

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

January 18, 2018
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular business meeting of the Board of Education was called on January 18, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 52, 130 Trumbull Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Maria Carvalho presented the following statement at 10:45 p.m. since the agenda meeting was held prior to the business meeting.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a regular business 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 January 12, 2018. 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, New Jersey.

“We want to welcome everyone present and our television viewers to this January 18, 2018 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. We also ask that you silence the sound on your electronic devices. Since it is legally mandated that these proceedings be accurately recorded, we may have to ask for order periodically should noise begin to interfere with our recording capabilities. We are pleased that you have taken time this evening to join us here for our Board of Education meeting. 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 may sign in up to the start of the public speaking 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. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Absent: Mr. Neron – 1

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta, Comptroller Rajeev Malhotra, Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP, and members of the public were in attendance.

Board President Carvalho 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.”

Since there were no public participants signed in to address the Board, Mrs. Carvalho closed this portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, that the rules be suspended.

The motion to suspend the rules was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Mrs. Carvalho introduced Peter Vosseler, Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC/Affirmative Action/Guidance who presented the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results.

Mr. 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 each 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 there have been 38 new cases. 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.

Superintendent’s Report – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Special Counsels

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mmes. Moreno-Ortega, Carvalho – 6

Abstain: Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez – 2

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Architects

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Ms. Bathelus, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Carvalho – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Engineers

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 7

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Construction Managers

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Environmental Consultants

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Qualifying and Appointing a Public Relations Firm – Strategic Message Management, Inc.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Supervisor of Career and Technical Education – Tracy Espiritu

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the minutes of the meetings of December 7 and 14, 2017 be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Secretary and Treasurer's Report for the Month of November 2017

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 7

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

Personnel Report

Supplemental Personnel Report

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the reports be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Tuition Report

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities with Fees

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, that the reports be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina (abstain- Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities – request from City of Elizabeth, Department of Health and Human Services), Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho (abstain- Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities – request from City of Elizabeth, Department of Health and Human Services) – 8

Negative: None

Authorizations Report

Supplemental Authorizations Report

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, that the reports be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus (abstain- Supplemental Authorizations Report - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Eta Omicron Zeta Teen Chapter), Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina (abstain- Authorizations Report – O.H.), Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho (abstain- Authorizations Report – O.H.; Supplemental Authorizations Report – Donation from Manny Grova and Maria Carvalho) – 8

Negative: None

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Ms. Bathelus, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mmes. Moreno-Ortega, Carvalho – 6

Abstain: Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez – 2

Negative: None

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report

Supplemental Award of Contracts

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the reports be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Miscellaneous Communication - None

Claims List

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Ms. Bathelus, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mmes. Moreno-Ortega, Carvalho – 6

Abstain: Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez – 2

Negative: None

Mrs. Carvalho asked for a motion to approve the following:

Resolution – African American Heritage Month

Resolution – Career and Technical Education Month

Resolution – Harriet Tubman

Resolution – National School Counseling Week

Resolution – Children's Dental Health Month

Resolution – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Resolution – National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

Resolution – Appointment of School Safety Specialist for 2017-2018 School Year – Francisco Cuesta

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, that the above resolutions be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves (abstain – Resolution Appointment of School Safety Specialist), Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina (abstain – Resolution Appointment of School Safety Specialist), Rodriguez (abstain – Resolution Appointment of School Safety Specialist), Mrs. Carvalho (abstain – Resolution Appointment of School Safety Specialist) – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Authorizing the Issuance of a Request for Proposal for District-wide Energy Management, Tracking, Procurement and Demand Response Service

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Acceptance of Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2017 and Approval of the Corrective Action Plan

The Corrective Action Plan inclusive of comments and actions to be implemented was read and reviewed.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Expansion of Scope of Services and Related Contract Modification for Louis C. Mai, CPA and Associates

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointing AJ Jersey, Inc. and Approving Form of Contract for Acquisition of One Fork Lift and One Reach Truck

Resolution – Appointing Metuchen Center, Inc.; BSN Sports, LLC; Triple Crown Sports Inc.; Pyramid School Products Co.; and All American Sports Corp d/b/a Riddell All American to Provide Spring Athletic Equipment and Supplies

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

The first reading of the following revised policy and exhibit was done:

6171.3 Policy Title I

9351 Regulation Board Workshop Calendar

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – L.H.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – J.S.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – V.S.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Ms. Bathelus, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – C.S.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – C.F.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Ms. Bathelus, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – E.C.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – EEA Grievance No. 10-11-03

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

On a motion by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Mr. Nina, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

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