**PLYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
CENTRAL OFFICE
27 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06786

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Plymouth Public Schools is to challenge, inspire, and prepare all students for success in an ever-changing and complex world.

PLYMOUTH BOARD OF EDUCATION
**REGULAR MEETING**
TERRYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
33 NORTH HARWINTON AVENUE
TERRYVILLE, CT 06786

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026**

6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

PLYMOUTH, CT
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
RECEIVED FOR RECORD
2026 OCT 23 AM 10:49
TOWN CLERK

Present: Mrs. Kulesa, Chair, Mr. Bourbonniere, Vice-Chair, Mr. Perugino, Secretary. Members: Mrs. Tilton, Mr. Showers, Mr. Foote, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Corry, and Mrs. Allen

Also Present: Mr. Falcone, Superintendent, Mrs. Melillo, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Tencza, Business Manager

1. **Call to Order and Pledge to the Flag**

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair, calls the Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education of October 14, 2026, to order at 6 p.m. The group joins in the Pledge to the Flag.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adopt the agenda as presented.

Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, if none, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, Motion carries.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve the following minutes

(a) The minutes of the Special Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education Curriculum & Instruction Committee of September 3, 2026. Motion Mrs. Tilton, second Mr. Foote, any discussion, if none, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

(b) The minutes of the Special Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education AD HOC Policy Committee of September 3, 2026, Motion Mrs. Tilton, second Mrs. Palmer, any discussion, if none, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

(c) The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education of September 9, 2026. Motion Mr. Bourbonniere, second Mrs. Palmer, any discussion, if none, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries

4. **Student Representatives**

Eli Terry Jr. Middle School

Riley Murphy – Reported on the following:

Field Trip – October 2, 2026 – Sixty-three Eli Terry Jr. Middle School Band Students traveled to The Big E in West Springfield, Massachusetts.
Fall Sports – The fall season is coming to an end. The multiple athletes in the Cross Country Team finished in the top five spots. The team was invited to the McGee Invitational on October 17th and the State Championship on November 7th. The Boys' and Girls' Soccer teams made the BL playoffs which begin on October 22nd. The Girls' Volleyball team has a strong chance to qualify for Jr. NVL playoffs which begin on October 27th. All fall athletes will be honored at the Fall Pep Rally on October 30th.
Social Media Presentation – On October 1st, all grade levels were called to the library for a presentation from the Mia Fontana Foundation. Social Media use and screen-addition were discussed.

Julia Matuszczak – Reported on the following:

Field Trip – October 2, 2026 – A group of students from the Middle School Technology Education Program attended an informative open house at Lauretano Sign Group as part of this year's Manufacturing Day Events.
High School Choices – Eighth grade students are already starting to think about high school. There are upcoming events for students to explore various options and opportunities. On the morning of October 15th, representatives from Oliver Wolcott and Lakeview will visit the middle school to give a presentation to interested students. Many schools are offering open house events throughout the fall. On Monday November 23rd, the entire eighth grade class will visit the high school for a tour of the school and learn about different programs the school offers.
Clubs – Clubs are in action with many students finding joy in participating in these after school activities. One can see posters throughout the halls and foyer, artwork covering the walls and members of the Leo Club selling bracelets for cancer awareness to help raise money for donations.

Terryville High School

Tianna Avallone - Excused
Aria Roth-Perreault - Excused

5. **Presentations** – Mr. Falcone, Superintendent

(a) Plymouth Board of Education Shared Space Proposal
Mr. Falcone's PowerPoint presentation mirrored exactly what was done at the Town Council Meeting last week for the Town Council. The presentation showed the only space that makes the most sense would be the library at Eli Terry Jr. Middle School which would be secure for students, separate from the Town and would have the least impact on the school and the most impact on the Town.

| | |
|---|---|
| Impact on the School District: | Loss of one classroom, as the library would be moved to the largest Classroom and the middle school baseball would be placed at Harry S. Fisher Elementary School. |
| Impact on the Town: | Additional office space, new community room, larger senior center, and storage, if appropriate. |

Again, Mr. Falcone indicated this was only a proposal. This is a Board decision. There is a motion on the table tonight for the Board. Basically, the motion is to explore the feasibility of utilizing a portion of Eli Terry Jr. Middle School for Town purposes. All this would need to be agreed upon by the Board.

