

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

February 18, 2016
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called on February 18, 2016 at 6:30 p.m., at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30, 730 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Charlene Bathelus presented the following statement at 6:40 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education. Pursuant to New Jersey Statutes and the rules adopted by the Board of Education, notice of this meeting was sent to The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth on Friday, February 12, 2016. In addition, this notice is posted on the Bulletin Board in the lobby of 500 North Broad Street, and pursuant to this act, a copy has been filed with the City Clerk of Elizabeth.”

“I wish to extend a warm welcome to everyone present and to our television viewers to this February 18, 2016 meeting of the Board of Education. We are here to govern, provide management oversight, and make policy for the district. The Superintendent manages the district. This is a meeting of the Board in public, not a meeting of the public.”

“This meeting is being recorded and will become part of the Elizabeth Board of Education permanent record. In order that the recording will adequately reflect the proceedings, please refrain from talking while others are speaking. I also ask that you silence the sound on your electronic devices. Since it is legally mandated that these proceedings be accurately recorded, I may have to ask for order periodically should noise begin to interfere with our recording capabilities. I am pleased that you have taken time this evening to join us. Thank you for your interest in the Elizabeth Public Schools.”

“There will be a public portion for citizens to address the Board. Participants for the public portion must sign in prior to the commencement of public participation so that they may have the opportunity to speak. The sign-in sheet states the name, address, telephone number and reason that the person wants to comment, whether it is an agenda item or a general education comment.”

Present: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron (arr. 6:40 p.m.), Nina, Perreira (arr. 9:50 p.m.), Rodriguez, Trujillo (arr. 6:55 p.m.), Ms. Bathelus – 8

Absent: Mrs. Amin – 1

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer Ceden, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Francisco Cuesta, Comptroller William Greene, Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP, and members of the public were in attendance.

Ms. Bathelus spoke of the tremendous loss of the passing of Tyquan Henderson, student at Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 and called for a moment of silence.

Colors were presented during the Flag Ceremony by members of the Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy Marine Corps Junior R.O.T.C.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Diane Diaz, eighth grade student at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30.

The *Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key was performed by Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30 Choir and Band.

The Pledge of Ethics was led by Wilona Wiafe, seventh grade student at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30.

Ms. Bathelus thanked the parents for attending and thanked Principal Arlene Campbell for hosting tonight's Board meeting. Ms. Bathelus recognized City of Elizabeth Councilmen William Gallman and Carlos Torres and Union County Sheriff Joseph Cryan who were in attendance.

Ms. Bathelus introduced students in the Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30 Choir who performed *All the Pretty Little Horses* by Andy Beck. Ms. Bathelus thanked the students for a wonderful performance.

Ms. Bathelus introduced students in the Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30 Jazz Band who performed *Brother Mister* by Christian McBride with soloists Camila Osorio, alto sax; Mauro Ferreira, trumpet; Brandon Aguirre, baritone sax; and Sebastian Rodriguez, drums. Ms. Bathelus thanked the students for a wonderful performance.

Ms. Bathelus introduced physical education teacher at Jerome Dunn Academy School No. 9 and violinist Kwao Taylor who performed *Try* by Colbie Caillat. Ms. Bathelus thanked him for a wonderful performance.

Ms. Bathelus stated that she has embarked on the President's Tour in which she is visiting each school to introduce herself and observe the educational activities taking place among the students, teachers, and administrators. Ms. Bathelus stated that she has already had the opportunity to visit several district schools and introduced a video presentation of Week 2 of the President's Tour.

Mrs. Carvalho recognized students selected as peer leaders at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30 including Kayla Cardoza, Elias Castro, Lesley Cordova, Bianca DeBrito, Mauro Ferreira, Natalia Ibanez, and Josiah Lee, sixth grade; Christian Anguiano-Herrera, Shameckah Blye, Joseph Espinal, Fernanda Girelli, Leslie Morillo, Jesennia Ochoa, Catalina Rivas, Sebastian Rodriguez, Monserratt Romero, Melanie Saa, Franco Silva, Shauyib Uddin, and Wilona Wiafe, seventh grade; Samir Brand, Savvich DelAguila, Luis Diaz, Carlos Dutan, Jael Espinosa, Elijah Garcia, Elijah Guardarrama, Jordalin Herrera, Michelle Herrera, Kevin Howard, Allison Huerta, Junique Leak, Natalia Martinez, Sara Moustafa, Jadan Reyes, Sebastian Salazar, Daniel Santos, and Leanne Zavala, eighth grade. Mrs. Carvalho and Board members congratulated the students and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

Mr. Nina recognized Marco Coba, security guard at Winfield Scott School No. 2 for going above and beyond his job duties when he used his lunch time to help two students with their language arts reading assignment. Mr. Nina and Board members congratulated Marco Coba and presented him with a certificate of commemoration.

Miss Goncalves recognized team members from Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30 for their commitment to enriching students' academic experiences including Cory Banta, eighth grade language arts; Vanessa Beibide-Zanetich, special education teacher; Alexandra Cieslarczyk, prekindergarten teacher; Christine DeMattia, art teacher; Liliana Dias, 2016 Governor's Teacher of the Year; Catherine Donkersloot, prekindergarten teacher; Meredith Foreman, instrumental music teacher; Michael Hague, security guard; Rafael Lopez, fourth grade teacher; Karen Sheridan, nurse; and Wanda Vazquez, cook manager. Miss Goncalves and Board members congratulated them and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

Mr. Rodriguez recognized Union County Undersheriff Amilcar Colon who was in attendance. Mr. Rodriguez congratulated Ms. Bathelus for her initiatives and stated that over the last month she has visited every school and attended all the committee meetings while having a full time job and also teaching at the college.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced Principal Arlene Campbell to speak about the leadership initiatives at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30.

Arlene Campbell, Principal of Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30, stated that she is proud of the students and staff and every day they practice the *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* by Stephen Covey.

Mr. Rodriguez recognized staff members of the Lighthouse Team at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30 who are working to create young leaders in the school community. Mr. Rodriguez recognized Principal Arlene Campbell, Vice Principal Avis Roper, Christine DeMattia, art teacher; Liliana Dias, ESL teacher; Meredith Foreman, instrumental music teacher; Vanessa Hernandez, eighth grade teacher; Lauren Herrmann, sixth grade teacher; Elizabeth Howard, first grade teacher; Ericka King, second grade teacher; Milena Maya, third grade teacher; and Colleen Perez, kindergarten teacher. Mr. Rodriguez and Board members congratulated the staff members and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

Mr. Rodriguez introduced community advocate James Carey, Elizabeth City Councilman Carlos Torres, and Malik Jackson. Mr. Rodriguez stated that in Flint, Michigan there is a humanitarian crisis with the water. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the three gentlemen are coordinating an effort to collect water and ship it to the residents of Flint, Michigan. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he hopes the entire community can be part of this and tonight they are collecting donations of water which can be sent to the Center, 161 First Street, near School No. 28. Mr. Rodriguez stated that as a sign of support for what they do for our community the nine members of the Board of Education would like to donate ten cases of water. Mr. Rodriguez stated that it is just a small appreciation for what they do.

Mr. Neron recognized African American members of our community who have contributed to the growth, vitality, and cultural richness of Elizabeth and to make our City a better and safer place to live and grow including Charlotte Brown, United Youth of New Jersey; Yolanda Eady Perkins, Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Committee of Elizabeth; Krishna Garlic, Elizabeth Branch NAACP; James Carey, community advocate; William Gallman, Elizabeth City Councilman; Patricia Perkins-Auguste, Civic Association; Walter Horne, Elizabeth Fire Department; Darius Jennings, Elizabeth Fire Department; Detective Darrin Williamson, Elizabeth Police Department; Detective Lean Davis, Elizabeth Police Department; Detective Douglas Fields, Elizabeth Police Department; Detective Gerson Jean-Marie, Elizabeth Police Department; Detective Richard Soso, Elizabeth Police Department; Officer Lateef Banks, Elizabeth Police Department; Sergeant Rodney Dorilus, Elizabeth Police Department; Sergeant Tracey Finch, Elizabeth Police Department; and Sergeant Romana Cannon, Elizabeth Police Department. Mr. Neron and Board members congratulated them and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer stated that recently the Elizabeth Board of Education and the New Jersey State Police held its 5th Annual Coat Drive. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that each year students are selected to receive a coat due to the generous donations of various entities and patrons. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that approximately 520 students were recipients of brand new winter coats during this year's coat drive and once again the success of the coat drive was driven by a tremendous collaboration. Mrs. Hugelmeyer recognized the outstanding efforts and generosity of those who participated in this year's coat drive including Union County Sheriff Joseph Cryan and Undersheriff Amilcar Colon; Chief Tom McNamara, Captain Frank Mann, and firefighter Mike Guarino, Elizabeth Fire Department; Chief Patrick

Shannon, Officer Alexander Gonzalez, Officer and President of the Hispanic Law Enforcement Association of Union County Luis DeMondo, Officer and member of the Hispanic Law Enforcement Association of Union County Jennifer Perez, Elizabeth Police Department; Managers Felix Hernandez and Lisa Day, Wakefern Corporation; Tara Keenan, Jazmin Matos, and Jason Van Nutt, Old Navy of Holmdel Commons, Menlo Park Mall, and The Mills at Jersey Gardens; Lieutenant Fritz Frage, Trooper Nydia Cubero, Trooper Quaron Crenshaw, Trooper Reinaldo Cruz, Jr., New Jersey State Police; Jennifer Lozano, 2013 Graduate of New Jersey State Police Trooper Youth Week Program, and Orlando E. Diaz, Jr., U.S. Marines. Mrs. Hugelmeyer and Board members congratulated them and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

New Jersey State Police Trooper Reinaldo Cruz, Jr. thanked the Board and stated that the Marshall C. Brown Chapter of the National Black State Trooper Coalition of the New Jersey State Police has been running the coat drive in the cities of Newark, Camden, and Trenton for twelve years. Trooper Reinaldo Cruz, Jr. stated that he wanted to help in Elizabeth with community outreach and started the coat drive five years ago here in the City with the help of his sergeant. Trooper Cruz thanked the staff, administration, students, everyone he works with and his wife and two boys because without their support none of this would be possible.

Ms. Bathelus highlighted some of the initiatives that she has taken on as President. Ms. Bathelus stated that the committees of the Board have been selected and have met to discuss the various measures of business that take place throughout the district. Ms. Bathelus stated that she has participated in the production of The President's Forum which is a television show produced by the Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy students that will air on Cablevision and Verizon FIOS highlighting the activities taking place throughout the Elizabeth Public Schools as well as important information about educational services. Ms. Bathelus stated that she has designated office hours on Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Elizabeth families may make an appointment to meet with her and discuss any issues or concerns pertaining to the Elizabeth Public Schools. Ms. Bathelus stated that meeting with families and connecting with the community is an important part of Community Connect which is a new initiative she has worked on launching. Ms. Bathelus stated that Community Connect is a program that emphasizes unity between the Elizabeth Public Schools and the greater Elizabeth community which it serves. Ms. Bathelus stated that a Community Connect newsletter has been created highlighting important activities taking place throughout Elizabeth and Union County. Ms. Bathelus stated that she has embarked on a President's Tour and is visiting each school to introduce herself and observe the educational activities taking place among students, teachers, and administrators. Ms. Bathelus stated that she has had the opportunity to visit several schools and is looking forward to meeting students and team members in the upcoming weeks to witness how they are providing a quality education to all of our students.

Board President Bathelus presented the following public participation statement.

"At this time, the microphones are open for public comment to those who have signed in. I shall call individuals to the microphones based on the order of the sign-in. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes in duration. The total time of public comment shall be limited to sixty minutes. No individual is able to yield their time to another individual. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually. The following rules for public participants shall apply: time limits will be strictly enforced, no personal attacks on individuals, no vulgar or indecent language, a person may address the Board no more than once during a single meeting, speakers should refrain from naming individuals, and comments or questions posed during public participation will not be debated. As a reminder, this is a meeting of the Board in public, not a meeting of the public."

Ms. Bathelus called upon the first public participant, Angela Lopez, to address the Board.

Angela Lopez, 539 Fulton Street, thanked Principal Arlene Campbell and presented her with a bouquet of flowers.

Ms. Bathelus thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Julie Edwards, to address the Board.

Julie Edwards, 2 Ronald Drive, stated that she is a representative of the Institute of Relationship Intelligence and would like to introduce the Love Smart Program.

Ms. Bathelus thanked her for her comments and requested she give her contact information to Interim Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning. Ms. Bathelus called upon the next public participant, Joy DeSouza, to address the Board.

Joy DeSouza, 155 Race Street, spoke about moral values and asked the Board to consider addressing moral values.

Ms. Bathelus thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Christina Moreira, to address the Board.

Christina Moreira, 805 Gebhardt Avenue, thanked the Board for the new initiatives and spoke about legal fees.

Ms. Bathelus thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Maria Lorenz, to address the Board.

Maria Lorenz, 103 Murray Street, spoke about SEPAC and special education.

Ms. Bathelus thanked her for her comments. Since there were no other public participants signed in to address the Board, Ms. Bathelus closed this portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, that the minutes of the meetings of January 7 and 21, 2016 be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Secretary and Treasurer's Report for the Month of December 2015

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Personnel Report – Leaves of Absence, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo (negative- M.H., abstain- J.F.), Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Mr. Rodriguez congratulated the retirees and wished them a happy retirement.

Tuition Report

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the requests be approved.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the requests be approved with a waiver of fees (except the request from Councilman Cedenro be approved with a waiver of facility fees).

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho (abstain- Elizabeth Youth Soccer), Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Neron – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the requests be approved as recommended.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the requests be approved.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Mr. Kennedy introduced Robert D'Uva, Mendonca & Partners, LLC, who presented the independent audit report for the district. Mr. D'Uva read, reviewed and discussed the findings, comments and recommendations of the audit report for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. D'Uva reported that the District received an unmodified opinion.

Superintendent's Report

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that her report includes highlights from *InsideEPS*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the first article is *EPS Recognized by White House for Computer Science Initiatives*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the Elizabeth Public Schools was among a select number

of schools recognized by President Barack Obama for its commitment to support the President's vision of expanded computer science curricula for K-12 students. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the recognition came as part of President Obama's announcement of "Computer Science for All" which is a \$4 billion initiative to expand computer science in grades K-12 by training teachers, expanding access to high quality instructional materials, and building effective regional partnerships. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that over the past few years, the Elizabeth Public Schools has made tremendous efforts to enhance digital learning. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that at the forefront of the district's transformation to a digital learning environment is Leap to the Future, an initiative launched in September 2013 that provided every student in grades three through twelve with a laptop or tablet for use during classroom instruction. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that this and other initiatives have allowed the district to expand its digital learning profile and collaborate with some of the most technologically advanced school districts in the nation.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the next article is *EPS Participates in Digital Learning Day* and the Elizabeth Public Schools promoted the use of technology to enhance the learning experience for all students in all grades as part of its participation in Digital Learning Day, February 17, 2016. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that since 2012 Digital Learning Day has provided a forum for innovative teachers, leaders, and instructional coaches to demonstrate how their programs are empowering their students. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Digital Learning encompasses many different facets, tools, and applications to support and empower teachers and students including online courses, blended or hybrid learning, or digital content and resources. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that on February 17th students throughout the district participated in digital learning activities such as student coding, graphic design, video creation, digital presentations, and digital collaboration. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that parents were also included in Digital Learning Day as the district hosted the Parent Academy on Digital Learning Day at Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the topics at the Parent Academy included improving the line of communication between schools and families, use of the Power School Parent Portal, a presentation on the EPS Mobile App, and online learning resources parents can use to actively participate in the education of their children. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that each district school has been provided with resources including access directions and a tutorial video to continue efforts in training and encouraging the families within their school community to sign up for and access the Power School Parent Portal.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the last article is *EPS Innovating Instruction with Technology*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that as part of its Core Beliefs the Elizabeth Public Schools believes that ALL students can learn and achieve at high levels regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, neighborhood, household income, or home language and teachers make a positive difference in student achievement by preparing ALL students in college, career, and our technological global society. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in its commitment to meet those beliefs and realize a vision of becoming one of America's best school systems the Elizabeth Public Schools continues to create future ready schools by innovative education through technology. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the use of technology creates an environment that engenders equity, raises expectations of educational success, and yields academic excellence. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that through the assistance of technology the Elizabeth Public Schools will continue to innovate instruction and narrow the achievement gaps of students by providing a high level of education to ensure ALL students are college, career, and future ready. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in this issue of *InsideEPS* we featured a multitude of examples of instructional technology throughout the district. Mrs. Hugelmeyer gave a special recognition to our technology department for having helped us to launch this successful initiative and for the support they provide each and every day to our schools.

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer introduced Peter Vosseler, Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC, to present the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Summary Report.

Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC Peter Vosseler stated that according to Board Policy 5131.1 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) and New Jersey Statute 18A:37 the results of each investigation shall be reported to the Board of Education no later than the date of the next

Board meeting following completion of the investigation and include any services provided, training established, discipline imposed, or other action that was taken or recommended. Mr. Vosseler stated that since our last Board meeting our district has conducted 42 HIB investigations which were conducted by our anti-bullying specialists and himself. Mr. Vosseler reviewed the report including a summary of cases, males, females, regular education students, students with a disability, students from other district, non-students, unknown, and other. Mr. Vosseler stated that at the next regularly scheduled meeting after Board members receive the report of HIB investigations, the statute requires that the Board issue a decision in writing to affirm, reject, or modify the Superintendent's decision pertaining to the cases that were reported to the Board members at the last meeting.

Mr. Nina excused himself from the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Superintendent's Report – Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Investigative Results

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Negative: None

Mr. Nina returned to the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer welcomed everyone to the Public Hearing on Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) for the period starting July 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in July 2011, the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights was signed into law as P.L. 2010, Chapter 122. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in accordance with this law all New Jersey public school districts must designate the first full week of October of each year as a Week of Respect and during the Week of Respect school districts are expected to organize activities including, but not limiting to, age appropriate instruction and opportunities for student discussion on conflict resolution, issues of diversity, and tolerance. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that a resolution was put before the Board in September declaring the week of October 5-9, 2015 as the Week of Respect and each of our schools planned appropriate activities for this week.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in fulfilling the reporting requirements pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-46, two times each year between September 1 and January 1 and between January 1 and June 30, the school board shall hold a public hearing at which the Chief School Administrator will report to the Board of Education and the public any acts of harassment, intimidation, and bullying which occurred during the reporting period.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that from July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 there were 57 HIB investigations completed by appropriate school staff and of those cases investigated 9 were confirmed cases of HIB and were affirmed by board members through the December 2015 meeting. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the following anti-bullying specialists, anti-bullying specialist alternates and anti-bullying coordinator conducted these investigations including Ilona Sekiewicz, Margaret Lundrigan, Lisa Rappa, Joseph Sanchez, Lourdes Soto, Maria Brito, Yvonne Brown, Jennifer Hernandez, Jessica Sofranko, Theresa Guevara, Fabi Ramos, Denise Uniacke, Antonio Sapio, Sara LaFace, Kenyetta Jackson, Jason Colcol, Mayra Pena, Colleen Reynolds, Aleina Cuza-Murray, Lauren Czarnecki, Wilma Helm, Maria Vindas, Cindy Lichtenstein, Briana Helm, Christine Rappa, Chanise Hurst, Christine Lillis Flaherty, Sofia Verma, Natasha Morrissey, AnnaBella Sollaccio, Linda Lewis, Lucila Hernandez, and Peter Vosseler. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that there were 0 incidents based on race, 0 incidents based on color, 0 incidents based on religion, 0 incidents based on ancestry, 0 incidents based on national origin, 2 incidents based on gender, 0 incidents based on sexual orientation, 0 incidents based on gender identity or expression, 2 incidents based on mental, physical or sensory disability, and 5 incidents based on other targeted bases. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that 0 incidents involved a gesture, 0 incidents involved a written communication, 9 incidents were verbal, 4 incidents were physical, and 0

incidents involved an electronic communication. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that there were 6 out of school suspensions, 13 in school detentions, and 18 other disciplinary actions. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that additional services such as in-school counseling, skill development, referral for outside treatment resources, professional development, parent conferences, and behavioral intervention were offered to involved students.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that between July 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 the district provided appropriate HIB training to school counselors and social workers and to new staff and support staff in the district. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that additionally, the district provided extensive and specified training to the anti-bullying coordinator and to all anti-bullying specialists and their alternates. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that non-certificated staff also received training. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that new school level administrators and new HIB staff received training in the HIBster reporting program.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer asked if there is anyone who would like to comment on tonight's report. Since no dialogue transpired and no comments were made regarding the Chief School Administrator's presentation on harassment, intimidation and bullying, Mrs. Hugelmeyer closed the public hearing.

Ms. Bathelus thanked Superintendent Hugelmeyer for her report.

Authorizations Report – Authorization to Make Application, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Supplemental Authorizations Report – Authorization to Enter Into Partnership (see amended vote below)

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

At the March 17, 2016 Board Meeting, Mr. Neron changed his vote for the Supplemental Authorizations Report – Authorization to Enter Into Partnership – Prevention Links from affirmative to abstain.

The amended vote for the above report is:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Neron – 1

Negative: None

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Nina, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Negative: None

Mr. Rodriguez stated that he would like the record to reflect and for the public to know that last year at this time we spent over \$500,000. in two months on legal fees. Mr. Rodriguez stated that today we are going to be approving for the last two months \$80,000. in legal fees.

Ms. Bathelus thanked the Co-General Counsel for that and stated that we appreciate it.

Mr. Trujillo stated that in an effort to be transparent and fair, also on this agenda there are the service contracts for thirteen law firms. Mr. Trujillo stated that he doesn't know why we need so many attorneys if we are planning to cut costs.

Ms. Bathelus stated that is correct and we voted on that at the reorganization meeting.

Mr. Trujillo stated that in today's packet we have the service contracts that we are going to be voting on.

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

A motion was made by Mr. Nina, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report

Mr. Williams asked and recommended that the report be amended to carry until the next Board meeting the contracts for In-Line Air Conditioning Company, R.P. Baking, and Aspire Technology Partners as the contracts require further review.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Nina, to table In-Line Air Conditioning Company, R.P. Baking, and Aspire Technology Partners until the March 17th Board meeting.

The motion to table was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

An amended motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the report be accepted (except for In-Line Air Conditioning Company, R.P. Baking, and Aspire Technology Partners which were tabled).

The amended motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Miscellaneous Communication

Ms. Bathelus stated that the chairperson of each committee will present a report at this time. Ms. Bathelus stated that from January until now we have had nine committee meetings and the chairperson of each committee will give a report. Ms. Bathelus stated that this is to increase transparency for the community to know what is happening on each level of the committees.

Special Education Committee

Chairperson Jose Rodriguez stated that the Special Education Committee met on January 28, 2016.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the committee discussed the current Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). Mr. Rodriguez stated that SEPAC is a requirement by the New Jersey Department of Education and each district board of education is charged under the New Jersey Special Education Code to ensure that a special education parent advisory group is in place to provide input to the district on issues concerning students with disabilities Subchapter 6A:14-1.2 paragraph (h). Mr. Rodriguez stated that the Elizabeth SEPAC is a standing committee for one year in an advisory capacity. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the group is charged with assisting in facilitating parent involvement in education resources, providing feedback on issues pertaining to special education services in the district, and developing information meetings on topics of interest for families with students who receive special education. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the group is charged with keeping a focus on input into district special education concerns by providing workshops and presentations in order to assist parents in becoming effective advocates for their children and to learn how to navigate throughout their child's educational career.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that transportation for students with disabilities who attend out of district schools was discussed. Mr. Rodriguez stated that students who are transported by Union County Educational Services Commission will not be transported during inclement weather if the Elizabeth Public Schools system is closed. Mr. Rodriguez stated that this is in accordance with the Inclement Weather Policy as established by the Union County Educational Services Commission.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the Director of Special Services provided an overview of the Division of Special Services inclusive of the population served both in district and out of district.

School Properties Committee

Chairperson Maria Carvalho stated that the Properties Committee met on February 3, 2016.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that an overview was provided of the structure and function of the Division of Plant, Property, and Equipment to the members of the committee by the Director of Plant, Property, and Equipment. Mrs. Carvalho stated that the Division of Plant, Property, and Equipment develops and implements short-term and long-term maintenance projects, directs utility and facility management, provides technical knowledge on operations management services and prepares emergency and safety action plans.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that the committee engaged in a discussion on the options available for the 2016-2017 school year in terms of available parking given the opening of the new Academic High School and suggested that Carla Mazza, Executive Director at the Parking Authority be invited to the next Properties Committee meeting to discuss possible options.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that the committee discussed the various leases and their respective timelines. Mrs. Carvalho stated that the next meeting will include a review of all 2015-2016 projects completed to date.

Technology Committee

Chairperson Maria Carvalho stated that the Technology Committee met on February 3, 2016.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that an overview was provided of the structure and function of the Division of Informational Technology to the members of the committee by the Chief Information Officer and a technology instructional coach. Mrs. Carvalho stated that the mission of the Division of Informational Technology is to be the leader in transforming teaching and learning in a rigorous digital learning environment, through the implementation of the latest technologies, creating opportunities for innovation, creativity and maximizing student potential in preparing our students to succeed in a global community. Mrs. Carvalho stated that the committee engaged in a discussion on the goals of the Division that include building school-based leadership capacity, standardizing district protocols and expectations, providing for technology integration to personalize instruction, and developing a sustainable model.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that the members of the committee expressed a concern regarding home access and as a result a home survey will be developed to properly assess the current level of access to the internet in our community. Mrs. Carvalho stated that the next meeting will

include a discussion around social media, a review of the Acceptable Use Policy and the related process and procedures.

Educational Management Committee

Chairperson Stanley Neron stated that the Educational Management Committee met on February 4, 2016.

Mr. Neron stated that the members of the committee were presented with an overview of the high school choices and selection process that included the launch of a seventh high school in the 2016-2017 school year. Mr. Neron stated that the proposal involved the following expansion of services for our high school students.

Mr. Neron stated that the opening of the new Academic High School for 2016-2017 school year was discussed and the committee approved the official name as Elizabeth High School @ the Frank J. Cicarell Academy. Mr. Neron stated that the students currently attending the Lower and Upper Academies will be relocated to the new Academic High School that will open its doors in September. Mr. Neron stated that the committee was provided with the recommendation for the selection criteria that was developed by students, teachers, and administrators.

Mr. Neron stated that the current Academy of Finance program will be launched as the seventh independent high school serving students in grades 9-12 and the intent is to expand the number of seats at 9th grade level. Mr. Neron stated that the rationale presented included an increase of interest level over the past two years including a refinement of the program offerings. Mr. Neron stated that the Academy of Finance will be relocated to what is presently known as the Upper Academy. Mr. Neron stated that the committee was provided with the recommendation for the selection criteria that was developed by students, teachers, and administrators.

Mr. Neron stated that we are expanding the available seats at Thomas Edison Career and Technical Academy. Mr. Neron stated that the current Lower Academy site will serve as an annex to Thomas Edison Career and Technical Academy and will serve 220 ninth grade students. Mr. Neron stated that this serves as an opportunity to increase enrollment at the ninth grade level as a result of sustained interest in the vocational fields.

Mr. Neron stated that Admiral William F. Halsey Health and Public Safety Academy will now have the opportunity to utilize its annex to serve its 9th grade students. Mr. Neron stated that this is as a result of the re-branding of the school's theme resulting in greater interest in the field of health and public safety.

Mr. Neron stated that in the Dunn Sports Center all of the champion banners over the years have been displayed. Mr. Neron invited everyone to the Night of Champions on February 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. to honor our championship teams and celebrate the rich history of Elizabeth athletics.

Negotiations Committee

Chairperson Stanley Neron stated that the Negotiations Committee met on February 4, 2016.

Mr. Neron stated that Avis Bishop-Thompson, Esq., DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick, and Cole, LLP, provided an overview of the negotiations process and guidance with regard to the necessary next steps to the members of the committee.

Legal Committee

Chairperson Jose Rodriguez stated that the Legal Committee met on February 10, 2016.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that Associate Counsel Heather Ford briefed the members of the committee on the HIB appeal process. Mr. Rodriguez stated that a review of various workers' compensation cases was conducted.

