To every extent possible, the District Registrar has reached out to residents that had appointments through the end of March, with the guidance to frequently check the district website for the most updated information on all school efforts.

ESL for Everyday Life and Spanish for Everyday Life Parent Programming: School facility closures have suspended the *ESL for Everyday Life* and *Spanish for Everyday Life* parent programs originally set to run from mid-March through late May, 2020. Both programs have been developed in coordination with Union County College, Industry-Business Instituted. *ESL for Everyday Life* was offered last year, producing an abundance of interest and requests for additional parent support. As suggested by the title, the training program will focus on basic everyday English, common daily interactions and basic vocabulary. *Spanish for Everyday Life* is a new addition to the district’s parent programming and was created in response to requests from our English-dominant, Dual Language Academy parents looking for the tools to better support student bi-literacy.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Superintendent Report**

Dr. Aquino discussed and updated the Board on the following items:

- *Ongoing work from home procedure*
- *Teacher evaluations*
- *Services for students*
- *Strategic Planning process*

Mr. Hadinger updated the Board on the status of the High School gym sound system repairs.

- Governor Murphy has announced that given the continued threat of Covid-19 and the resulting school closures, New Jersey is cancelling all statewide student assessments for the spring 2020 testing window. Please note that cancellation of statewide assessments will not prevent students from meeting their graduation assessment requirements.

[Click here to read the NJDOE memo in its entirety.](#)

- I am pleased to report that through the use of video conferencing applications such as Google Hangouts and Zoom, we continue to hire new employees for open positions.

- As part of our strategic planning initiative, our Looking Forward survey was sent to District families on March 24th. In an effort to include the maximum number of stakeholders from our school community, the survey was sent in English and Spanish, based on families’ self-identified language preferences. In addition, a survey was administered to the Middle School and Harrison School staff.

- East End School Construction Project: The East End School addition is nearing completion. The flooring and interior painting are complete. The exterior brickwork
is complete on three sides, and the remaining one will be finished before the end of spring recess. The playground is 95% done. The remaining work includes the exterior sidewalk around the addition that will be completed within the next two weeks. I have included photos so that you may view the progress.

- With our students learning remotely, our Operations team has deep cleaned and sterilized each of our school buildings. In the rare event that a staff member enters a building, Operations meets and escorts them to and from their destination so that the areas they have come in contact with may be disinfected. Additionally, all six District buses were disinfected by Fleetwash on March 27th. Ms. Dunham, one of our van drivers, will be going to the bus lot once a week to start and run each bus for 20 minutes to keep their batteries charged.

Update on Facilities Projects

High School
- Dr. Stephenson’s office renovation has been completed.
- Band Room - Asbestos removal quote has been accepted. We are awaiting a date from the contactor to start the abatement. Once completed, the new floor will be installed pending the receipt of a quotation.
- Our audio contractor performed maintenance to the existing audio system in the gym on March 31st.

Middle School
- Room 118 - The contractor started the removal and replacement of the sanitary sewer pipe on March 30th.
- Hallway door and trim painting is in progress.

Somerset School
- Camera and buzzer work started on March 26th. The AIPHONEs and door releases have been completed at Somerset for the two new vestibule doors and the upgrade to the back door. Two new stations have also been installed to operate the doors. Cable has been run for the new camera to oversee the blacktop playground area behind Somerset. A+ will be back on April 1st to continue camera work.
● Demolition work on two science rooms will take place over spring recess, with furniture delivery still on schedule.

Stony Brook School
● Cafeteria replacement tables are scheduled for delivery during spring recess.

West End School
● The work in the boys’ lavatory is finished and ready for students.

Harrison School
● The installation of new locks on the new doors has been completed.

Harrison House
● A new garage door and two storm doors have been ordered.
● We are reviewing options for new signage for the front of the building.

● We are working with Board Docs to begin the process of installation. Please click here to see the view from the public at this time.

● I want to highlight several points from my most recent communiques to families and staff.
  ○ K-5 Report Cards were made available online through the Genesis Parent Portal on March 25th. (No paper copies will be printed due to the emergency closures.)
  ○ All District devices were distributed to students on March 13th. Students experiencing technology issues are able to resolve them by contacting our Tech Team through the newly created email address: tech_help@nplainfield.org. Parents/guardians have the option of leaving a call back number. Mr. Buckman has distributed technology to parents in need.
  ○ Timely subsites included on our District website:
    ■ Coronavirus Update/Links provides a variety of resources to assist our teachers, students, and parent community during the Covid-19 pandemic.
    ■ Virtual Relaxation contains mindfulness and relaxation activities and exercises to assist and support our community during this difficult time.
  ○ Maschio’s is now serving once daily- between 11:00 am and 1:00 pm at the Middle School gym foyer- when lunch and the next day’s breakfast are distributed to eligible students. This new schedule is in effect each regular school day that we are closed for instruction. During spring break, lunch will be served Monday through Wednesday, with 3 days of shelf stable food provided that Wednesday. Food will not be distributed to students from Thursday, April 9th to Monday, April 13th. Distribution will resume Tuesday, April 14th.
To provide additional food security to our community, the North Plainfield Food Bank is open the last two Saturdays of each month from 10:00 am - noon and is located at the Vermuele Center.

Grading and remote learning updates have been the focus of closing week 2. This was highly prevalent in the survey administered to staff during week 2. We will be sending another to staff this week.

**Future Agenda Items**
Per the presentation calendar [2019-2020 Special Presentations Calendar](#)

**Adjournment**
Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Dodd and unanimously approved by roll call vote; that the Board of Education will hold an Executive Session on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 4:30 PM via electronic conference for confidential matters relating to students, personnel, contract negotiations, litigation, and/or any other matter considered confidential by federal or state law. It is anticipated that Executive Session will last approximately one half an hour.

Mr. Allen moved, seconded by Ms. Dodd and unanimously approved to adjourn at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED: Donald Sternberg