

SOUTH PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
125 Jackson Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080
Telephone: 908-754-4620

BOARD OF EDUCATION

SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY

Regular Board Meeting Minutes- Wednesday, September 21, 2011 - 7:30 P.M.
Roosevelt Administration Building
125 Jackson Avenue
South Plainfield, NJ 07080

I. CALL TO ORDER - President

President Giannakis called the meeting to order promptly at 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium of the Roosevelt Administration Building, 125 Jackson Avenue, pursuant to the terms of the Sunshine Law.

II. SALUTE TO FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

III. ROLL CALL- Mark Resnick

Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Present: Mrs. Byrne, Mr. Farinella, Mr. Hubner, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Seesselberg,
Mr. Sorrentino, Mr. Stevenson, Mrs. Boyle and Mr. Giannakis

Also Present: Dr. Bowen, Dr. Cocchiola, Mr. Resnick and Messrs. Zitomer and Roselle,
Legal Counsel

IV. BOARD PRESIDENT

In accordance with the terms of the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was posted in all school buildings, the Administration Building, Borough Clerk's office, Police Headquarters, Public Library, four newspapers, and W.C.T.C. on May 5, 2011. Please be advised that there is **No Smoking on school grounds - inside or outside - at any time.**

President Giannakis requested that everyone stand. Mrs. Boyle asked for a moment of silence for Airman Jonathan Villamarin, a 21 year old former High School Grad and for Daniel Blackford who both passed away.

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V. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Good News and Progress in our Schools

Dr. Bowen reported that as a follow up to the Supervisor of Technology's report of last week, an array of technology equipment is being delivered to our schools. He said over 100 desktops coming in and 136 laptops bought with ARRA funds mostly going to special education. We continue to take initiative to bring improved technology into our schools. We are also getting new laser printers and took delivery of nineteen smart boards which are being assembled.

Dr. Bowen reported that under Dr. Cocchiola's leadership the bullying training is done except for some make-ups. Dr. Bowen said Dr. Cocchiola has scheduled professional development in the afternoon on October 12th and a full day on November 8th. He said a Superintendent Search Survey has been developed and will be available this week online for the community. Dr. Bowen will be making a broadcast phone call and email to the entire community so they may participate in providing their priorities of the qualities they would like in the new Superintendent. This will serve as an advisory to the Board of Education as they prepare for the interview process.

Dr. Bowen said he has a letter signed by the Outreach Coordinator of the Diesel Risk Reduction Program from the Department of Environmental Protection congratulating Dr. Cocchiola and the district on the "no idling" pledge signed by the South Plainfield School. He said Mrs. Boyle has been involved with this and he is pleased to take part in it. Dr. Bowen said he has scheduled a meeting on Monday with the PTA Presidents as part of his Superintendent's goal to enhance communications and to work collaboratively with them and the Associations to pass this year's budget.

B. Middle States

Dr. Cocchiola said he will recommend to the Board in October that the Board maintain its membership with the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. In order to do that, we must pay at least one year dues for the 2009/10 year at a cost of \$903.00. In addition, they will suspend the requirement for us to have a mid-year report due in December 2011 and move that to December 2012. He has reviewed the programs available and will recommend we choose the Accreditation for Growth Program.

C. QSAC Committee

Dr. Cocchiola said we need to form a district QSAC Committee and the list will then be forwarded to the County Office. We will then form sub committees to address each of the areas to be monitored – Instruction & Program, Personnel, Governance, Operations and Fiscal Management. Dr. Cocchiola said he recommends the District Committee consist of: One Board Member, Officer of the SPEA, Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Supervisor of Technology, Supervisor of Special Services, Supervisor of Math & Science, Business Administrator and a representative from the Principal's Unit.

Dr. Cocchiola said he will chair the District Committee and co-chair each of the five sub-committees so in the event that he is not here when the visit occurs, he wants to know that someone else can do this. He would like an individual Board Member assigned to each Committee. He said there would be quite a few meetings and many staff members will also be involved so he would like to have them during the day if possible, but no later than 4:00 p.m. Mr. Giannakis said he would serve on the District Committee and asked the Board members to contact Dr. Cocchiola with their first two choices of committees they would like to serve on and Mr. Giannakis will decide the committee assignments.

V. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

D. Presentation of Tenure Certificates

The following staff members received certificates of tenure:

<u>Person</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Tenure Date</u>
Susan Alexander	Secretary	Admin. Bldg.	07/02/11
Joseph Cirigliano	Assistant Principal	High School	08/17/11
Michael Battista	Physical Ed. Teacher	High School	09/02/11
Christina Briskin	English Teacher	High School	09/02/11
Allison Dressler	Art Teacher	High School	09/02/11
Bryan Holt	Social Studies Teacher	High School	09/02/11
Shannon Lorenzo	Spanish Teacher	High School	09/02/11
Toni Ann Nicodemo	Social Studies Teacher	High School	09/02/11
Tracey Gerlitz	English Teacher	Middle School	09/02/11
Julie Zoleta	Science Teacher	Middle School	09/02/11
Rowena Wu	Guidance Counselor	Grant School	09/02/11
Shannon Colucci	Elementary Teacher	Kennedy School	09/02/11
Laura Coscia	Media Specialist	Kennedy School	09/02/11
Danielle Chiera	Elementary Teacher	Roosevelt School	09/02/11

At the conclusion of the presentations, Mr. Giannakis announced there would be a short recess so the press could take pictures.

The meeting was called back to order at 8:05 p.m. with all members present.

VI. AGENDA ITEMS ONLY:

A. AGENDA ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS

President Giannakis said he has two resolutions to add to the agenda.

He asked for a motion to add a Personnel Resolution to approve the appointment of James Olobardi as the Business Administrator/Board Secretary. The vote was:

MOTION: Mrs. Byrne SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 8-0-1
Mrs. Boyle abstained.

Mr. Giannakis then asked for a motion to add Finance Resolution #13 for the Appointment of SSP Architects as Architect of Record to the Agenda. The vote was:

MOTION: Mr. Hubner SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

Mr. Hubner asked to separate Resolution VII. D.

Mrs. Byrne asked to separate Finance Resolution #8.

Mrs. Miller asked to separate Finance Resolution #5.

Mrs. Boyle asked to separate Finance Resolution #11 and the Personnel Addendum for the Business Administrator.

Mrs. Boyle asked to separate Resolution VII.C.

Mrs. Boyle said she has two amendments to the Minutes. Mr. Giannakis said he would separate all the Minutes being approved.

Mr. Giannakis said the Board has an updated Policy on public participation at meetings which limits time to three minutes at the podium and allows the presiding officer to stop comments that are not pertinent to the Board. He said the policy is posted on the table near the agendas, but said the policy would be waived tonight.

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

Mr. Giannakis separated each set of Minutes being approved.

VII. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE PRIOR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Board of Education meetings, held on the dates indicated, as transcribed, be received and filed.

Discussion:

Mrs. Boyle said on page 45 of the August 17, 2011 Minutes, she would like it amended to say that she suggested to the Superintendent that he authorize field maintenance in this district to be under the direction of the Athletic Director. She said on page 46, she wants it included she stated for the record that Bob Longo, an architect who lives and works in this town, has children in school in this district and volunteers his time, was an applicant for the Architect of Record. When an applicant is not being considered for interview they should receive a letter or email out of courtesy, thanking them for applying.

Resolution VII.A:

A. Committee of the Whole Meeting August 17, 2011

MOTION: Mrs. Byrne SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 9-0

Resolution VII.B:

B. Executive Session August 17, 2011

MOTION: Mrs. Byrne SECOND: Mrs. Boyle VOTE: 9-0

Resolution VII.C:

C. Regular Public Meeting (as amended) August 17, 2011

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

Resolution VII.D:

Discussion:

Mr. Hubner asked that the minutes be amended relative to the discussion of the updated Bylaw on page 5 regarding repetitive comments. He said there are some omissions in the transcript and asked that the comments made by Mr. Sorrentino, and he paraphrased the following: " Mr. Sorrentino said he would report any Board Member who votes for this change to the local newspaper, etc., etc., etc.," be included verbatim in the minutes. Mr. Sorrentino responded that he never said he would report anybody; he said he would write a letter to the South Plainfield Observer stating that South Plainfield Board of Education Members were trying to censor the public. He feels the community has the right to come up and say what they feel. He said if a Board Member was voting to censor them, he was going to let the public know which Board Members were doing it and said he thinks he has the full right to do that. Mr. Hubner agreed he had that right and said he just asked that Mr. Sorrentino's comments be included in the minutes in verbatim form.

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4. Policy Committee July 11 & 26, 2011

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Policy Committee meetings, as transcribed, be received and filed.

MOTION: Mrs. Boyle SECOND: Mr. Stevenson VOTE: 9-0

5. Transportation Committee September 13, 2011

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting, as transcribed, be received and filed.

MOTION: Mrs. Boyle SECOND: Mr. Stevenson VOTE: 9-0

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Adequate Yearly Progress

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the NJ DOE Report of AYP status as per the spring 2011 state assessments. Tab IX.A.

	Math	Lang Arts
• High School (39/40 indicators)	No (Af. Am.)	Yes
• Middle School (35/40 indicators)	No (SE)	No (Total, SE, Wht, Af Amer)
• Grant School–gr. 6 (39/40 indicators)	Yes	No (Hisp)
• Grant School-gr.5 (38/40 indicators)	Yes	No (Total, Wht)
• Kennedy School (40/40 indicators)	Yes	Yes
• Riley School (40/40 indicators)	Yes	Yes
• Franklin School (40/40 indicators)	Yes	Yes
• Roosevelt School (39/40 indicators)	No (Ec. Dis)	Yes

MOTION: Mrs. Boyle SECOND: Mr. Stevenson VOTE: 9-0

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B. Approval of Unified Plans

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the 2011/12 Unified Plans for schools identified as in need of improvement (SINI) for entry into the 2011/12 NCLB Application: Middle School, Grant School and Franklin School. Copies of plans are on file in the Office of the Assistant Superintendent.

MOTION: Mrs. Boyle SECOND: Mr. Stevenson VOTE: 9-0

X. CURRICULUM/ STUDENT ACTIVITIES

A. Curriculum Guides

WHEREAS the district has approved existing curriculum guides over a number of years, and

WHEREAS curriculum revision is ongoing as per the NJ CCCS, local and state timelines and the new CCSS, now

BE IT RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the list of all curriculum guides in all content areas from grades K – 12 as a baseline document for further prioritized curriculum development. Tab X.A.

MOTION: Mrs. Boyle SECOND: Mr. Stevenson VOTE: 9-0

B. Approval for High School Wrestling Team Trip

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following overnight trip:

Virginia Dual Wrestling Tournament
Jan. 12 – 15, 2012
Hampton University, New Port News, Va.
Chaperones – Kevin McCann, Steve Johnston, John Foscolo, Al Czech

(At no cost to the Board of Education)

MOTION: Mrs. Boyle SECOND: Mr. Stevenson VOTE: 9-0

XI. POLICY

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XII. PERSONNEL

Motion by Member Boyle, seconded by Member Byrne, to accept the recommendation of the interim superintendent and adopt the following:

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:
 (NOTE: Approval of this resolution authorizes the superintendent to submit to the county superintendent applications for emergent hiring and the applicant's attestation and proof that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et. seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. seq. This includes background checks and fingerprinting for those employees listed below: (All appointments are contingent upon receipt of proper teaching certification, and all salary placements are pending receipt of college transcripts verifying degree status and letter stating years of service in other districts, *denotes mentoring required.)

The vote on all Personnel Resolutions with the exception of XII.C #14 and #15 was 9-0

Discussion on Personnel Resolution XII.C, #14:

Mrs. Byrne said they had interviewed Mr. Olobardi twice and said she believes he will bring expertise to our district in a manner that we will be proud of. She said he is coming from a district that has had a budget of up to \$71 million and has managed it with staff in his office which is comparable to ours and she welcomed him to the district.

Mrs. Boyle said the Board is elected by the taxpayers to represent their voice, are the voice of the unheard children and are part of the planning of the Board of Education including the Budget. She said that is her opinion and that is the way NJ School Boards has instructed them to be a part.

The vote on Personnel Resolution XII.C. #14 & #15:

MOTION: Mrs. Byrne SECOND: Mr. Hubner VOTE: 7-0-2

Mrs. Boyle and Mr. Sorrentino abstained.

Mr. Giannakis said we have had Interim Business Administrators for a while now and thanked Mr. Olobardi for joining us and bringing some stability to that office and welcomed him to the district.

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XII.A Resignations, Retirements, Terminations

RESOLVED, that the South Plainfield Board of Education approve the following:

Code	Name	Action	Position	Loc.	Date Eff.	Discussion
1	Petronko, Patricia	Resignation	Preschool Aide	Future Stars	9/1/2011	Letter dated 9/06/11; last day 6/10/11

Code	Name	Action	Position	Loc.	Date Eff.	Discussion
2	Polizzano, Diane	Resignation	Duty Aide	Roosevelt School	9/1/2011	Letter dated 9/01/11; last day 6/22/11
3	Robertson, Rose	Resignation	Bus Driver	District	8/23/2011	Letter dated 8/23/11; last day 6/30/11

XII.B Leaves of Absence

Code	Name	Reason	Position	Loc.	Paid FMLA Start Date	Sick Days	Unpaid FMLA Start Date	Unpaid NJFLA Start Date	Unpaid Leave without Benefits	Return Date	Discussion
1	Employee #1188	Maternity Leave	Elementary Teacher	Franklin School	9/1/11	13	9/22/11	N/A	N/A	11/28/11	Reflects adjusted dates from prior BOE approval

XII.C Appointments, Transfers

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1	Facenda, Ebony	Approve	Substitute Teacher		\$90.00 per diem	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-xxx-100-101-00
2	Ferranti, Mary	Approve	Substitute Teacher		\$90.00 per diem	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-xxx-100-101-00
3	Gregory, Michele	Approve	Substitute Teacher		\$90.00 per diem	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-xxx-100-101-00
4	Leonard, Dwight	Approve	Substitute Teacher		\$85.00 per diem	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-xxx-100-101-00
5	Morgan, Kathleen	Approve	Substitute Teacher		\$90.00 per diem	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-xxx-100-101-00
6	Scotto, Melissa	Approve	Substitute Teacher		\$85.00 per diem	District	9/1/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-xxx-100-101-00
7	Thomas, Kelli	Approve	Substitute Teacher		\$90.00 per diem	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-xxx-100-101-00
8	Teller, Donna	Approve	Substitute Instructional Aide		\$9.25 per hour	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-000-217-106-00
9	DeMico, Stefanie	Approve	Substitute Secretary		\$10.50 per hour	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-000-240-105-00
10	LaSpata, Virginia	Approve	Bus Aide	Step 7- 4.5 hrs. per day	\$16,827	District	9/1/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-000-270-107-16
11	Olah, Jennifer	Approve	Bus Aide	Step 1- 6 hrs. per day	\$19,142	District	9/1/2011	6/30/2012	Acct. #11-000-270-107-16
12	Martinez, Orlando	Approve	Bus Driver	Step 1- 5.5 hrs. per day	\$20,977 (prorated)	District	9/22/2011	6/30/2012	Replace Robertson, Rose Acct. #11-000-270-160-16 & 11-000-270-161-16
13	Porcile, Anthony	Approve	(Former) Bus Driver	Retired	\$350.00	District	9/1/2010	6/30/2011	Retroactive Payment Acct. #11-000-270-160-16 & 11-000-270-161-16
14	Olobardi, James	Approve	Business Administrator/Board Secretary		\$151,000 (prorated)	District	12/1/2011 or upon release from current district	6/30/2012	Pending contract approval from Executive County Superintendent Replacement for Resnick, Mark Acct. #11-000-251-100-12

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg /Step	Salary	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
15	Olobardi, James	Approve	Affirm. Action Officer for Equity in Employment Practices/P.A.C.O./ Custodian of Schools Records/District's Qualified Purchasing Agent/Food Service Representative/Special Ed.-Medicaid Initiative Co-Coord./ Asbestos Management Officer/Air Quality Designee/AHERA Coord.			District	Upon release from current district	6/30/2012	Replacement for Resnick, Mark & Turner, Ernie

XII.D Adjustments, Stipends, Degree Changes

Code	Name	Action	Position	Deg/Step	Salary/ Stipend	Location	Date Effective	Date Term.	Discussion
1	Vigneri, Bonnie	Approve	English SAT Prep Instructor		\$55.00 per hour	High School	9/14/2011	5/31/2012	After School Acct. #13-422-100-101-19
2	Green, Cameron	Approve	Mathematics SAT Prep Instructor		\$55.00 per hour	High School	9/14/2011	5/31/2012	After School Acct. #13-422-100-101-19
3	Greco, John	Approve	Mathematics SAT Prep Instructor		\$55.00 per hour	High School	9/14/2011	5/31/2012	After School Acct. #13-422-100-101-19

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XIII. FINANCE

1. Rescind Resolution Regarding the Residency Hearing of Student D.C.

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2011, the South Plainfield Board of Education removed student D.C. from the District because required proof of residency in South Plainfield was not provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4 and N.J.A.C. A:22-43(a); and

WHEREAS, following the Board hearing, the requisite proofs were provided to the District evidencing the family's domicile in South Plainfield;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the July 13, 2011 resolution removing D.C. is hereby rescinded and the pupil is permitted to continue attending school in the district.