High School Drop Out Task Force Committee

Chairperson Jose Rodriguez stated that the High School Drop Out Task Force Committee met on February 10, 2016.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the members of the committee were presented with historical data on the high school graduation and drop-out rates from 2004 to 2015 showing an increase in graduation and a decrease in the drop-out rate respectively and the district is currently at 78.1% graduation rate.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the members of the committee reviewed the individual high schools' data utilizing NJ Standards Measurement and Resource for Teaching (NJ SMART). Mr. Rodriguez stated that NJ SMART is a comprehensive statewide longitudinal data system solution that serves multiple purposes including staff/student identification, data warehousing, data reporting, and analytics. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the members of the committee were provided a detailed account of the use of NJ SMART by the Assistant Superintendents that included the ability for administrators to regularly access assessment reports that allow easy monitoring and comparison of critical performance measures. Mr. Rodriguez stated that this system also allows for the ability to track students and their performance more effectively over time, even if they transfer in and out of the district. Mr. Rodriguez stated that an advantage of this system is that it allows staff to access linked student data, generate user-friendly reports to analyze student data, and make data informed decisions.

School Safety Committee

Chairperson Stanley Neron stated that the School Safety Committee met on February 11, 2016.

Mr. Neron stated that the members of the committee were provided with the structures, procedures, and management of crisis management in our schools. Mr. Neron stated that the Elizabeth Public Schools takes proactive measures to protect the safety and security of all our students and staff members including the development of school safety plans, school safety committees, completion of required school drills and appropriate reporting. Mr. Neron stated that the administrators are required to review with their staff the prevention of, intervention in, response to and recovery from emergency and crisis situations.

Mr. Neron stated that discussions centered on the current security measures and recent innovative approaches to ensure the safety of our students. Mr. Neron stated that the discussions centered primarily on transforming school climates using a holistic approach. Mr. Neron stated that the members of the committee suggested roundtable discussions to begin at the high school level at the main complex to provide feedback on the current structures that are in place.

Bylaws/Policies Committee

Chairperson Stanley Neron stated that the Bylaws/Policies Committee met on February 17, 2016.

Mr. Neron stated that Lester E. Taylor, Esq., Florio Perrucci Steinhardt and Fader LLC, provided an overview of the policy review process and guidance with regard to the next steps to the members of the committee. Mr. Neron stated that the next steps will include a review of the 9000 series which is the Board Governance.

Finance and Accounting Committee

Chairperson Stanley Neron stated that the Finance and Accounting Committee met on February 11, 2016.

Mr. Neron stated that the primary focus of this meeting was to review and discuss the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015 and the corrective action plan to address the findings made in the audit. Mr. Neron stated that a resolution accepting the audit report and corrective action plan is on the agenda tonight.

Ms. Bathelus thanked the chairpersons for the diligent work they have done over the last month as well as the Board members, assistant superintendents, Superintendent Hugelmeyer, and our Board attorneys for attending each and every meeting and really being open and honest with us about what is happening in our district.

Mr. Trujillo stated that at the last month's meeting held on January 21, 2016 this Board was presented with a list of committee and outside assignments of members as determined by the Board President. Mr. Trujillo stated that he would now like to make his observation and publically enter it into the record. Mr. Trujillo stated that of the 12 members appointed by the President to 4 standing committees not one was selected from the minority third of the nine Board members. Mr. Trujillo stated that 2 of the 4 standing committees are chaired by the same Board member. Mr. Trujillo stated that of the 18 members appointed by the President to 6 special committees only 1 comes from the 3 member minority of the nine Board members. Mr. Trujillo stated that in making these assignments the Board President has segregated the Board and all Hispanic 3 member minority into second class Board members relegated to taking seats in the proverbial back of the bus. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is not fair Madame President, it isn't fair. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is the duty and obligation of the President under our Bylaws to ensure that rights and privileges of each of the nine Board members are provided fairly and equitably and that they have ample opportunity to perform their duties and obligations. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is his considered opinion of this Board member that you, Madame President, have failed this Board at this task. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is his expressed wish at this early juncture in your Presidency that you cease to continue down a partisan road of political persecution. Mr. Trujillo stated that any talk of what occurred with past Boards is just that, in the past and it is where it belongs. Mr. Trujillo stated that repeating wrongs of the past don't make for a better present.

Ms. Bathelus stated that the committee meetings that everyone except one person on this dais has not come to the meetings. Ms. Bathelus stated that we had nine scheduled meetings and the committees that she scheduled people on there is only six members who attended those meetings. Ms. Bathelus stated that it is under her discretion as the President to assign people to what committee she believes that they would be best on and that is how she did it. Ms. Bathelus stated that so if you have an issue that is okay and you can come and speak to me. Ms. Bathelus stated that you don't have to make it public but it's okay that you did. Ms. Bathelus stated that next time you should add that under new business.

Claims List

A motion was made by Mr. Neron, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Music in Our Schools Month

Mr. Rodriguez read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Trujillo that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – National School Social Workers' Week

Mr. Nina read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Nina, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Mr. Rodriguez excused himself from the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Resolution – Read Across America

Mrs. Carvalho read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 6

Negative: None

Resolution – St. Joseph's Day

Mr. Trujillo read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 6

Negative: None

Resolution – St. Patrick's Day

Mr. Neron read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Neron, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 6

Negative: None

Resolution – Women's History Month

Ms. Bathelus read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 6

Negative: None

Resolution – Youth Art Month

Miss Goncalves read the resolution.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Trujillo,

Ms. Bathelus – 6

Negative: None

Mr. Rodriguez returned to the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Resolution – National School Breakfast Week

Mr. Neron read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Neron, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,

Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Mr. Neron stated that they are working to expand this so all students have breakfast even after the bell.

Resolution – National Nutrition Month

Mr. Trujillo read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,

Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission 2015-2016 Coordinated Transportation Agreement

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,

Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Payment for Unused Sick Days

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez,

Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Payment for Unused Vacation Days

Mr. Williams asked and recommended that the resolution be amended to table the payment for unused vacation days for M.L. which requires further review.

A motion was made by Mr. Neron, seconded by Miss Goncalves, to table the payment for unused vacation days for M.L.

The motion to table was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez,
Ms. Bathelus – 6
Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1
Negative: None

A motion was made by Mr. Neron, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the amended resolution (without the payment for unused vacation days to M.L.) be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez (abstain-
C.V.), Ms. Bathelus – 6
Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1
Negative: None

Resolution – Acceptance of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports for the Year Ended June 30, 2015 and Adoption of the District Corrective Action Plan

Ms. Bathelus stated that Comptroller William Greene will present the Corrective Action Plan for the audit.

Comptroller William Greene stated that he is presenting the Corrective Action Plan from the Financial Statement Audit for the year ending June 30, 2015. Dr. Greene reviewed and discussed the findings, inclusive of comments and actions to be implemented, contained in the Corrective Action Plan to be adopted by the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo,
Ms. Bathelus – 7
Negative: None

Resolution – Approval of Professional Services Contracts – Legal

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez,
Ms. Bathelus – 6
Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1
Negative: None

Resolution – Approval of Professional Services Contracts

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez,
Ms. Bathelus – 6
Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1
Negative: None

Resolution – Approval of Employment Contracts

Mr. Williams stated that over the past several weeks we have been working with the County Superintendent of Schools Roger Jinks to put all of these contracts in a form satisfactory to the County Superintendent. Mr. Williams stated that it was an exchange of drafts back and forth on three or four different occasions and finalized along with worksheets where the County Superintendent analyzed the expenses associated with these contracts to make sure that they fell within budgetary constraints. Mr. Williams stated that the final contracts are on for the Board's approval tonight. Mr. Williams stated that a number of the persons who are listed here have been working for some time without a contract. Mr. Williams stated that the County Superintendent expressed his appreciation and gratitude for the Board moving forward to finalize these contracts at this point in time.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mr. Neron, that the resolution be adopted.

Mr. Trujillo stated that there are five contracts and asked Mr. Williams if we are re-contracting the existing personnel and are we extending their contract.

Mr. Williams stated that the Board is not extending their contracts and they have been working without a contract for this particular calendar year. Mr. Williams stated that State law requires that the contracts for the assistant superintendents as well as your business administrator be approved by the County Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Williams stated that was never done until we initiated that process in recent weeks working with Mr. Jinks in order to get it done. Mr. Williams stated State law requires that it be done but the contracts were not in place. Mr. Williams stated that the employees have been working and it is perfectly appropriate for them to be working but it is also absolutely mandatory and required that we finalize contracts at this time. Mr. Williams stated that it is not an extension, it is not any kind of new award. Mr. Williams stated that it memorializes their written contract between the Board and the employee as required by law.

Mr. Trujillo stated that the appointment for the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources was originally brought before this Board at the reorganization meeting of January 7 and then it was brought again from acting to interim and now it is being brought here again for the third time. Mr. Trujillo asked Mr. Williams what is the reason for that because he has asked all three times for a copy of this contract. Mr. Trujillo stated that this is the first time that he actually sees this contract. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has to wonder was there ever a contract. Mr. Trujillo asked if he was misinformed when he was told there was a contract and that there were discussions with the County Superintendent and it was reviewed and approved.

Mr. Williams stated that with respect to what occurred at reorganization he believes that we have provided Mr. Trujillo with a communication received from the County Superintendent where he indicates and acknowledges that he approved the appointment of Mr. Cuesta at reorganization. Mr. Williams stated that he is sure that Mr. Trujillo has seen that communication which he again forwarded to us the week before last. Mr. Williams stated that with respect to the vote on the form of the contract, as he indicated to Mr. Trujillo on the phone, the contract needs to be approved by the Board in its form, it also has to be submitted to the County Superintendent, the County Superintendent has changes and he continues to make changes back and forth which is what occurred with Mr. Cuesta's contract. Mr. Williams stated that it occurred with respect to the other contracts over the last several days and there was a back and forth exchange in order to finalize the documents to make sure that they are all uniform and so that they have the correct salaries and compensation packages set forth in the contracts. Mr. Williams stated that the vote that took place with respect to Mr. Cuesta's contract the last time when Mr. Trujillo correctly pointed out the contract had not been distributed to the Board members was appropriate because the Superintendent had looked at them but it is now in final form and has been distributed to the

Board members. Mr. Williams stated that unlike what was done before with respect to this and other contracts we are bringing it back for final approval because it is his legal opinion, unlike perhaps some of his predecessors, that this Board needed to vote on a final contract in order for them to be enforceable.

Mr. Trujillo stated that just for clarification he is simplifying his question to a yes or no answer. Mr. Trujillo asked if on January 7 was there a contract available and approved by the County Superintendent.

Mr. Williams stated that on January 7, Mr. Jinks, County Superintendent of Schools, had approved the appointment of Mr. Cuesta in order for him to commence work the next day. Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Trujillo has been provided with the email from Mr. Jinks which confirmed that fact. Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Cuesta started work on the 8th. Mr. Williams stated that just as the other assistant superintendents who we are proposing to vote on tonight have been working without a contract Mr. Cuesta started to work in his position without a contract. Mr. Williams stated that we then started the process to prepare and finalize the contract and get it approved by the County Superintendent which is required by State law and which was never done for any of the other assistant superintendents. Mr. Williams stated that so what we are doing tonight is really cleaning up a situation that has existed for some time in violation of the law.

Mr. Trujillo stated that he is glad that Mr. Williams pointed that out. Mr. Trujillo stated that what he is really trying to get at here is at that meeting Mr. Williams also indicated that prior to this he had several meetings with the County Superintendent in reference to filling this position and making this appointment. Mr. Trujillo stated that it would lead him to believe that somewhere along that line this would have been discussed and this would have been taken care of. Mr. Trujillo stated that you had months ahead of time to prepare for this.

Mr. Williams stated that he thinks Mr. Trujillo misunderstands and he doesn't mean any disrespect. Mr. Williams stated that you need to understand the process and in order to have the County Superintendent authorize the contract of any assistant superintendent, our Superintendent of Schools discussed back and forth with Mr. Jinks her recommendation and the need to have that appointment made and approved after discussing with our Superintendent.

Mr. Trujillo asked Mr. Williams reviewing what, the emails.

Mr. Williams stated that there were emails exchanged which he has provided and he then indicated to her yes go ahead at reorganization and make that appointment which is what happened at the 7th.

Mr. Trujillo stated that at that point there was no contract and it was just an authorization via email and a discussion between the Superintendent at the County level and the Superintendent here to make the appointment to fill the position.

Mr. Williams stated that is correct and there was no contract on January 7th just as for the past many months.

Mr. Trujillo stated that is all he asked. Mr. Trujillo stated that there was no contract that day. Mr. Trujillo stated that the following meeting there was no contract as well to appoint the interim.

Ms. Bathelus stated that with all due respect all of the assistant superintendents are sitting there without a contract and that is what we are trying to do now. Ms. Bathelus stated that we are trying to move forward and approve the contracts. Ms. Bathelus stated that these are the same questions that Mr. Trujillo asked the last meeting and if he would like to sit down with our

attorney, Mr. Jonathan Williams, on the side that is perfectly fine. Ms. Bathelus stated that due to time we need to move forward.

Mr. Trujillo stated that with all due respect that is just his problem. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has tried to go through the proper channels. Mr. Trujillo stated that as a sitting Board member he was forced to send Mr. Kennedy an OPRA request.

Ms. Bathelus stated that is fine.

Mr. Trujillo stated that he should be able to get this information if we are going to be transparent. Mr. Trujillo stated that he should be able to get this information that he asked for. Mr. Trujillo stated that he shouldn't have to wait weeks and weeks. Mr. Trujillo stated that he actually had to OPRA the Business Administrator to get this information and he still didn't get it. Mr. Trujillo stated that he was told that he already had it.

Ms. Bathelus stated that with all due respect all of the contracts are right in front of him and he can read them at his leisure.

Mr. Nina stated that he wanted to make the public aware that this agenda was delivered this past Friday, February 12th, so if any Board member had any questions they had enough time to contact the Superintendent or the counsel for any of these matters.

Mr. Trujillo stated that Mr. Nina is absolutely right and the problem is that when he calls he is not getting anyone to respond to him so he is forced to come here and take this time to ask his questions in public. Mr. Trujillo stated that if someone showed him the respect that he deserves as an elected official and as an equal on this Board you wouldn't have this problem and we wouldn't be going through this. Mr. Trujillo stated that all he is looking for is information and he is entitled to it.

Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Trujillo did speak with him on the phone on a few occasions and was provided with the emails and particularly the email from the County Superintendent authorizing the appointment at reorganization which is always what he was asking about.

Mr. Trujillo stated that he had to OPRA the district for it. Mr. Trujillo stated that is shameful, but then again we're saving money on legal fees so we get what we pay for.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho (abstain- H.K.), Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Rodriguez, Trujillo (abstain- F.C.), Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

The President requests a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for discussion of personnel, specifically, R.S., G.Q., and O.O., tenure, specifically, B.B., N.D., J.P., P.Z., and F.N.; interviews, reorganization, transfers, and Workers' Compensation matters, specifically, R.H., M.B., D.M., and J.P. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, to go into private session at 9:50 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Mr. Neron excused himself from the meeting at 12:44 a.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mr. Nina, to reconvene in public session at 12:45 a.m. to continue the meeting and take formal action.

Resolution – Appointment of Supervisor of Mathematics K-5 – Mariestelle Magliano

Miss Goncalves read the resolution.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Colomb Thomas-Petit

Mrs. Carvalho read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Negative: None

Mr. Neron returned to the meeting at 12:50 a.m.

Resolution – Abolishment of Position of Director of Process Improvement and Termination of Employment Contract – O.O.

Mr. Rodriguez read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Perreira – 1

Negative: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Resolution – Termination of Employment Contract – R.S.

Mr. Neron read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Neron, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Ms. Bathelus – 6

Abstain: Mr. Perreira – 1

Negative: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Resolution – Reorganization

Mrs. Hugelmeyer read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Ms. Bathelus (negative- Approval of Revised Job Description for Director of Transportation) – 6

Abstain: Mr. Perreira – 1

Negative: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Supplemental Personnel Report – Transfer

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim (2014-3258) – R.H.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 8

Negative: None

Ms. Bathelus asked if there was any old business to discuss. Since there was not any old business to discuss, Ms. Bathelus asked if there was any new business to discuss.

Mr. Trujillo stated that he would like to request information. Mr. Trujillo stated that tonight we made an appointment of a custodian who was a previous employee of this district. Mr. Trujillo stated that he remembers reviewing a video tape at the time prior to him being removed as a security guard where in fact he was in an altercation with a young lady. Mr. Trujillo stated that this gentleman actually dragged one of our students down the hallway and was removed and relieved of his duties as a security guard. Mr. Trujillo stated that he finds it troubling that we've decided today that it would be appropriate to bring him back as a custodian. Mr. Trujillo stated that he would like to officially ask for that video to be released to him and any other Board member that would like to see it.

Ms. Bathelus asked if there was any other new business.

Mr. Williams stated that he understands the request that Mr. Trujillo made and he hopes that Mr. Trujillo will allow them a brief period of time for Mr. Kennedy and his firm to review the video and see if there are any privacy concerns.

Mr. Trujillo stated that he wouldn't want Mr. Williams to do anything that would put the district at any disadvantage legally. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is his understanding, and Mr. Williams will be able to clear this up because it is public record, that this video was taken within a public school. Mr. Trujillo stated that he doesn't know how much time Mr. Williams would actually need so could he clarify that when he says how much time. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has been having a lot of trouble getting information.

Mr. Williams stated that he doesn't need more than a day to review the video to see if there are any privacy concerns on the part of the students or persons who may be viewed on the video. Mr. Williams stated that he wants to check to see if there are any other privacy concerns in order to properly protect the district.

On a motion by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Miss Goncalves, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 a.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Trujillo, Ms. Bathelus – 8

Negative: None

Harold E. Kennedy, Jr.
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary