

**PENDING BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVAL**  
**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024**

**Order of Business**  
**7:00 PM**

**I. Convene—Pledge of Allegiance**

Board Chair Becky Tyrrell convened the regular business meeting of the Plainville Board of Education to order at 7:00 PM. Jered Bruzas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Mesdames Consalvo, via Zoom, Clark, Lauria, Martinez, St. Lawrence, Tyrrell, and Messrs. Bruzas and White

**Also Present:** Brian S. Reas, Superintendent of Schools  
David Levenduski, Assistant Superintendent  
Sam Adlerstein, Director of Business and Operations  
Valiantsin Kasabrukhou, Student Representative

**Absent:** Rachel Buchanan, Board Member  
Maja Grabowski, Student Representative

**Late Arrivals:** None

**Early Departures:** None

**Returns:** None

**II. SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**

**--BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION**

Mr. Reas stated that March is Board of Education Appreciation month. He commented on the beautiful calendars made by Plainville students. Inside them you will find wonderful artwork. He stated that he is sincerely appreciative of the Board of Education. He commented that one of the goals in the education system is to promote citizens. He stated that Board of Education members are engaged in modeling what a citizen is every time they participate in the Board process. To be a Board of Education member, the pay is competitive. It's nothing, but it is competitive. The time is a considerable donation, but it is not deductible. The aggravation is free and hard to give away, and yet they do it and they do it freely. The impact on our students and the community and the future of our town and society is immeasurable and priceless. Thank you for your leadership and all the work that you do.

***A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO ADD APPROVAL OF THE EDUCATOR DIVERSITY PLAN TO THIS EVENING'S AGENDA UNDER NEW BUSINESS, SECTION X., ITEM J. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REBECCA MARTINEZ. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.***

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A) A MOTION WAS MADE BY REBECCA MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF**

**FEBRUARY 12, 2024 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**B) A MOTION WAS MADE BY REBECCA MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2024 (POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE) AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

Student Liaison Valiantsin Kasabrukhou reported on the following:

▶ As the Spring season begins, students are currently focused on taking advantage of the small break between winter and spring sports to work on fundraisers, scholarships, and internship applications. Also, the Honor Societies are starting to work on sending out the invitations for next year's groups.

▶ Students have been collaborating on getting involved with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders as much as possible.

▶ The Freshmen, Sophomore and Junior classes are starting to prepare for the College Boards Standardized tests, whether it be PSAT or SAT. The Senior and Junior classes are starting to slowly review for the AP tests coming out in May.

▶ Last Wednesday, PHS hosted an Open House Night during which 8<sup>th</sup> graders could come in independently to the school. There seemed to be good engagement with actual specific teachers and department representatives. There was less traffic to the Activities Fair, likely due to the fact that they already hosted during the 8<sup>th</sup> grade tours. Generally, there were some good conversations with the 8<sup>th</sup> graders, motivating them to take honors classes and to take advantage of AP and ECL opportunities at PHS.

▶ The winter sports season is essentially over due to the incredible performances at Conferences. The Boys' Swim Team coop will be going to State's soon.

▶ Winter Sports Night will be held on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

▶ Last Thursday (03/07/24), PHS hosted a Town-wide Band Concert during which all band members attending Plainville Community Schools got to perform together. Mr. Helming took the opportunity to recognize Mr. Dominic Talotta, the PHS Band Director and Jazz Band Director.

▶ The Class of 2024 will be hosting Mr. PHS in the PHS Auditorium on Thursday, March 14 at 6:30 PM. Please feel free to come and support the students.

▶ The Junior College Planning Night will be taking place on March 13 in Room 403 of the High School. Various PHS alumni and current students will be coming in to talk about college admissions and how that process has changed and what students should be prepared for currently.

▶ The new SAT's will be administered on March 20. Students will be taking the new formatted SAT with shorter passages and a more personalized test. Since the format is going to be different, some English teachers are taking charge to actually prepare students for those changes and to make sure PHS sees no fluctuation in student performance despite it being a new test.

▶ UCONN Admissions Day was very successful for PHS students. Mr. Kasabrukhou is very thankful that he had gone to the Storrs campus with a scholarship and an admission with an honors program for Engineering. Most Seniors will be getting all of their college decisions back at the end of this month. Ivy Day is set for March 28, with other select universities announcing their decisions between March 20<sup>th</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**V. CITIZEN COMMENTS—No Comments  
RESPONSE TO CITIZEN COMMENTS—No Responses**

## **VI. COUNCIL LIAISON—No Report**

## **VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

▶ Mr. Reas stated that he ran into Val Kasabrukhou when he attended the MSP VEX Competition Awards. Apparently, Val, even though he is a busy High School student and very active in his own work, also takes the time to make sure the middle school program has support. Mr. Reas stated that he just talked about what it means to be a citizen and Val is clearly showing us that he is doing his part as well. Thank you, Val! It was a great day for the VEX Robotics team!

▶ Mr. Reas stated that he is looking forward to *A Day on the Hill* with a few Board of Education members and students. They will hear from CABE and speak with legislators about how things are going with regard to education. It is happening this Wednesday, March 13 at the Bushnell. Mr. Reas is also looking forward to the Board's follow-up meeting with Mr. Caruso from CABE, to check in and take next steps.

▶ Mr. Reas reminded everyone of the upcoming MSP Referendum on March 19 at the Fire House from 6 AM to 8 PM. There will be no impact on taxes and a 60%+ reimbursement from the State of Connecticut.

▶ Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place next week. This is a busy time for parents.

▶ Mr. Reas reported that the VEX team at the MSP took four out of five of their top awards. When you look at the groups that were in the room, there were private schools from the Gold Coast, there were also very large districts, and it is unknown how the MSP kids did it because they did not have a large team or a home court advantage, but they did an amazing job given a pretty small program. The MSP now has a handful of students going to Dallas, Texas to the World Competition. This is truly amazing!!

▶ PHS Cheerleaders took the Class M States and made it look easy for the second time in a row.

▶ The upcoming Superintendent's Showcase will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. It is a very exciting night where we bring the schools out and ask them to share the good work they're doing, which will be shared with parents, the community and the Board of Education. Mr. Reas said he is very much looking forward to seeing everything in action.

▶ The Board of Education's Budget worksession with the Town Council will take place on Wednesday, March 13 in Council Chambers at 6:30 PM. The Council will be in budget worksessions all this week.

▶ Mr. Reas thanked the elementary team in advance, for putting together this evening's presentation and to share where they are with regard to the Strategic Plan. He said he was most appreciative of Mrs. Atterato, Ms. Cochrane, Mr. Wallowitz, Mrs. Bender Mr. Batchelder and Dr. Graham-Douglas for the work they have done. Mr. Batchelder wasn't able to attend this evening's meeting.

### **A. ELEMENTARY STRATEGIC UPDATE**

Mr. Reas then introduced elementary principals, Alicia Atterato, and Jeff Wallowitz, along with Wendy Bender, Elementary Literacy Instructor and Jessica Cochrane, Elementary Math and Science Instructional Leader and Dr. Graham Douglas who

will give a brief overview of Social and Emotional Learning, Equity and Mastery on behalf of Mr. Batchelder who could not attend this evening's meeting.

Mrs. Atterrato shared the following:

On any given day if you were to walk into one of the three elementary schools, you'd likely hear a steady hum of activity and would see students and teachers engaged in learning and playing. You might be lucky enough to be outside during morning arrivals and treated to a steady course of good mornings, we're happy to see you, or even a musical selection of the day.

In the office, you might see students leading morning announcements, announcing birthdays, practicing joke telling skills or getting ready to share some important learning or even some new languages over the loudspeakers. If you peek into the cafeteria, you'll find some students finishing up breakfast before beginning their day. Down the halls, you'll notice children and adults chatting, unpacking and getting ready for the learning ahead of them. Throughout the day, you might see a teacher encouraging children to share how they're feeling during a morning meeting and setting a positive tone for their day ahead. Look closer and you'll see them working with entire classes, small groups of students providing targeted instruction and giving feedback to children on individual learning goals, or you may find them meeting with colleagues, instructional resource teachers and administrators, viewing and analyzing data or planning for upcoming lessons and assessments. You will also see students working on their own, in pairs, or small groups, engaged in inquiry-based learning and discussion, and you'll see them transformed into artists, musicians, athletes, researchers and innovators as they spend time in Specials. Outside, you'll be able to witness the joy of watching them play, create games of make believe, climb playscapes or using the courtyard, or using outdoor learning spaces. For some grades this would all happen before their 11:00 AM lunch.

As many of you know from spending time in our buildings, they are very busy places. In each of them our expectations remain high as do our beliefs that every child in every classroom is capable of doing the work, making growth and progress, and achieving at their highest potential. In order to do this, we set common goals across the three elementary buildings and align with our district strategic plan and vision. It ensures that all children in our community receive similar instruction and care and that every child and teacher understand our overall expectations and are provided with high quality targeted instruction. These goals were highlighted throughout the presentation. The schools are dedicated to achieving these goals through this work, i.e., planning, collaboration and with our collective efforts, the district is seeing positive data and trends peek through. While there are always ways to continue to improve, they shared some of their successes. Mrs. Atterrato then introduced Mr. Jeff Wallowitz, Linden Principal.

Equity:

Mr. Wallowitz stated that in Plainville, the elementary schools have worked to identify barriers to equity and put resources and practices in place to support all students and families. This remains an ongoing process of identification and outreach and we are proud of the services and supports we insure for our children and families. We are working to create systems to ensure that every child has the chance to achieve success and meet their full potential.

In the elementary schools, the goal of equity work is to meet the individual needs of students, and making sure they have the same access and opportunity to high level instruction.

*Why Equity?*

- ▶ All students deserve to be supported, taught, and challenged in an appropriate matter.
- ▶ No student should encounter barriers that limit access and opportunities.
- ▶ A student's identity or background should not predetermine their educational outcomes.

*Equity through Data:*

Administrators and teachers are analyzing and disaggregating data to identify trends and achievement gaps. Once gaps are identified, we are creating collaborative and sustainable systems that better meet the needs of all our students. Our districtwide Equity Committee is led by Assistant Superintendent, David Levenduski, Lily Cornielle, our three elementary administrators, and staff from each school. They work together to collect and analyze data and dive deeper to collaboratively identify areas of need. This information is then brought back to the schools' building based equity teams to help support each other in this work and to share strategies that will be implemented across the district.

*Equity through Literature:*

Mr. Wallowitz stated that the schools utilize translators for families who speak different languages to support our home school connections. We are working to ensure that books and curricula are available to students which represents the diversity of the student population and provides both windows and mirrors for our students.

*Equity through Family Participation:*

He stated that the schools host families in their classrooms where they enrich us with the many cultures that are presented throughout Plainville Community Schools. Our students use student announcements and other media to inform, share, and celebrate with their peers. This is an exciting time to be a Plainville elementary student with equity being a major focus of our district. Our goal is to treat all students and families with the respect and dignity they deserve.

Mr. Wallowitz then introduced Dr. Tawana Graham Douglas who will speak on Social Emotion Learning on behalf of Mr. Batcheler:

**Social Emotional Learning:**

Dr. Graham-Douglas stated that for students to reach their academic goals, they need to achieve the five social emotional learning competencies which is closely linked to goal 2.3 of the district's strategic plan. All five competencies promote effective cooperative learning with peers which is paramount to student success.

In order to promote the achievement of those social emotional competencies, we use an approach called RULER. The following five skills are what students need to acquire in order to achieve the social emotional competencies. They are:

- Recognizing emotions in self and others**
- Understanding the causes and consequences of emotions**
- Labeling emotions accurately**
- Expressing emotions appropriately**
- Regulating emotions effectively**

There are several key strategies students learn to achieve those five RULER skills.

The first strategy is the Charter. At the start of the school year, teachers facilitate the establishment of classroom norms. Students anonymously provided input as to how they want to feel each day when they come to school and how they pledge to help one another feel that way on a daily basis. Once completed, the charter is posted in the classroom and referred to throughout the day as needed and when appropriate.

The second strategy is the moodmeter- A video showing an example was played.

The moodmeter captures the two parts of emotions, energy and pleasantness.

- RED feelings: high in energy and low in pleasantness (e.g., angry, scared, and anxious);
- BLUE feelings: low in energy and low in pleasantness (e.g., sad, disappointed, and lonely);
- GREEN feelings: low in energy and high in pleasantness (e.g., calm, tranquil, and relaxed);
- YELLOW feelings: high in energy and high in pleasantness (e.g., happy, excited, and curious).

Teachers use the moodmeter throughout the day to teach students to recognize how they are feeling, understand their feelings, label the feeling and then talk about it to help them regulate their feelings in various situations. Teachers also use this tool to help students understand how certain characters are feeling in a story, how the character is expressing and managing his or her emotions, and how their emotions change throughout a story.

The third strategy is the Meta-Moment, which is used to help regulate emotions in a given moment. It is a process for extending the time between the experience of an intense emotion and how a student responds to that emotion, so that the student can make better choices in the heat of the moment. In other words, for example, when students begin to feel angry, they can pause and think about and picture what their best self looks like and make the most helpful effective response.

DESSA Assessment:

Dr. Graham Douglas stated that one way we measure our student's social emotional learning is through our DESSA benchmark assessment. The DESSA benchmark assessment is administered by teachers 3x a year - fall, winter and spring. Teachers complete rating scales on each student to determine which students fall in the strong range, the typical range, and in the, needs additional instruction range in relationship to the five social emotional competencies. These competencies are self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making. Teachers use this data to determine which of these competencies our students are strong in and which groups or individual students need more instruction in certain areas. The vast majority of our students fall in the strong and typical range and 10 % of our students fall in the need instruction range. This tells us the majority of our students respond positively to our RULER approach and SEL instruction. But 10 % of our students, which equates to 93 students, still require more individual or small group instruction from our teachers and/or SEL Tutors in each of our three elementary schools.

Dr. Graham-Douglas then introduced Wendy Bender, Elementary Literacy Instructional Leader and Jessica Cochrane, Elementary Math and Science Instructional Leader who will give an overview of the specifics regarding what learning and literacy, math and science look like in our classrooms.

Mrs. Bender stated that she is here to share a snapshot of what Literacy looks like in the Plainville Community Schools.

The Goals for the Year include:

- 1) Provide supportive professional development
- 2) Ensure appropriate rigor and alignment to the standards
- 3) Focus on classroom instruction to reduce the need for supplemental instruction

Professional Development consists of:

- ▶ Executive Functioning Training
- ▶ LTRs Training
- ▶ SBAC Interim IAB Instructional Practices
- ▶ Right to Read Professional Development
  
- ▶ Foundations and Differentiated Reading Instruction
- ▶ Progressions in alignment with standards
- ▶ Provides written response to reading using a reader's notebook
- ▶ Interactive Read Aloud

The Science of Reading:

- ▶ Phonetic Awareness
- ▶ Vocabulary
- ▶ Phonics and Word Study
- ▶ Fluency
- ▶ Comprehension

Simple View of Reading:

- ▶ Word Recognition x Language Comprehension = Reading Comprehension

Classroom Reading Instruction:

- ▶ Science of Reading (Phonemic awareness, phonic, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension)
- ▶ Teachers' College Units of Study (alignment to CT State Standards)
- ▶ Alignment with the Common Core Standards
- ▶ Progressions, text band cards, iReady instructional groupings and written response/  
Notebook work
  - Conferring and small group differentiated instruction
  - Skill groups (Differentiated Reading Instruction)
  - Strategy groups (progressions, text band cards and written response)
  - Guided reading groups (decodables and authentic text)
- ▶ Reading Growth At/Above Benchmark
  - Grades K-2 made 26% reading growth from September to January
  - Grades 3-5 made 12% reading growth from September to January
- ▶ Kindergarten
  - Hands on
  - Interactive
  - PlayBased
- ▶ Grade 1
  - Teacher autonomy
  - Targeted Instruction
  - Cross department collaboration
- ▶ Grades 2-5
  - Progressions
  - Small Group Work
  - Feedback
  - Notebooks (samples were given for grades 2, 3 and 4)

Summary:

- ▶ Teachers are actively participating in the professional development literacy instruction.

- ▶ Teachers are instructing and assessing students at the higher end of their instructional level to promote progress and acceleration through levels.
- ▶ Teachers are using SBAC interim assessments to provide students with exposure to the rigor and reasoning required of the assessment.
- ▶ Teachers are actively collaborating, co-plan, co-teach with their grade level, PLC teams and resource teachers.
- ▶ Teachers are utilizing assessments such as IRLA, iReady and/or Acadience to pinpoint areas of strength and needs to develop targeted small group instruction
- ▶ Teachers continue to focus on accelerating student growth.

Jessica Cochrane, Elementary Math and Science Instructional Leader.

Mrs. Cochrane state that we are in our third year of Illustrative Mathematics (IM). IM is supported through the platform Imagine Learning Classroom (ilc).

- ▶ Equity
  - Embeds Supports and Extensions to Meet the Needs of All Students
  - This is a Rigorous, Problem-solving based Math Curriculum
- ▶ SEL
  - Supports Community-Building and Collaboration
- ▶ Mastery
  - Follows a Coherent Scope and Sequence that Builds Within and Across Grades
  - Focuses on Developing Deep Conceptual Understanding

K-5 Department Math Goals:

The Focus: Problem-Solving Based Model through Coaching Individual Teachers

The Focus: Conceptual Understanding through Grade Level Building Teams

The Focus: Deepening Teacher Content Knowledge through PLC District Teams

Ms. Cochrane showed a visual of Illustrative Mathematics Student Work Grade 5 Decimals—Place Value Understanding

- ▶ Math Growth At/Above Benchmark
  - Grades 1-2 made 60% to 74% Math growth from September to January. An increase of 14%
  - Grades 3-5 made 61% to 69% Math growth from September to January. An increase of 8%

Science:

In Science, we continue to do our work towards Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) to guide instruction. NGSS integrated three dimensions of Science. NCGG is inquiry based (similar to Math) and allows for student led exploration of concepts while following the five E models, *Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate and Evaluate*.

Mrs. Cochrane then discussed Mystery Science Units by grade level, Grade 5 Chemical Magic—Acid Test (working with chemicals to determine which are acids). Students also learn about Ecosystems and the food web, water cycle and Earth’s systems, stars and the solar system and chemical reactions and properties. Grade 2 Honeybees—Students learn about the four stages of a bee’s life cycle, what’s inside the hive and honey bee body parts.

Ms. Cochrane also spoke about Camp Invention which will be return in 2024. It is year 4 of the National Inventors Hall of Fame Camp Invention in Plainville. It is a week-long exploration of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math offered to 80 students



entering Grades 5 and 6. The camp infuses collaboration, exploration and discovery through hands-on STEAM activities.

Ms. Cochrane then called upon Toffolon Principal Alicia Atterrato who gave a brief overview of Plainville Community Connections to the district's three elementary schools.

Mrs. Atterrato stated that some of the Plainville Community Connections include:

- ▶ Fire Department Visits
- ▶ Police Department (D.A.R.E. programs)
- ▶ PHS Students (reading to younger students)
- ▶ Public Library Partnership
- ▶ Reading Partners
- ▶ Mentor Program
- ▶ World Read Aloud Day
- ▶ Plainville Food Pantry

Area Community Connections:

- ▶ Main Street Foundation (grant funding) i.e., the Toffolon garden
- ▶ Partnering with Local Farms (school cafeterias)
- ▶ NBC30 (meteorologists come in to teach about the weather)
- ▶ CCSU Mentors
- ▶ Miss Connecticut USA (mentoring)

Family and Caregiver Involvement

- ▶ Pre-K Preview will begin
- ▶ Kindergarten Kick-off
- ▶ Music in Our Schools
- ▶ Veteran's Day Activities
- ▶ Monster Dash/Color Run (organized by three physical education teachers)
- ▶ PTO Participation and Events
- ▶ SeeSaw (electronic communication) and School Newsletters

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Reas thanked the elementary team for the in-depth reporting. He stated that he is most appreciative of the work they have done.

Mr. Reas stated that he and fellow administrators are heading to a job fair next week. He is also looking to have the Board approve the district's Diversity Plan. He then asked Assistant Superintendent, David Levenduski, to share some of the work being done around the plan.

Mr. Levenduski stated that in December, 2023 the Board of Education approved the policy that went along with the Diversity Plan. This is a legislative mandate for diversifying the workforce for all districts and this was also a part of the district's Strategic Plan. As part of the equity work, and with the population changing in Plainville, they are looking to have more staff that represents the families that are served. He stated that this is not something the district has been working towards due to legislation, it has been an ongoing process that the district has been working toward. With the policy that was approved as a Board of Education, a plan was tied to that policy. The policy was to develop a plan for the State. The plan that was shared electronically this past week is the plan developed based on a year-long pilot that the

district went through with the State. The State had contracted a company called *Wested*. The district has been doing more work with this company regarding climate and culture in our secondary schools this year. With the help of *Wested* and the State, Lily Cornielle, Stacy Buden, and Mr. Levenduski attended multiple meetings to create a pilot plan. Then, two weeks ago the State gave districts a difficult template to incorporate the plan by March 15, which is why it is coming to the Board this evening for approval. The district had developed the plan they thought they were going to send. However, the State is looking for a more intensive, deeper strategies-based plan with a timeline.

This is a draft copy going to the State. The State has until May to review all of the district plans. If they find that there's something missing or if they would like us to revise something they will send it back. We will then need to resubmit the plan by mid-May. So, the Board may see it again. But we are hoping it is approved as is. There was nothing different in the plan that wasn't already outlined in our Strategic Plan, with the help of our community partners and the Board of Education being a part of that process. This is work we are already committed to. We have different recruiting fairs, more than we've ever had before, to try to get Plainville's name out there and to show what a great district we have and to try to attract great new educators into our district. We are also trying to create some "grow your own" programs, not only with staff we have currently, but with non-certified staff. The district does a lot better as employers of color in our non-certified staff than certified staff. We have a lot of talent in our non-certified pool and we're trying to build a program that will encourage some of our non-certified staff to take that path into a certified position. We'll help them with special learning, what path to take to get certified, and maybe help with certification in some instances. We also have an *Educator's Rising* program that was started at the High School. Our teacher-of-the-year Mikayla Wells is leading that program. She also teaches one of our UCONN Education courses for our students and also does *Educator's Rising* which has its own curriculum. With that, they have had field trips to colleges, as well as trips to some schools to see students in action. This is a program we are trying to push into our Pathways program to get more kids involved, starting from a young age to High School. We hope that they will understand that education is a great Pathway as well. Discussion ensued.

## **VIII. BOARD SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Finance and Finance Subcommittee Report—No Report**

### **B. Policy Subcommittee Report**

Mrs. St. Lawrence reported that the Policy Subcommittee met on February 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss the following policies and regulations. These policies are now in their 1<sup>st</sup> reading for Board of Education approval.

Policy 4030-Personnel: Section 504/ADA--Modified

Policy 1100-Community Relations: Non-Discrimination (Community)--Modified

Policy 5145.8-Students: Non-Discrimination (Students)—Modified

Policy 4010-Personnel: Non-Discrimination (Personnel)—Modified

Policy 5112-Students: New Kindergarten Age Requirements—Modified

Policy 6146-Instruction: Graduation Requirements—Discussion only

### **C. Curriculum Subcommittee Report**

Mrs. Martinez stated that the Curriculum Subcommittee will meet at the end of the month of March.

### **D. Outreach Subcommittee Report—No Report**

- E. PAC Liaison--Plainville High School Report**  
 The next meeting of the PHS PAC took place on March 13<sup>th</sup>.  
 --A Bottle and Can Drive fundraiser will take place on April 20 from 10 AM to 2 PM at the High School.  
 --The remaining PAC meeting will be held on May 8 in the PHS Learning Commons at 7 PM.
- F. PTO Liaison--Toffolon Elementary School Report**  
 Mrs. Martinez reported that the next Toffolon PTO meeting will be held on March 14<sup>th</sup>.  
 --The PTO is looking for volunteers for their annual Scholastic Book Fair. If interested please contact a Toffolon PTO member.
- G. PTO Liaison--Linden Street Elementary School Report**  
 Mrs. Clark stated that the next Linden PTO meeting will take place on March 13 at 6 PM.  
 --The PTO will be sponsoring their Lucky Leprechaun Bingo Night on March 14. More information will follow at the next BOE meeting
- H. PTC Liaison--Middle School of Plainville Report**  
 The MSP PTC did not meet in February due to inclement weather. Mrs. St. Lawrence reported that the MSP PTC will meet on March 14 at 7 PM in the Middle School Library.
- I. PTO Liaison--Wheeler Elementary School Report**  
 Mrs. Lauria reported on the following on behalf of Mrs. Buchanan:  
 ► The Wheeler PTO will sponsor their first ever APEX Fun Run on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. This will be the largest fundraiser of the year. If you would like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact the Wheeler PTO at [wheelerschoolpto@gmail.com](mailto:wheelerschoolpto@gmail.com). Volunteers are needed for counting laps, making sure cones stay in place and cheering on the runners.  
 ► The next meeting will take place on Thursday, March 14 from 6-7 PM in the Wheeler Library.
- J. CREC Council Report—No Report**
- K. Chairperson's Report**  
 Mrs. Tyrrell stated that she was able to listen to the Town-Wide Band Concert on March 7. She stated that the concert starts with the younger grades and builds up to the High School aged students. It was a lot of fun and was well attended. She commented that it was nice that PHS Band Director Dominic Talotta was recognized. He's a shining star for the district.

Mrs. Tyrrell also thanked everyone for the Board Appreciation gifts. She stated that the Director of CAGE was interviewed on TV recently and she spoke about Board of Education members and how it is a completely volunteer organization. Board members are the largest civic group of volunteers that are in the State of Connecticut. She was advocating for people to join the BOE in their own cities/towns. Mrs. Tyrrell stated that she sent a really nice message to the public.

Lastly, the much-awaited MSP Renovation vote will be held on Tuesday, March 19 from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Fire House. She referred everyone to the website for needed information.

## IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS--None

### X. NEW BUSINESS

#### A) Board Open Forum

Foster White stated that one of the PCS music teachers here at PHS found out that approximately 5% of the choral students had never attended a musical theater production. Mr. Helming applied for a couple of grants and will now be taking students to the Bushnell to see a live production of the Wicked and South Pacific, which introduces some of the real issues of racism.

Mr. White stated that as he walked in the door of the VEX Robotics competition at the MSP, unfortunately one of the devices rolled off the table and fell to the floor and broke. The three-member team didn't panic, didn't throw any accusations, they sat right down and put each one of the five characteristics of Portrait of the Graduate into play. They collaborated, they communicated together, they were mindful in that no one tried to find fault as to who did it, they sat down to get it done, they were resilient because they could have just fallen to pieces because they were in a good place for an honor of a certain theme and they received that honor eventually, and they were innovative. They only had 30 minutes to get the work done, they got the device up and working and back into the competition. That is one of the unsung values of our VEX Robotics program. Mr. White stayed in the room the full amount of time and watched the students fix the device. He stated that these are the kinds of things he feels are outstanding about Plainville Community Schools. He also included the work being done at the elementary schools as presented at this evening's meeting. He commented that it was an outstanding report.

Jered Bruzas thanked the elementary team who did a wonderful job on the elementary strategic report, as it was great to see their commitment and passion. He stated that the sense of passion was definitely evident in the presentation. It's exciting to see the excitement on your faces as you are presenting, the great care for your students, and the skills that you have. It is great to see that passion and it is evident in the work that's happening and the work being done in the classrooms. Thank you for the great things that you do, both seen and unseen.

#### B) Quarterly Special Education Cost Report (October, January, March and June)

Mr. Adlerstein stated that he is forecasting (\$120,444) unfavorable to the budget. The difference between this and the last report is due to additional placements. Each of the four students who were homebound during some of the past several weeks have now been placed. The difficulty in finding adequate placements is an unusual situation due to an abundance of students with high needs across the state.

#### C) Turf Committee Report (September and May)—No Report

#### D) Revised Policy No. 4030: Personnel: Section 504/ADA—1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 4030: PERSONNEL: SECTION 504/ADA. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

#### E) Revised Policy No. 1100: Community Relations: Non-Discrimination—1<sup>st</sup> Reading

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 1100: COMMUNITY RELATIONS: NON-DISCRIMINATION. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

- F) Revised Policy No. 5145.8: Students: Non-Discrimination--1st Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 5145.8: STUDENTS: NON-DISCRIMINATION. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**
- G) Revised Policy No. 4010: Personnel: Non-Discrimination—1st Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 4010: PERSONNEL: NON-DISCRIMINATION. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**
- H) Revised Policy No. 5112: Students: Ages of Attendance—1st Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 5112: STUDENTS: AGES OF ATTENDANCE. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**
- I) Request for Bid Waiver to Extend the Lease and Maintenance Agreements for District Photocopiers**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO RENEW THE EXISTING COPIER LEASE AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AS DESCRIBED DURING THE MARCH 11, 2024 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING. REBECCA MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

- J) *Request Approval of Educator Diversity Plan*  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE APPROVE THE EDUCATOR DIVERSITY PLAN, WHICH IS A REQUIRED PART OF BOARD POLICY NO. 4003, INCREASING EDUCATOR DIVERSITY PLAN, WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON DECEMBER 11, 2023 AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION ADHERE TO THE STATE SUBMISSION DATE OF MARCH 15, 2024. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7 YES VOTES AND 1 ABSTENTION. ROBERTA LAURIA ABSTAINED FROM VOTING.**

**XI. CONSENT AGENDA—Board Approval**

- (A) Budget Object Summary
- (B) Food Service Report
- (C) Check Registers
- (D) Revised Regulation No. 1100 Community Relations: Non-Discrimination
- (E) Revised Regulation No. 5145.8 Students: Non-Discrimination
- (F) Revised Regulation No. 4010 Personnel: Non-Discrimination
- (G) Revised Regulation No. 5112 Students: Ages of Attendance
- (H) Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers

- (D) HR Report (Informational Item)
- (E) Private Donation for the month of February (Informational Item)
  - There were no private donations for the month of February

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. REBECCA MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. REBECCA MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,



Joan Calistro

Recorder of Minutes

**REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF THE PLAINVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT  
SUMMARY OF MOTIONS  
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024**

**2613. A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO ADD APPROVAL OF THE EDUCATOR DIVERSITY PLAN TO THIS EVENING'S AGENDA UNDER NEW BUSINESS, SECTION X., ITEM J. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY REBECCA MARTINEZ. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**III. Approval of Minutes:**

**2614. A MOTION WAS MADE BY REBECCA MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING OF FEBRUARY 12, 2024 AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**2615. A MOTION WAS MADE BY REBECCA MARTINEZ TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD'S SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2024 (POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE) AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY FOSTER WHITE. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**X. New Business:**

**2616. Revised Policy No. 4030: Personnel: Section 504/ADA—1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 4030: PERSONNEL: SECTION 504/ADA. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**2617. Revised Policy No. 1100: Community Relations: Non-Discrimination—1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 1100: COMMUNITY RELATIONS: NON-DISCRIMINATION. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**2618. Revised Policy No. 5145.8: Students: Non-Discrimination--1st Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 5145.8: STUDENTS: NON-DISCRIMINATION. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**2619. Revised Policy No. 4010: Personnel: Non-Discrimination—1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 4010: PERSONNEL: NON-DISCRIMINATION. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**2620. Revised Policy No. 5112: Students: Ages of Attendance—1<sup>st</sup> Reading  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO POSTPONE THE APPROVAL OF POLICY NO. 5112: STUDENTS: AGES OF ATTENDANCE. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**2621. Request for Bid Waiver to Extend the Lease and Maintenance Agreements for District Photocopiers**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO AUTHORIZE THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO RENEW THE EXISTING COPIER LEASE AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AS DESCRIBED DURING THE MARCH 11, 2024 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING. REBECCA MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**2622. *Request Approval of Educator Diversity Plan***

***A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE APPROVE THE EDUCATOR DIVERSITY PLAN, WHICH IS A REQUIRED PART OF BOARD POLICY NO. 4003, INCREASING EDUCATOR DIVERSITY PLAN, WHICH WAS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ON DECEMBER 11, 2023 AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION ADHERE TO THE STATE SUBMISSION DATE OF MARCH 15, 2024. JERED BRUZAS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED 7 YES VOTES AND 1 ABSTENTION. ROBERTA LAURIA ABSTAINED FROM VOTING.***

**XI. Consent Agenda—Board Approval**

- (A) Budget Object Summary
- (B) Food Service Report
- (C) Check Registers
- (D) Revised Regulation No. 1100 Community Relations: Non-Discrimination
- (E) Revised Regulation No. 5145.8 Students: Non-Discrimination
- (F) Revised Regulation No. 4010 Personnel: Non-Discrimination
- (G) Revised Regulation No. 5112 Students: Ages of Attendance
- (H) Non-Renewal of Non-Tenured Teachers
- (D) HR Report (Informational Item)
- (E) Private Donation for the month of February (Informational Item)
  - There were no private donations for the month of February

**2623. A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED. REBECCA MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0.**

**XII. Adjournment**

**2624. A MOTION WAS MADE BY FOSTER WHITE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. REBECCA MARTINEZ SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.**