There is going to be a motion on the table tonight to explore the feasibility of utilizing a portion of Eli Terry Jr. Middle School for town purposes.

Under Unfinished Business, The Board has the following three options regarding Share Space:

Motion Approved – Town would be given permission to look at how they can utilize the space. If approved, a MOU would be prepared later.

Motion – Denied – Conversation over. We move on and the library remains where it is.

Motion Tabled – Have a community meeting. Item will be placed on an Agenda at a Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education after the Community Meeting.

Public Comment follows the presentation. However, protocol, the Board did not address questions during public comment, but considering the topic of Shared Space, and only Shared Space, provided the Board agrees clarification, Mr. Falcone will address questions.

6. **Public Comment**

(a) In-person public comment (limited to 2-minutes per speaker)
Mrs. Kulesa, Chair – Mr. Falcone will address questions regarding Shared Space only. All other comments will be addressed separately per phone call.

Rick Donnelly, 22 Sandra Avenue – Suggested the Board research additions to school in Stratford, CT. Mr. Falcone indicated Mr. Donnelly was correct. Explained, the Board was only considering if it would give or not give space to the Town. The Town would then need to figure out what to do.

Rafal Matuszczak, 79 Todd Hollow Road – Inaudible. Individuals on school grounds. Mr. Falcone indicated there was building security at both the middle and high schools.

Marty Sandshaw, 7 Richmond Drive – Indicated the town is in dire need of space. Asked the Board to at least move this item forward and to look at it. They do not need to make a decision. At least move forward for a discussion.

Melanie Church, 329 Main Street – Bond Rate is a double negative: Town does not have the money; two cruisers were approved for the police department, they got six. Where did the change come from, sixty-five acres on where the high school is. Put a senior section and a kid's section where the fire department is; sell the ambulance corps and look at what can be done with what we have.

(b) Remote public comment (please go to www.plymouth.k12.ct.us for instructions on how to participate)

None

7. **Unfinished Business**

(a) Shared Use of Eli Terry Jr. Middle School Building

After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: In the interests of working collaboratively with the Town of Plymouth (the "Town"), and maximizing the efficient use of Town and Board facilities, MOVED that the Board invite the Town, in coordination with the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee, to explore the feasibility of utilizing a portion of Eli Terry Jr. Middle School for Town purposes, provided that any such use would be subject to the development and finalization of a mutually acceptable agreement between the Board and the Town.

Motion Mr. Bourbonniere, second Mr. Showers. There was no further discussion prior to the Roll Vote,

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair, called for a Roll Call Vote:

| | Yes | No | Abstain |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mrs. Tilton | | x | |
| Mr. Showers | | x | |
| Mr. Foote | | x | |
| Mrs. Palmer | | x | |
| Mrs. Corry | | x | |
| Mrs. Allen | | x | |
| Mr. Perugino | | x | |
| Mr. Bourbonniere | | x | |

YES (in favor) - NONE NO (not in favor) - 8 ABSTAIN - NONE

Motion: Fails

(b) Second Read of Proposed Policy Revisions & New Policy

There was a brief discussion prior to the motion.

Policy Revisions

Series 3000 – Business
- P-3008 Meal Charging Policy
  Collection of Unpaid Meal Charges

Series 4000 – Personnel
- P-4021 Personnel
  Faculty & Staff Dress

Series 5000 – Students
- P-5024 Students
  Student Privacy
- P-5031 Students
  Use of Private Technology Devices by Students

New Policy

Series 5000 – Students
- P-5038 Students
  E-Bikes and E-Scooters on School Property

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve the second read of Proposed Policy Revisions and New Policy as presented. Motion Mrs. Tilton, second Mr. Perugino, any further discussion, if none, all in favor, any opposed any abstentions, motion carries.

8. **Superintendent's Update**

Mr. Falcone apologized for repetitive some repetitive presentations, but he wanted to clarify information on some of the initiatives moving forward. Prior to sharing information on Global Partnership and the Boys and Girls Club Partnership.

Prior to the presentations, Mr. Falcone:

(a) thanked Bill and Anita Hamzy for their generous donation to the high school for their donation of $695.00. This money will be used to bring in Jesse Green, a motivational speaker, who will be presenting an assembly called chainsaws, Cheeseburgers & Rock n' Roll.

(b) Several staff members, parent, and Board members have brought the following to his attention:

Joe Hoxha, who is running for re-election to the Connecticut House of Representatives, has utilized a photo of our students in one of his campaign advertisements from when he visited our schools for

Read Across America Day. He has spoken to Mr. Hoxha who is making the appropriate adjustment to that advertisement to rectify this situation.

(c) Prior to the Board Meeting, Mr. Falcone sent out an email regarding something that occurred on one of our school buses that was absolutely unappropriated and unacceptable and was a safety concern. A parent boarded one of the buses, tried to take matters in their own hands in dealing and working with our children. This is not allowed, nor will it be tolerated. The police will be involved tomorrow as this is a clear safety issue.

Moving on to the presentations:

(1) Bristol Boys' and Girls' Club Partnership

Just to clarify any confusion or misunderstanding with respect to the partnership:

The Agreement

- Plymouth Public Schools
  Permits the Boys & Girls Club to offer Programs that do not conflict with Park & Recreation.
  Provides the use of buildings and grounds for programs at no cost.

- Boys & Girls Club
  Offers programs that meet community needs and do not conflict with Park & Recreation.
  Covers custodial costs when programs require custodians to work outside their scheduled hours.
  Assumes liability for the programs it operates.
  Covers all expenses associated with its programs.
  Collects program fees and pays its own staff to supervise their program.

Programs

(a) Before and After Care Program at Plymouth Center and Harry S. Fisher Elementary Schools.
(b) Flag Football Program (Grades 7 – 12).
(c) Theater Program (Grades 4 – 8).
(d) Fishing Program (Grades 4 – 8).
(e) Open Gym Program (PreK – Grade 1).
(f) Basketball Program (Grades 2 – 12).
(g) Wrestling Program (Kindergarten – Grade 8)

Future Program Considerations

Winter Programs – Art Club; Indoor Winter Soccer; Volleyball, Theater, Crochet and Karaoke

Spring Programs – Lacrosse, Field Hockey, Track & Field, and Frisbee Golf

(2) Global Learning Partnership with a sister school in Shandong China Province

Purpose of Trip – To immerse our students into a culture and country outside of our world and to enlighten and experience of another country.

Mr. Falcone reviewed the following:

Phase 1 – Plymouth Leadership Advance Delegation to China.
Phase 2 – Formalize Sister-School Relationship in Shandong Province.
Phase 3 – Shandong Student Delegation Hosted in Plymouth.
Phase 4 – Plymouth Student Learning Tour to China.
Next Step – Creating Our Advance Team to Visit China in March of 2027.

9. **New Business**

(a) Out-of-State Field Trip

MOTION: To entertain a motion to approve an out-of-state field trip for Terryville High School Juniors and Seniors in the World Language Department in Spanish 4 Honors and AP Spanish on March 23, 2027. to New York City (Repertoire Theater and Hudson Yards). Motion Mr. Showers, second Mrs. Tilton any discussion, if none, all in favor, any opposed any abstentions, motion carries.

(b) Harry S. Fisher Elementary School and Plymouth Center School Roof Project – Mr. Falcone, Superintendent (Presentation)

Phase 1: Harry S. Fisher Elementary School Roof

Cost Estimate:
* Architect
* Project Management
* Raising Units
*Roof Construction
*Materials

Additional Costs:
* Removal
* Reinstallation
* Lost Production of Solar Array

Estimated Replacement Cost = $ 4,150,000
Additional Costs = $ 350,000
Total Cost = $ 4,500,000

Fisher Roof Project State Reimbursement = $2,905,000

Phase 2: Plymouth Center School Roof

Cost Estimate:
* Architect
* Project Management
* Raising Units
* Roof Construction
* Materials

Additional Costs:
* Removal
* Reinstallation
* Lost Production of Solar Array

Estimated Replacement Cost = $2,600,000
Additional Costs = $ 230,000
Total Cost = $2,830,000

Pay for with Fisher School Roof Project State Reimbursement
PCS Roof Project State Reimbursement = $1,820,000

Total Cost To The Town

Original Board Request = $4,500,000

| | |
|---|---|
| Fisher Roof Cost | $4,500,000 |
| Fisher Roof Reimbursement | $2,905.000 |
| Plymouth Center Roof Cost | $2,830,000 |
| Plymouth Center Roof Reimbursement | $1,820,000 |

Total Cost of the Two School Roofs = $2,605,000
Amount Remaining In The Original Bond Request = $1,895,000

10. **Business Manager's Report and Personnel Report**

(a) Business Manager's Report- Mr. Tencza, Business Manager

- Included in the packet are the following – Accounts by Facilities Report for September 30, 2026, and 9 different submissions:

  (1 & 2) Business Office Activity Report & Negative Balance Explanation (reviewed at meeting)
  (3) Board of Education Summary through September 30, 2026
  (4) Monthly Budget Report, September 30, 2026
  (5) Cumulative Board of Education Budget Expenditures % by Month, September 2026 – 2027
  (6) Food Service Financial Performance Year-to-Date July 1, 2026 – September 30, 2026
  (7) Capital Improvement Needs 5-year Plan Updated September 30, 2026
  (Capital Projects Less Than $50,000 to be addressed through School Budget Funds or Sinking Fund Allocations)
  (8) Capital Improvement Needs 5-year Plan Updated September 30, 2026
  (Capital Projects In Excess of $50,000 to be submitted to the Town of Plymouth For Capital Expenditures Consideration)
  (9) Capital Projects Less Than $50,000 Completed or Approved in 2025 - 2026

- The Accounts by Facilities Report will be forwarded to the Town of Plymouth Board of Finance

(b) Personnel Report – Mr. Falcone, Superintendent

The district is looking for a Speech & Language Pathologist.
New position: Certified Nurse Assistant for students who our nurses need another hand with at certain times during the day.

11. **Public Comment**

(a) In-person public comment (limited to 2-minutes per speaker)
Melanie Church, 328 Main Street – Program for the kids. Cans and Bottles at the Dump and Transfer Station.

Mr. Sandshaw – 7 Richmond Drive, Comment: Roof problems need to be addressed now.

(b) Remote public comment (please go to www.plymouth.k12.ct.us for instructions on how to participate)

Stephanie Poulin, 29 Whitney Court – Shared Space Concerns and Comment: (a) causes alarm, especially if the town is using the space during the day; (b) undoing some of the protections that were put in place after Sandy Hook; and (c) although space will be secure, concern as to who is watching to make certain individuals leave, do not loiter when students are coming and going.
Comments: It only takes one dangerous person to cause a tragedy, the town and police department should be the ones solving the town hall and police department space issue, consider renting the Lyceum for community programming and students should not have to compromise their safety for space.

12. **Committee Reports**

(a) Curriculum & Instruction – Mrs. Tilton, Chair

The Curriculum & Instruction Committee met on Monday, October 5, 2026 @ 6 p.m. in the Central Office Conference Room and discussed the following topics:

- September Benchmark Data (IXL & DIBELS)
- Survey Results

- Firearm Safety Curriculum -Mrs. Tilton, Chair

**Note:** After a brief discussion on the Firearm Safety Curriculum item, Mrs. Tilton will make the following motion.

MOTION: To entertain a motion to move forward to the Board for adoption of the Firearm Safety Curriculum to be taught in grades 3, 6 and 9 with the understanding that parents have the option to exempt their child from firearm safety instruction in accordance with Connecticut Law (C.G.S. Section 10-18c). Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Bourbonniere, any further discussion, if none, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries,

Minutes of the Curriculum & Instruction Committee will be placed on the district website.

(b) Finance & Operations – Mr. Bourbonniere, Chair

The Finance & Operations Committee met on Monday, October 5, 2026 @ 6 p.m. in the Terryville High School Library and discussed the following topics:

- Finance:
  (a) Harry S. Fisher Elementary School roof repair is scheduled.

  (b) Mason Truck Body needs replacement. Possibly utilizing non-lapsing.

MOTION: To entertain a motion to move forward to the Board to allocate the sum of $30,000 from the non-lapsing account for replacement of the bed and surface restoration of the frame of the Mason Truck. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Perugino, discussion:

Mr. Boursonniere Opened Up This Topic for Discussion Prior to Motion Approval

Mrs. Palmer – Comments: Indicated she emailed Matt a quote that was sent to her today. However, it does not have the sandblasting or coating of the body. She is really concerned about the $30,000 coming out of the non-lapsing account with everything that is coming up, i.e., curriculum. She understands this is something the district needs but thinks the Board needs to look into other options then just to decide to take the money from the non-lapsing account.

Mr. Bourbonniere – Comment: The chassis needs to be sandblasted. It is showing signs of rust which all comes from the materials that are used in the wintertime, salt. The power coating that would be put on the truck is one that will resist what the salt is doing to that chassie. The dump body itself was a quote that Jim Mazon got from a company in Watertown. That was for a stainless-steel body and the undercoating. Mr. Bourbonniere asked Mrs. Palmer where her quote came from.

Mrs. Palmer – Response – It came from a company that does these bodies for Ford dealerships around the State of Connecticut.

Mr. Bourbonniere – Question: And what company is that?

Mrs. Palmer – Response – M & H Equipment in Litchfield.

Mr. Tencza – Indicated he needed to get a quote to see how much money was needed. He indicated we could absolutely look into other quotes before we get the work done. However, the only thing the work needs to be done prior to the beginning of the snowfall. The $30,000 is like every other quote we get. Whatever is left over goes back to the non-lapsing account. Mr. Tencza indicated the quote of $30,000, $22,000 (quote) and the $8,000 for power coating. He has not seen what Robin sent to him. He indicated other quotes can be obtained and as long as everything is comparable, he will go with the lowest price.

Mrs. Palmer – She indicated she did not know anything about the quoting so that is not on ..... But, $30,000

Mr. Tencza – A new dump truck is going to cost around $100,000. The one we have is 10 years old and has a mileage of 22,00 miles, which is low.

Mrs. Tilton – Thought the town salted. Is this for the sidewalks?

Mr. Tencza – Yes, the town will come through and salt when they have time. But they do not salt if we have a warm day of melting and then a freeze.

Mrs. Palmer – Can we reach out to the new highway department to see if that will change?

Mr. Tencza – Indicated he is cautious to response because there have been conversations as to what we get charged for.

Mrs. Palmer – In the town charter, entities cannot charge each other.

Mr. Falcone - We understand that. We have been provided with other documentation that says otherwise. That is not accurate. However, we are working through that. But we are in discussion about what we should not pay for as a school district because we are a town entity and we are town property. However, the reality of the situation we are currently in is that we need a salter to cover our grounds at this time.

Mrs. Tilton – Talking to Board Members and other communities, they typically have the town, such as Bristol, they do all of the mowing, plowing and all the sidewalks. She thinks we contribute a lot. Now we are paying to maintain the salting truck, too.

Mr. Tencza – The dump truck is used more than just for plowing.

Mr. Falcone – To be fair, the structure of other towns is not the structure of our town. Ours is very different. We do not have the town taking care of our fields. We pay got out fields being taken care of. It is something we have always done, and it is just the way it is. If the town decided to take care of our fields, all of that money we used to take care of our fields would go to the town for landscaping purposes. The town puts the snow removal out to bid. They do not have the manpower to take care of our grounds. So that goes out to bid. Again, those are other discussions we have had as well.

Mrs. Kulesa – Believes this is a safety issue. Should Mr. Falcone decides that at 4 o'clock in the morning we are going to have school and there is a part of the school parking lot that has not been gotten to and we can get to it to make it safe for our staff and students.

Mr. Falcone – The town does hire out. They have individuals working all night long to make certain the roads are safe. Sometimes, the last place they can get to is a school parking lot.

Mr. Perugino: Question to Mrs. Palmer: Do you have a personal connection with this company?

Mrs. Palmer: Response: We do not have to use this company. I just reached out to see what the average quote was.

Mr. Perugino – I did not ask you that. I asked if you had a personal connection with that company.

Mrs. Palmer's response: My husband works for it, yes. But that is not what the quote was done for, anyone.

Mrs. Allen suggested changing the motion to get three quotes and approval up to $30,000.00.

Board Member(s). I do not have a problem getting multiple quotes. I think we ought to do it personally. I think if we can get the multiple quotes. I think if we know this one quote was $30,000 and we can all agree that it is a little bit high. And we can say we would like to see a few and you have up to that amount. Get multiple quotes and we will approve up to $30,000.

Mr. Tencza – For the record, I always get multiple quotes. But this is the one I had at this point in time, otherwise……. (inaudible).

Mr. Falcone – I trust Matt, Mrs. Kulesa the same. If Matt has a quote that is better than $30,000 he is going to do the one that makes the most sense if there they are comparable. Mr. Falcone stated they are trusted with a $28,000,000 budget. We are talking about $30,000 truck that needs to be repaired. If it comes in at 22, or 21 or 33, I trust Matt and Jim make the right choice for that vehicle.

Mr. Bourbonniere to Mrs. Tilton – Working for the City of Bristol, the Board of Education had salt trucks. It is the same exact situation that sometimes he could not get to a certain school because he had other issues on the road. Usually, Boards of Education will have their own salt trucks. They will use the material offered by the city or town that they have.

**Note:** Mr. Bourbonniere made the following amended motion following the discussion:

AMENDED MOTION:

MOTION: To entertain a motion to move forward to the Board to allocate the sum of up to $30,000 from the non-lapsing account for replacement of the bed and surface restoration of the frame of the Mason Truck. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mrs. Allen,

Further Discussion:

Mr. Tencza – Feels the Board should know the following:

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|---|---|
| As of September 30, | $490,925.54 in the non-lapsing account |
| Committed to Tucker Mechanical for key pump at HSF (bill received & will be paid) | $130,324.54 |
| Balance | $360,601.09 |
| Mason Truck – bed & surface restoration | $ 30,000.00 |
| (assuming all is spent) Balance | $330,601.09 remaining balance |

Board member Question: What is needed for the Math & Reading Curriculum out of that fund that we are already ….. (inaudible)? We do not need both right away, right? It is within a short period of time.

Mr. Falcone – It is not a matter of a 5-year difference between both of them. He thinks it is a 2 or 3 year gap between the 2 programs. We have money within our budget to put towards it for textbooks and whatnot for a year.

Mrs. Palmer – She is not saying she does not trust you. But thinking further down the road, that we need money in that account that we currently do not have and every year the non-lapsing your % at the end of the year gets smaller and smaller and smaller. Putting that money back in if it keeps getting smaller and smaller we are not going to come up with, we are not going to have the money for the. We are adding positions to the budget, We are adding all this stuff and we had previously talked about the non-lapsing fund for the majority of those curriculums. If we keep taking from it, we are not going to have that money. I am not saying that I do not approve of the project and it does not.need to be done, I am just saying we need to look for someplace other than the non-lapsing fund.

Mr. Tencza – Where? If we had another place, we would not be having this conversation.

Mr. Perugino – The Pie is only so big.

Mrs. Palmer – It has been brought to our attention before that we need to watch the non-lapsing account for that.

Board Member – To your point, if you are saying well all these things need to be done. This one right now needs to be done. The curriculum we know is coming up and we need to save for it. But that is where we have to become creative.

Mr. Falcone – As Mr. Tencza noted, we are talking all the time of where we are. We have a lot of different initiatives moving forward and we have hired people and people are more expensive then they use to be. In the positions that we have lost and replaced we did not have the savings based on what those positions are. We are in a situation where, as Matt stated, we are concerned but not worried. He is not concerned about going to the budget at this time to address that. We have gone through the budget a few times and it is the same with the Global Partnership. We need to find a funding source. Identify where this is coming from until we have an analysis of exactly where we are this year, which we will have at the end of October, he is not comfortable going back to the well in the budget now until we see where we are. The Mason Truck is time sensitive. We know that we have the money in the non-lapsing account. We really do not know where else to go for the money. That is how our discussion ended up on the non-lapsing account.

If the Board is not comfortable with the non-lapsing account and they want us to go to the budget, we can. But he warned everyone that at some point he and Matt will need to make a decision about this budget and where we stand and we are going to have to make some challenging decisions how we finish this school year. Whether it be making adjustments to people's hours, to make sure that we do not end up in a bad place. That is their job. That is why the request is coming from that funding source because it is really not an option right now.

Mr. Bourbonniere – because the motion was amended:
any further discussion, if none, all in favor (7), opposed (1 – Mrs. Palmer), any abstentions (0) motion carries.

(c) Introducing P-Card Program: Discussion.

- Operations:
  (a) Reports for Eli Terry Jr. Middle School and Harry S. Fisher Elementary Roofs.
  (b) Harry S. Fisher Elementary School Sidewalks.
  (c) Plymouth Center School Sidewalks billing sent to Town Hall per Finance Director.

Possibility of Moving the Finance & Operations Committee Meeting – Discussion

Meetings: First Wednesday of the Month @ 6 p.m. Terryville High School Library

Minutes of the Finance & Operations Committee will be placed on the district website.

13. **Board Liaison Reports** – Mrs. Kulesa, Chair

Some items reported on:

Mrs. Palmer — Plymouth Center School
First fundraiser of the year was a success; bookfair/family hours October 27th & 28th

Mrs. Allen — Harry S. Fisher Elementary School
Bookfair week; family hour; Harlem Wizards upcoming game vs the school staff.

Mrs. Tilton — Eli Terry Jr. Middle School
Meeting on September 16th; various fundraisers were discussed; Nutmeg Spice Fundraiser; Transparency; and Fall Glow dance on November 6th.

Mr. Foote — Terryville High School
PTSA planning for Aftergrad; need families of the class of 2027 and also if possible, the class of 2027 to become involved; and Aftergrad is scheduled for June 8th.

Mr. Bourbonniere — EdAdvance
Received various information from EdAdvance and is aware of the dates for virtual and in person meetings.

14. **Board Comments** – Summary – Great discussions this evening; excited for the new things coming up for this school year; Boys and Girls Club Presentation – no cost to the district for the programs; thank you to everyone who attended the meeting to voice their opinions; sad news regarding the crossing guard who was killed in Meriden; possibility of a Golf Program through the Boys and Girls Club; China trip is not a vacation but rather a trip to learn about other countries; members of the public were thanked for attending the meeting whether it be in person or on-line; there is much work that needs to be done, i.e. roof projects which may cause a need for a referendum.

Mrs. Palmer suggested putting a Board Policy into effect if there is a transfer of money between accounts over a certain amount for Board approval. Although, there is a policy, a portion of which states: "shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the annual budget, Mr. Falcone suggested if some members feel 5% is high and a lower number needs to be presented, it can be brought before the Policy Committee. Board member Perugino strongly feels the Board would be micromanaging. The Administration retains responsibility for district operations which is finance and the day-to-day activities of the district. The Board should concentrate on policy and goal setting rather than being involved in the day-to-day activities. Day-to-day activities are for the business manager. Mrs. Tilton feels it is the Board of Education's fiscal responsibility. As elected officials, the Board needs to maintain the budget and to look out for the taxpayer's dollars. She feels the Board would not be micromanaging, and they should take their responsibilities seriously. This is a topic for the Policy Committee.

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair – Thanked the student represents from the middle school for their reports. Something she always looks forward to. Also, it is always nice to hear from the public whether it be in person or online.

15. **Next Board Meeting** –The next Regular Meeting of the Plymouth Board of Education is on Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria at Terryville High School.

16. **Executive Session Anticipated** – (Item to be discussed in Executive Session)

(a) Personnel Related Matter

MOTION: To entertain a motion to move into executive session at 8:23 p.m. for the purpose of interviewing the candidate for the possible appointment to the position of Assistant Principal of Elementary Special Education inviting Mr. Falcone, Superintendent; Mrs. Melillo, Assistant Superintendent, and the candidate.

Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Bourbonniere, all in favor, any opposed, any abstentions, motion carries.

17. Resume Regular Session

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair resumed regular session at 8:47 p.m.

18. **Possible Action From Executive Session** (if any)

MOTION: To entertain a motion to appoint Jessica McDonnell to the position of Assistant Principal of Elementary Special Education as discussed in executive session. MOVED FURTHER, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to finalize a contract on the Board's behalf as discussed in executive session. Motion Mr. Showers, second Mr. Perugino.

Mrs. Kulesa, Chair called for a Roll Vote:

| | Yes | No | Abstain |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mrs. Tilton | x | | |
| Mr. Showers | x | | |
| Mr. Foote | x | | |
| Mrs. Palmer | x | | |
| Mrs. Corry | x | | |
| Mrs. Allen | x | | |
| Mr. Perugino | x | | |
| Mr. Bourbonniere | x | | |

YES (in favor) 8 NO (not in favor) - 0 ABSTAIN - 0

Motion carries.

19. **Adjournment**

MOTION: To entertain a motion to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. Motion Mrs. Palmer, second, Mr. Foote, all in favor, motion carries.

Respectfully submitted

Patricia Piskorski

Patricia Piskorski
Recording Secretary
For the Plymouth Board of Education