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

2. Rescind Resolution Regarding the Residency Hearing of Student E.L.

WHEREAS, on July 13, 2011, the South Plainfield Board of Education removed student D.C. from the District because required proof of residency in South Plainfield was not provided pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:22-3.4 and N.J.A.C. A:22-43(a); and

WHEREAS, following the Board hearing, the requisite proofs were provided to the District evidencing the family's domicile in South Plainfield;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the July 13, 2011 resolution removing D.C. is hereby rescinded and the pupil is permitted to continue attending school in the district.

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

3. Approval of Line Item Transfers – 2010/11

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve the line item transfers for June 2011, shown in Tab XIII.3.

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

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4. Approval for Submission of the 2011-2012 IDEA Consolidated Grant Application

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve submission of the 2011-2012 IDEA Consolidated Grant Application in the following amounts:

Basic: \$882,042
(\$858,252 Public & \$23,790 Nonpublic)

Preschool: \$29,675
(\$28,385 Public & \$1,290 Nonpublic)

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

Discussion on Finance Resolution #5:

Mrs. Miller asked that the Board get a report of the results when the visits are complete and also the results of the implementation of the recommendations. Mrs. Boyle said Mr. Merenbloom has outstanding expertise in his field and has been doing this for many years and was recommended by the Superintendent. She said in the end she believes there will be a report forthcoming in detail.

Mr. Seesselberg asked if this will be a recurring thing every year or will this contract cover things for a good period of time. Dr. Cocchiola said this is a continuation of some consulting he did for us last year. He said the contracts for the 2011/2012 school year are Title I funded and this should expose him to all the Title I schools. Dr. Cocchiola feels he would be finished at the conclusion of the 2011/12 contracts. Mr. Seesselberg asked if there would be a need to come back again in the future. Dr. Cocchiola said at some point we would like Mr. Merenbloom to consider sharing his expertise with the High School while he is working with the Title I Schools, although the High School is not a Title I school.

5. Approval for Consultant Contracts

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve two contracts with Elliot Merenbloom, Educational Consultant, for consultant services at the Middle School, Grant School, Riley School and Franklin School (Title I schools) in the areas of common planning time, teacher collaboration, creating a master schedule, team teaching, curriculum design and implementation, etc.

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5. Approval for Consultant Contracts (continued)

- a. 2010-11 Title I Funds – Continuation of work being done at Grant School which began in the spring of 2011. This will include three visits/training sessions each for a minimum of eight hours, and be capped at \$9,366.55 (Acct. No. 20-233-200-300-17)

- b. 2011-12 Title I Funds – Consultation with Grant, Franklin, Riley and the Middle School to include four visits for a minimum of eight hours each, and be capped at \$12,000 (Acct. 100-300 from Title I budget.)

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

6. Approval for Extension for Consulting Services – Business Office

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the appointment extension of James Cardaneo, SBA Emeritus, as a consultant to the Business Office at a rate of \$50.00 per hour, not to exceed seventy-five (75) hours. Mr. Cardaneo’s scope of service will include a review of NCLB and IDEA Grants.

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

7. Approval for Special Education Student Services and Tuition Adjustment

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following special education Level I Service for the 2011/12 school year:

- a. Level I educational services to be provided to one special education student by the New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired at a cost of \$1,700.00 for the 2011-2012 school year. Cost to be deducted from state aid. State ID No.: 6071317826.
- b. Occupational therapy services for one special education student attending the extended year program at Piscataway Regional Day School (MD) from July 5, 2011 through August 12, 2011 will be at the rate of \$273.00. Occupational therapy services for the 2011/2012 school year will be at a rate of \$1,683.50. State ID No.: 5314930916
- c. Adjusted tuition for one special education student attending The Strang School through Ranch Hope, Inc. for the 2011/2012 school year will be \$38,701.80. Tuition cost of \$39,561.84 was approved at the July 13, 2011 Board meeting. (State placed) State ID No.: 8861176319

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

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Discussion on Finance Resolution #8:

Mrs. Boyle said she is voting no on the check for Tom’s Automotive and said we have no idea what the parts cost and what they are marked up to for the busses. She said we worked on a Shared Services Agreement to share a certified bus mechanic whose priority would have been the busses. He would not have been half a mechanic since there are other mechanics at the Borough who work on the Police cars and DPW equipment. She said the cost savings would have been \$58,000 and we would have had receipts for every part purchased. She referred to the expense for the moisture testing on three roofs and said she has asked in the past that when we

have expenses like this that it be brought to the entire Board. Mr. Hubner said it went through the B & G Committee. Mrs. Byrne said the Interim Bus. Administrator was instrumental in getting this done and said it is important that the other buildings be checked as well. Mrs. Boyle said she does believe it was necessary, but when we have large bills like that, the Board should be aware.

8. Approval of Bill Lists

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approve payment of bills and claims that have been certified by the Board Secretary and filed in the Business Office. The following is a list of payments being approved:

<u>Checks</u>	<u>Payroll Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Payroll	225	\$ 226,805.69
Payroll	226	\$ 240,640.00

<u>Checks</u>	<u>Check Numbers</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Hand Checks</u>		
Preschool	601205 - 601207	\$ 1,500.00
Latchkey	611424 - 611426	\$ 2,820.00
Trips	631751	\$ 20,236.00
Adult Education	641884	\$ 1,408.93
Trust and Agency	2719 - 2735	\$ 12,370.95
FICA	880453 - 880454	\$ 10,964.15
Cafeteria	620227	\$ 595.83
Machine Checks	063858 - 064038	\$ 1,215,839.29

MOTION: Mr. Sorrentino SECOND: Mrs. Miller VOTE: 6-0-3
 Mrs. Byrne, Mr. Giannakis and Mr. Sorrentino abstained. Mrs. Boyle voted yes on all but Tom's Automotive.

9. Approval of Professional Development Expenditures

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools that the Board of Education approve the following expenditures (registration, mileage, and conference fees), substitutes, and trips, which are compliant with State payment guidelines, employee job responsibilities and critical to the needs of the school district:

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9. Approval of Professional Development Expenditures (continued)

	<u>Name of Workshop</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Person Attending</u>
a.	The College Board MSRO AP Spanish Workshop Hasbrouck Heights, NJ	10/10/11	\$180.00	Leonardo Perero (High School)

- b. NJIDA Dyslexia Assoc. Fall 10/14/11 \$195.00 Barbara Jewkes
Conference (Title I Acct. #20-234-100-500-17) (Middle School Lang. Arts)
Reading/Language Arts Curriculum Implementation
Somerset, NJ
- c. NJIDA Dyslexia Assoc. Fall 10/14/11 \$165.00 Christine Warian
Conference (Title I Acct. #20-234-100-500-17) (Franklin School BSI Lang. Arts)
Reading/Language Arts Curriculum Implementation
Somerset, NJ
- d. NJASL (School Librarians) Annual Dec. 2-3, 2011 \$160.00 Pat Massey
Fall Conference (Acct. 11-000-222-500-01)
Long Branch, NJ
- e. Back to Basics for Next Decade 10/26/11 \$175.00 Mary Bannon
Medical Trends and Issues (Acct. #11-190-100-500-05) (Kennedy School)
Somerset, NJ

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

10. Approval for Temporary 2011/2012 Fall Transportation Jointure with Dunellen
(So. Plainfield Host)

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the following temporary 2011/2012 fall transportation jointure with Dunellen Board of Education:

<u>School</u>	<u>Rte. #</u>	<u>Joiner</u>	<u>Number of Days</u>	<u>Cost Per Diem</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pisc. Reg. Day	PRD-AM	Dunellen	29	\$70.00	\$2,030

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

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Discussion on Finance Resolution #11:

Mrs. Boyle said Dr. Cocchiola worked very hard on this budget. She said there is a portion in there for Supplemental Education and at the August meeting she asked that there be a math program formulated not only for the Algebra I students in High School, but also for the other schools. There are children every year that can't grasp the math they had the year before or what they are learning now. She said it is almost October and this should be in place. The Middle School Principal has it in place. Dr. Cocchiola said the SES grant is about \$62,000 and is a mandated figure tied into the grant by the

Department of Education which has to be spent at Title I schools and the High School doesn't qualify for that money. Dr. Cocchiola said he has been talking with Dr. Pedersen and they are working on trying to put some sort of remedial program in place, whether it be during a student's study period or after school. Mrs. Boyle said Dr. Pedersen is also trying to form a Parent Group to work with him on these kinds of issues.

11. NCLB 2011/2012 Budget

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the 2011/2012 NCLB Budget (Title IA, Title IIA, Title III and Title III Immigrant) shown in Tab XIII.11

MOTION: Mr. Seesselberg SECOND: Mrs. Boyle VOTE: 9-0

12. FOR THE RECORD ONLY

Board Member Conference/Travel

The following Board Members have registered for conferences, seminars, etc., which are compliant with State payment guidelines; with Board Bylaw 0147; with employee/ Board Member job responsibilities; and are critical to the needs of the school district. Event cost and travel reimbursement do not exceed \$150.00, which would require Board approval.

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date and Location</u>	<u>Cost/Mileage</u>
William Seesselberg	NJSBA Training Governance III Mandatory Bd. Training	10/24/11 NJSBA Workshop Atlantic City, NJ	Cost: \$00.00 Mileage: \$00.00 (Workshop 2011)
Joseph Sorrentino	NJSBA Training Governance I Mandatory Bd. Training	10/24/11 NJSBA Workshop Atlantic City, NJ	Cost: \$00.00 Mileage: \$00.00 (Workshop 2011)
Gary S. Stevenson	NJSBA Training Governance II Mandatory Bd. Training	01/30/12 Piscataway HS Piscataway, NJ	Cost: \$00.00 Mileage: \$ 3.10

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Discussion on Finance Resolution #13:

Mrs. Byrne said we received nine proposals which the Committee reviewed and decided that there were three that they wanted to review further. They looked for people who have had prior experience with school districts, had a positive record and also had experience with solar energy. They chose the three firms that they felt had these necessary areas of expertise. They then narrowed the pool to two and this evening they decided on the firm shown in the resolution. She said a district with our size and

complexities needs someone with contacts in Trenton who knows where they have to go and who they need to speak to.

13. Appointment of Architect of Record – 2011/2012 School Year

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the Interim Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education approve the appointment of SSP Architects, Somerville, NJ as Architect of Record for the 2011/2012 school year, pending attorney review of the contract.

MOTION: Mrs. Miller SECOND: Mrs. Byrne VOTE: 9-0

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diana Joffe, President of the SPEA, congratulated all the newly tenured teachers and wished them the best. She said she understands the need for the administrative positions that have been posted and said we sorely need a Director of Curriculum for Language Arts and Math and some other administrative positions as well, however, we still have riffed teachers who have not been brought back and class sizes are growing. She said every study shows that the smaller the class, the better the achievement of the students. She said we don't have enough teachers in this district and we should be bringing them back with the money we do have.

Dierdre McIntyre, Shadyside Place, spoke about an issue with transportation for her son. She asked the Board to work to improve the communication between the Transportation Department and the community at large and the practice of the department and how it operates. She said her son's bus pass indicated he would be dropped off at 3:57 p.m. and parents should be at the stop ten minutes early. She said on September 15th, she arrived at the bus stop at 3:40 p.m. and the bus was already there with the doors open. She contacted the Superintendent and said if the pick up time has changed, she would like a new buss pass sent. The bus continued to come early and sometimes the other parents weren't at the stop yet. One day the bus arrived at 3:35 p.m. and a bus driver she had never seen before told her she needed to be on time to pick up her child and Mrs. McIntyre told her son's bus pass says his drop off time is 3:57 p.m. She said it turned into a shouting match and it upset her very much. She called the non-emergency Police

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number and an officer came. She sent an email to Dr. Bowen. Mrs. McIntyre said she finally just received a new bus pass. Dr. Bowen said there has been ample correspondence and that Mrs. McIntyre has been very thorough and communicative. Dr. Bowen said he would like to develop a report on this and issue it to the Board and get closure regarding any dissatisfaction Mrs. McIntyre has. If there is any corrective action required, Dr. Bowen said he would manage that. Mrs. McIntyre said there is note in red on the bus pass which says the new drop off time starts on September 23rd, but she said it started on September 15th with no contact to any parent.

XV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mrs. Byrne referred to the comments earlier regarding the shared bus mechanic with the Borough and said Mrs. Boyle had worked long and hard on trying to get that accomplished, but the way it was stated seemed that the Board rejected it. She said the Board was willing discuss and work on it, but that didn't happen; it was the Council that did not want to move forward.

Mr. Hubner congratulated Jim Olobardi on his appointment. He also said he wanted to follow up on Mrs. Boyle's comment regarding the architect. He said during the Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting, they had spoken about the credentials of the applicants and he had requested that we identify some of the shortcoming in a written letter to him so if we need another architect in the future, he can address some of those shortcomings and be looked in a little more favorable light in the future. He asked if that has been sent out. Mr. Resnick responded that now that the Board has chosen an architect, the letters will go out. Mr. Hubner said he wanted to follow up on Mrs. Boyle's comments regarding dissemination of information and said he was not sure if the information on the \$7,000 bill for moisture studies was in the minutes or not but said we are starting to address some of the shortfalls in information between Board Members and thinks having the meetings all in one shot will help alleviate that and agrees we need to do a little bit better job on sharing information.

Mr. Giannakis said he understands, but this is why we have committees who can decide on whether or not to approve expenditures for work deemed necessary. He asked that next month, all committee meetings, with the exception of Personnel, Buildings & Grounds and Curriculum, be combined and held during the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Mr. Sorrentino congratulated the teachers who received tenure tonight and thanked them for their hard work and dedication.

Mr. Stevenson said the Board doesn't receive the bill list until shortly before the meeting and asked if it could be worked out to receive it earlier. Mr. Giannakis said he and Mr. Resnick had discussed sending the bill list to the Finance Committee a week before the meeting. Mr. Hubner the Committee did receive the bill list last week and they emailed

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their questions. All questions were researched and answered and he feels that it is working very well.

Mr. Giannakis asked if the \$7,000 expenditure for the roof studies was an emergent thing because of the hurricane, or had been in the works prior to that. Mr. Resnick said he believed that it has been a serious problem for a while. Mrs. Byrne said they had the High School, Grant School and the Administration Building roofs checked and the administration building roof was in the best shape. The High School has saturated insulation in many areas and we have colored pictures which show it. She said Grant School also has major problems. She said the High School roof is approximately twenty

years old and the report shows that we have to do something. The recommendation from the last Buildings & Grounds Committee was to have the rest of roofs surveyed with the same equipment to know what we are facing and plan accordingly.

Mrs. Boyle said she would like to congratulate all the newly tenured staff. She referred to the Shared Service Committee that was working on having the shared mechanic and said it was not the Board who stopped; it was the Borough who didn't want to pursue it because of the demands and tone of voice used in that meeting by a Board employee. Mrs. Boyle congratulated the High School interns who worked in the Borough over the summer and said they all received high accolades. She thanked Councilman Alex Barletta, who is the liaison to this program, along with Mayor Anesh and the Council. Mrs. Boyle thanked Dr. Bowen, Dr. Cocchiola and the Principals for supporting the "No Idling Law". She said it is on our website and posted on the front doors of the schools. She said the PTA and PTO's will be purchasing signs as well. Vehicles cannot be left idling for more than three minutes. She said they are looking for students to form a committee to work along with the "Green Team" at the Borough. Mrs. Boyle said the Columbus Day Program at the Borough will be held on Monday, October 10 at 9:00 a.m. and our High School Band and Color Guard will perform. Mrs. Boyle thanked Principal Hajduk, Vice Principal Grier, Mr. Blondo, our Police and Fire Departments, the Veterans, as well as Officer John Falzarano, a South Plainfield graduate, who represented the NYPD for the wonderful 9/11 Program at the Middle School and to Betty for the beautiful wreaths. Mrs. Boyle said when someone is not even considered to be interviewed, they should receive a letter right away out of courtesy. Mr. Resnick said that letters would go out once the decision was made to all the applicants. Mrs. Boyle said she had written a letter during the spring sports season regarding our baseball team playing in another town and having to be belittled by parents and the other players and the umpires let it continue and it was wrong. Yesterday we had a soccer game against another town and our Athletic Director was pushed by an umpire or referee because of an issue with two students colliding. Students from the other team were making obscene hand gestures to our parents and this behavior has to be stopped. Mrs. Boyle said she has the incident on video. She said it started as our student was going over to apologize and the referee was going to remove him from the game when Mr. Czech stepped in. Mrs. Byrne said the referees are sanctioned by the NJSIAA and feels that the Superintendent

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should report this incident and provide the tape to the NJSIAA. She said our students get awards all the time for good sportsmanship. Mrs. Boyle said in her letter she commended our students and said no coach in this town would ever allow their teams to act the way this team acted. Dr. Bowen told Mrs. Boyle he takes this matter very seriously and will investigate the issue and take the necessary steps.

Mr. Seesselberg thanked and congratulated the band and chorus and Mrs. Stasio and Mr. Vroom for their participation in the Borough's 9/11 ceremony. He said they represented the town well to the several hundred people who attended, including the Lt. Governor.

Mr. Giannakis congratulated the tenured employees and welcomed Mr. Olobardi aboard.

Mr. Giannakis said the Board would be going into Executive Session and that no action will be taken.

XVI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLVED, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, that the Board meet in closed session at 9:06 p.m. to discuss confidential matters pertaining to personnel, negotiations, student matters and/or attorney-client privilege. It is expected that the matters discussed in closed session shall be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

MOTION: Mrs. Byrne SECOND: Mr. Seesselberg VOTE: 9-0

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

By a unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Resnick
Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary