

**PALMYRA BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
March 26, 2013**

1. The meeting of the Palmyra Board of Education was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

The Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of the public bodies, at which time any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Palmyra Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, place and purpose thereof posted at Palmyra Borough Hall, the high school library bulletin board, and board offices; mailed to the Palmyra Borough Clerk, Burlington County Times, Courier Post, Philadelphia Inquirer, and the Trend on March 14, 2013.

2. Moment of Silent Meditation
3. Salute to the Flag
4. Roll Call

Mr. Keith Austin  
Ms. Nancy Brett, Vice President  
Ms. Valerie R. Flournoy  
Mrs. Lori Gilmore  
Mr. John Gural  
Mrs. Mary L. Holloway  
Mr. John Kay  
Mr. Stanley Ozalis, President  
Mr. John Quigg  
Mr. Scott Warnock, Riverton Representative  
Ms. Dale Thompson, Beverly Representative  
Ms. Irene Farinas, Student Representative

Present: Mr. Austin, Ms. Brett, Ms. Flournoy, Ms. Gilmore, Mr. Gural, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Kay, Mr. Ozalis, Mr. Quigg, Ms. Thompson

Absent: Ms. Farinas, Mr. Warnock

Following the roll call it was noted that Mr. Warnock was unable to attend the meeting as he was fulfilling his responsibility to the Riverton Board of Education which was also in session at this time.

5. WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et. Seq. (Open Public Meetings Act) provides that the *Palmyra Board of Education* may exclude the public from that portion of the meeting at

which the *Board of Education* discusses certain matters as set forth in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12; and

WHEREAS, the following subjects shall be discussed on this date in a session of the *Board* closed to the public:

**Personnel, Negotiations, Legal**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the aforesated meeting shall be closed to the public for the reasons set forth above, in accordance with the *OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the discussion in closed session will be disclosed to the public at such time as it is no longer necessary to maintain the confidential nature of the items discussed.

Adjourned to Executive Session 7:05 p.m.

A motion to adjourn to executive session was made by: Ms. Flournoy and seconded by Ms. Gilmore.

Motion: Ms. Flournoy  
Second: Ms. Gilmore  
Vote: Unanimous

A motion to reopen the public session was made by Mr. Quigg and seconded by Ms. Gilmore.

Motion: Mr. Quigg  
Second: Ms. Gilmore  
Vote: Unanimous

Returned to public session 7:36 p.m.

6. Return from Executive Session
7. Presentation of the 2013/2014 School Budget

Mr. McBride and Mr. Blatchley presented information pertaining to the 2013-2014 Budget.

8. Recognition of Palmyra residents wishing to speak on agenda items.
  - Ms. Butler asked questions regarding the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants. She then went on to express her opinion on a number of other issues.
  - An un-named resident spoke asking who she might be able to present funding ideas to.
  - Ms. Saracino asked questions concerning the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.

- Ms. Van Artsdale spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Student D.V. spoke to the question of proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants. He noted the support provided to him by Ms. Morrison.
- Un-named student spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Student T.E. spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Ms. Gould spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Mr. Bostock inquired as to whom in prior budget years has made the recommendation to not increase the tax levy.
- Ms. Franecki spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants. She noted that if the Board went forward with this action she would file for due process and see the district in court.
- Student D.H. spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Ms. Sanders spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Ms. DeJoseph spoke to the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Students S.D. spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Mr. Jacobs spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Ms. Russell spoke to the question of the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
- Ms. Saracino spoke to the question of other proposed staff reductions.
- Ms. Foster, President, Palmyra Education Association
  - Declared that Health Benefits Contributions which would be paid by association members in 2013-2014 were not accounted for in the budget.
  - Mentioned the possibility of solar power revenue.
  - Suggested that administrators should write grants.
  - Ms. Foster disputed the estimates that were used to estimate the budget as it related to the proposed outsourcing of teacher assistants.
  - Classroom supplies and materials had been cut to nothing in the past and we can do so again.
  - Noted the outpouring of support for the teacher assistants.

## 9. Old Business

Full      **9.01**      BE IT RESOLVED that Mr. John Geisel is hereby appointed as the Head Football Coach for the 2013/2014 school year (stipend subject to the negotiated agreement).

The Board discussed the recommendation to hire Mr. Geisel as head football coach. Ms. Holloway asked some questions regarding the experience noted in Mr. Geisel's resume. Mr. McBride and Mr. Ozalis spoke to Ms. Holloway's questions. Mr. Gural then asked Mr. Geisel a number of questions to which Mr. Geisel replied. Discussion was closed.

Motion: Ms. Flourmoy

Second: Ms. Thompson

Ayes: (7) Ms. Brett, Ms. Flourmoy, Ms. Gilmore, Mr. Gural, Mr. Ozalis, Mr. Quigg, Ms. Thompson

Nays: (3) Mr. Austin, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Kay

Abstentions: (0) none

## 10. New Business

### 10.01 Personnel

#### A. Appointment

Full BE IT RESOLVED that Ms. Cynthia Pierson is hereby approved as an emergency hire as a 1:1 aide at Palmyra High School for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year for 3 hours/day x 5 days/week at a salary not to exceed \$1,901.00 (\$10.56/hr.), effective March 18, 2013.

Motion: Ms. Gilmore

Second: Ms. Flournoy

Ayes: (10) Mr. Austin, Ms. Brett, Ms. Flournoy, Ms. Gilmore, Mr. Gural, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Kay, Mr. Ozalis, Mr. Quigg, Ms. Thompson

Nays: (0) none

Abstentions: (0) none

### 10.02 School District Budget 2013/2014

Full BE IT RESOLVED that the 2013/2014 budget, as reviewed and approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools, be approved and adopted as submitted.

	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>LOCAL TAX LEVY</u>
General Fund	\$14,547,351	\$7,586,443
Special Revenue Fund	\$422,461	
Debt Service Fund	<u>\$1,176,918</u>	<u>\$967,890</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,146,730</b>	<b>\$8,554,333</b>

Ms. Brett highlighted the fact that there were staff reductions other than teachers assistants included in the proposed budget. She then reiterated the Boards position that it was open to hearing thoughts and ideas from all stake holders.

Motion: Ms. Flournoy

Second: Ms. Thompson

Ayes: (10) Mr. Austin, Ms. Brett, Ms. Flournoy, Ms. Gilmore, Mr. Gural, Ms. Holloway, Mr. Kay, Mr. Ozalis, Mr. Quigg, Ms. Thompson

Nays: (0) none

Abstentions: (0) none

Mr. McBride reiterated his earlier comments regarding the educational impact of the cost reductions. He then thanked his staff, the public and the Education Association for their work and efforts during this process.

11. Recognition of members of the public wishing to speak on additional items.

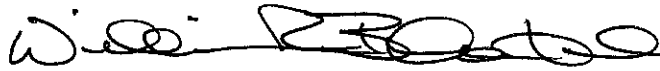
No members of the public wished to speak at this time.

12. Motion to adjourn

Motion: Mr. Brett  
Second: Mr. Quigg  
Vote: Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned 10:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Blatchley", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William R. Blatchley  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary