

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

December 13, 2012
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called on December 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., in the Multi Purpose Room, Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Fernando Nazco presented the following statement at 7:25 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 Worrall Community Newspapers, The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth on Friday, December 7, 2012. 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 December 13, 2012 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 one hour prior to the advertised start of the meeting 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. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso (arr. 7:40 p.m.), González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo (arr. 7:33 p.m.), Nazco – 8

Absent: Mr. Perreira – 1

Superintendent of Schools Pablo Muñoz, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Board Attorney Kirk Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Family and Community Outreach Jerome Dunn, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Olga Hugelmeyer, Assistant Board Secretary Donald Goncalves, Comptroller William Greene and members of the public were in attendance.

Reverend Steffie Bartley, Jr. from New Hope Memorial Baptist Church gave the invocation.

Mr. Nazco commented that it is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of Catherine Saintilien, Executive Director of Jefferson Park Ministries and called for a moment of silence.

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Delfina Chirigliano, eighth grade student at William F. Halloran School No. 22 @ 31.

The *Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key was performed by Rophy Jules and Vanessa Bathelus, eleventh grade students at Elizabeth High School.

The Pledge of Ethics was led by Chris Nunes, seventh grade student at William F. Halloran School No. 22 @ 31.

Mr. Nazco introduced a video presentation of the Core Beliefs and Commitments.

Mr. Nazco thanked the Faculty Brass Quintet who performed the beautiful holiday music prior to tonight's meeting.

Mr. Nazco introduced students from William F. Halloran School No. 22 @ 31 Jazz Choir who performed *My Favorite Things* by Rodgers and Hammerstein. Mr. Nazco thanked the students for the wonderful performance.

Mr. Nazco introduced students from William F. Halloran School No. 22 @ 31 Jazz Ensemble who performed *Front Burner* by Sammy Nestico. Mr. Nazco thanked the students for the wonderful performance.

Mr. Nazco commented that we have had a significant loss in our community and introduced members of the Haitian community Magdala Rousseau, Valerie Covin, and Alex Elie who spoke about the Executive Director of Jefferson Park Ministries Catherine Saintilien.

Mr. Alex Elie thanked the Board for working with Jefferson Park Ministries and hopes to continue the relationship.

Ms. Valeri Covin thanked the Board for the continued partnership and commented that this is a difficult time for Jefferson Park Ministries.

A motion was made by Mrs. Munn, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, to name the iLeap Center at John E. Dwyer Technology Academy the Catherine Saintilien iLeap Center.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Mr. Nazco congratulated the Elizabeth High School Marching Band that won the US Bands Group 5A State Championship and the US Bands Group 5A National Championship for the second year in a row and won the Yamaha Cup. Mr. Nazco and Board members congratulated band directors Wayne Dillon and Ben Schwartz and presented each with a plaque of commemoration and a banner for their school.

Mr. Nazco congratulated the Elizabeth Minutemen Football Team and their coaches who led them in their first undefeated season since 1989 culminating in a dramatic victory over Piscataway High School in the State Championship. Mr. Nazco stated that the Minutemen were awarded the NJN News 12 Dillon Memorial Trophy for being the No. 1 team in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Nazco and Board members congratulated the coaches Jon Maione, E.B. Halsey, Dan DiStasi, Al Hawkins, Greg Oriscello and Head Football Coach John Quinn and presented each with a plaque of commemoration and a banner for their school.

Head Football Coach John Quinn thanked the Board and stated that this is the culmination of three years of hard work and congratulated the football players.

Mr. Nazco introduced a video presentation of the inaugural EPS OneFest showcasing the excellence achieved in academics, athletics and the arts by students and staff members and thanked Assistant Board Secretary Donald Goncalves and everyone involved.

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 2011-2012 school year and reported that the District received an unqualified report.

Mr. Trujillo asked how long they have been auditing the district and if they have been successful.

Mr. D’Uva responded that they have been doing the audit for ten years and they have been successful audits.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the minutes of the meeting of November 15, 2012 be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Secretary and Treasurer’s Report for the Month of October 2012

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Personnel Report – Leaves of Absence, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco (abstain- O.F., M.F.) – 6

Abstain: Messrs. Donoso, Trujillo – 2

Negative: None

Tuition Report

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the requests be approved with a waiver of fees.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities with Fees

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the requests be approved as recommended.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the requests be approved.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Pablo Muñoz stated that tonight he will be presenting the 2011-2012 Assessment Results. Mr. Superintendent Pablo Muñoz introduced Amy Gil, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment, to present the 2011-2012 Assessment of Teaching and Learning from preschool through high school.

Mrs. Amy Gil, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment stated that it is her pleasure to share the 2011-2012 Assessment of Teaching and Learning to provide an overview of the progress we have made since 2005 in some cases and from 2008 and 2009 in other cases and quoted Eleanor Roosevelt, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their

dreams.” Mrs. Gil stated that we have a vision to be one of the best school systems in America and we are on our way.

Mrs. Gil stated that the presentation includes data from prekindergarten, TerraNova data for kindergarten through second grade, New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) in third grade through eighth grade, New Jersey Proficiency Assessment of State Standards (NJ PASS) in ninth and tenth grade, and the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) in eleventh grade. Mrs. Gil stated that in Early Childhood Education the students are not assessed but their learning environments are as a whole as well as the literacy and mathematics programs that are taught. Mrs. Gil stated that there are three separate assessments, that the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS-R) is the seven point scale used to evaluate classroom environment and since 2005 there has been a 27% growth in the ECERS-R scores from an average 4.98 in 2005 to 6.34 in the 217 classes that were evaluated. Mrs. Gil explained that the next two assessments are specific to literacy and mathematics and are evaluations of the implementations of our program. Mrs. Gil stated that Supports for Early Literacy Assessment (SELA) is scored on a five point scale and since 2005 we have seen 39% growth and now have an average SELA score of 4.81 out of 5. Mrs. Gil stated that the Preschool Classroom Mathematics Inventory (PCMI) is also scored on a five point scale and since 2005 we have seen 65% growth and now have an average PCMI score of 4.57 out of 5.

Mrs. Gil explained that the data moves away from classroom environment toward student achievement and that the TerraNova assessment is administered to students in grades K-2. Mrs. Gil stated that from 2005 to 2010 we administered the TerraNova Second Edition and in 2011 we administered the TerraNova Third Edition. Mrs. Gil stated that change included combining reading and language arts into one score and because of that change we cannot look at data from the Second Edition and compare it to the Third Edition which we are currently using. Mrs. Gil stated that in the two years that we have administered the TerraNova Third Edition in kindergarten we have remained relatively consistent with nearly 80% of our kindergarten students reading on or above grade level and nearly 90% of our kindergarten students on or above grade level in math. Mrs. Gil stated that in first grade 4% more of our students are at or above grade level in reading as compared to last year and in both subjects approximately 80% of our students on or above grade level. Mrs. Gil stated that in second grade there has been 5% growth in both subjects from last year to this year and almost 80% of our second grade students are on or above grade level in reading and more than 85% are on or above grade level in math.

Mrs. Gil explained that in grades 3 through 8 the State of New Jersey requires that we administer the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) and some changes have been made to the scoring standards of the NJ ASK so the data for third and fourth grades will date back to 2009 and the data for fifth through eighth grades will date back to 2008. Mrs. Gil stated that because state assessments are administered to all public school students across the state the data will show how our performance compares to district like ours that are in the same District Factor Group (DFG). Mrs. Gil explained that the DFGs were developed in the 1970s for the purpose of comparing students’ performance on statewide assessments across demographically similar school districts. Mrs. Gil explained that the DFGs represent an approximate measure of a community’s relative socioeconomic status and six variables are used to determine a districts’ DFG including percent of adults with no high school diploma, percent of adults with some college education, occupational status, unemployment rate, percent of individuals in poverty, and median family income. Mrs. Gil explained that when all of this information is considered the districts are labeled in groups which are labeled with letters from A to J. Mrs. Gil explained that there are 39 districts in DFG A including Elizabeth, Atlantic City, Camden, Dover, East Orange, Irvington, New Brunswick, Newark, Passaic, Paterson, Perth Amboy, Trenton, and Union City. Mrs. Gil stated that in third grade there has been 10% growth in language arts since 2009 and in 2012 outperformed third grade students in DFG A by 13 points in language arts and 9 points in mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that since 2009 in fourth grade there has been a 7% growth in language arts and 15% growth in mathematics and in 2012 outperformed fourth grade students in DFG A by 11 points in language arts and 14 points in mathematics. Mrs.

Gil stated that since 2008 in fifth grade there has been a 5% growth in language arts and 9% growth in mathematics and in 2012 outperformed fifth grade students in DFG A by 9 points in language arts and 9 points in mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that since 2008 in sixth grade there has been 53% growth in language arts and 31% in mathematics and in 2012 outperformed sixth grade students in DFG A by 13 points in language arts and 13 points in mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that since 2008 in seventh grade there has been 11% growth in mathematics and in 2012 outperformed seventh grade students in DFG A by 10 points in language arts and 14 points in mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that since 2008 in eighth grade there has been 26% growth in language arts and our greatest growth in the district has been in eighth grade mathematics with 68% growth since 2008. Mrs. Gil stated that in 2012 our eighth grade students outperformed eighth grade students in DFG A by 12 points in language arts and 15 points in mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that the NJ ASK assesses science in fourth and eighth grades only and the data dates back to 2005 since there have been no changes to the science tests or scoring standards. Mrs. Gil stated that since 2005 in fourth grade there has been 52% growth and 85% of our students are proficient or advanced proficient and in eighth grade there has been 61% growth. Mrs. Gil stated that in 2012 our fourth grade students outperformed fourth grade students in science in DFG A by 7 points and eighth grade students outperformed eighth grade students in science in DFG A by 12 points.

Mrs. Gil stated that we began to administer the New Jersey Proficiency Assessment of State Standards (NJPASS) to the students in grades 9 and 10 in 2008 since the next state assessment is not administered until the students take the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) in grade 11. Mrs. Gil explained that like the state assessments the NJ PASS assesses students' knowledge of language arts and mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that since 2008 in ninth grade there has been an increase of 16% in language arts and an increase of 41% in mathematics, and in tenth grade there has been a growth of 13% in language arts and 35% in mathematics since 2008.

Mrs. Gil stated that the High School Proficiency Assessment (HSPA) is the state assessment for high school that is administered to students in grade 11 each March and there have been no modifications to the HSPA so our data dates back to 2005. Mrs. Gil stated that 80% of our eleventh grade students were proficient or advanced proficient on the language arts portion of the HSPA which is a 38% increase from 2005 and there has been a 34% growth in mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that in 2012 our eleventh grade students outperformed eleventh grade students in DFG A by 5 points in language arts and 8 points in mathematics. Mrs. Gil explained that the HSPA differs from the NJ ASK in that the HSPA is used as a graduation requirement as well as a basic state assessment. Mrs. Gil stated that students who do not pass the HSPA in eleventh grade are given additional opportunities to take the HSPA in October and March of the following school year. Mrs. Gil stated that the New Jersey Department of Education has considered these multiple administrations when calculating a school's progress and this method of combining the data from the three administrations is called banking. Mrs. Gil stated that the banked data from the 2011 cohort of students includes three administrations of the test: March 2011, October 2011 and March 2012. Mrs. Gil stated that in language arts 71% of eleventh students were proficient or advanced in March 2011, in October 2011 that percentage increased to 79% and by the third cycle 81% of the students who were in eleventh grade in March 2011 were proficient. Mrs. Gil stated that in March 2011 49% of eleventh grade students were proficient or advanced proficient in mathematics and by March 2012 62% were proficient or advanced proficient in mathematics. Mrs. Gil stated that when the final percentage of proficiency is compared from 2011 to the banked data for the 2005 cohort of students, 23% more students were proficient after three administrations in the 2011 cohort in language arts and 24% more students were proficient in mathematics.

Mrs. Gil stated that it is our love, laser-like focus on teaching and learning, and leadership that continue to unlock our potential to become better and eventually we will become one of the best school systems in America.

Mr. Muñoz thanked Mrs. Gil for the presentation.

Superintendent Muñoz highlighted the excellent news and activities that have occurred in the Elizabeth Public Schools since our last board meeting including the Elizabeth High School Football Team winning the NJSIAA North Jersey Section 2 Group 5 State Sectional Championship, Maxwell Football Club announced that quarterback Phillip (P.J.) Walker is one of fifty 2012 Mini Max High School Award winners from throughout the State of New Jersey, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy reached full AVID Certification, seventh grade students from Toussaint L'Ouverture-Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6 visited the Morris Museum in Morristown NJ, first grade students at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30 teamed up with the Food Bank of New Jersey to help supply food programs to nonprofit charities, PBA Local No. 199 donated turkeys for the families of Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28, Union County Prosecutor's Office presented a workshop on Internet Safety and Cyber-Bullying to students at Madison-Monroe School No. 16, Verizon helps students at Benjamin Franklin School No. 13 measure their steps with pedometers, study of the solar system at Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23, sixth grade students from Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 visited the New York Chinese Scholar's Garden in Staten Island, New York, College Sweatshirts at Robert Morris School No. 18, Dressed for Success at Christopher Columbus School No. 15, Annual New Jersey Symphony Orchestra concert reunited past jazz students from Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26, Think Pink at Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy, Hurricane Sandy Relief at Christopher Columbus School No. 15, eighth grade students from Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3 participated in Freshman for a Day, students from Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy and Elizabeth High School volunteered at Trinitas Regional Medical Center during Hurricane Sandy when staff members were unable to make it to work due to the gas shortage or other storm related issues, Patriotic Songfest at Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51, Omega Man and Friends presented an anti-bullying message for students at Robert Morris School No. 18, AVID at Benjamin Franklin School No. 13, Turkey Raffle at Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27, students from John E. Dwyer Technology Academy, Admiral William F. Halsey Jr., Leadership Academy and Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3 visited New Jersey Institute of Technology as part of the College Bound Program, EHS Cheerleaders participated in the National Cheerleading Association and National Dance Association at Disney, and students from Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy displayed their culinary skills at the Rotary Club's 6th Annual Taste of Elizabeth Fundraiser at the Renaissance Hotel. Mr. Muñoz stated that you can read more about us at www.epsnj.org and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Mr. Nazco thanked Superintendent Muñoz for his report.

Authorizations Report – Authorizations, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Munn, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Supplemental Authorizations Report – Authorization to Make Application, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Munn, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Mr. González, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 5

Abstain: Messrs. Donoso, Monteiro, Trujillo – 3

Negative: None

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Abstain: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report – Award of Contracts, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. González, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 6

Abstain: Mr. Donoso – 1

Negative: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Supplemental Award of Contracts Report – Award of Contracts, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. González, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 6

Abstain: Mr. Donoso – 1

Negative: Mr. Trujillo – 1

2nd Supplemental Award of Contracts Report – Change Orders

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 6

Abstain: Messrs. Donoso, Trujillo – 2

Negative: None

Miscellaneous Communication

None.

Claims List

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. González, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Mr. Nazco – 6

Abstain: Mr. Padlo – 1

Negative: Mr. Trujillo – 1

Resolution – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mrs. Munn read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Munn, seconded by Mr. González, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Mr. Trujillo excused himself from the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

Resolution – Eugenio Maria de Hostos

Mr. Monteiro read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Mrs. Munn, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – José Julián Martí

Mr. González read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Mr. Trujillo returned to the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Resolution – Juan Pablo Duarte

Mr. Donoso read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. González, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – School Board Recognition Month

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Requisition for Taxes

A motion was made by Mr. Padlo, seconded by Mrs. Munn, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Authorizing the Procurement of Goods and Services through State Agency for the 2012-2013 School Year

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 7

Abstain: Mr. Donoso – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Contract for Professional Services Education Law Center

A motion was made by Mrs. Munn, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Payment for Unused Vacation Days

A motion was made by Mrs. Munn, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 7

Abstain: Mr. Donoso – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Payment for Unused Sick Days

A motion was made by Mrs. Munn, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 6

Abstain: Messrs. Donoso, Trujillo – 2

Negative: None

Resolution – Recusal of Board Counsel in Legal Matter

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

Mrs. Munn requested that the resolution be held for private session.

A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez, seconded by Mrs. Munn, to rescind the motion to adopt the resolution.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

A motion was made by Mrs. Munn, seconded by Mr. Monteiro, that the resolution be held for private session.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Tuition Charges Receivable – Archway Programs

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 7

Abstain: Mr. Donoso – 1

Negative: None

The first reading was done of the Assignment of Students to the High Schools Regulation File Code No. 6151.

Mr. Nazco presented the following public participation statement.

“At this time, the microphones are open for public comment to those who have signed in prior to this session. 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.”

Mr. Nazco called upon the first public participant, Jose Rodriguez, to address the Board.

Jose Rodriguez, 618 Jackson Avenue, congratulated the Elizabeth High School football team and the Board of Education for providing busses for the community members to attend the game.

Mr. Nazco thanked him for his comments and called upon the next participant, Teresa Adjangba, to address the Board.

Teresa Adjangba, 414 E. Fifth Avenue, spoke about employment issues.

Mr. Nazco thanked her for her comments and called upon the next participant, Miriam Perez, to address the Board.

Miriam Perez, 233 Murray Street, spoke about employment issues.

Mr. Nazco thanked her for her comments and requested she give her contact information to Assistant Superintendent for Family and Community Outreach Jerome Dunn. Mr. Nazco called upon the next participant, Pia Carbajal, to address the Board.

Pia Carbajal, 19 Dehart Place, thanked the Board for all the help given to Joseph Battin School No. 4 and invited everyone to the Holiday Event at School No. 4 tomorrow. Mrs. Carbajal stated that she brought Lori Safin from Arts Unbound to speak to the Board about children with disabilities.

Mr. Nazco thanked her for her comments and called upon the next participant, Lori Safin, to address the Board.

Lori Safin, representative from Arts Unbound, stated that the non-profit organization provides arts education, skills building and a variety of vocational opportunities in the visual arts to youth and adults with mental, developmental and physical disabilities.

Mr. Nazco thanked her for her comments and called upon the next participant, James Carey, to address the Board.

James Carey, 212 Inslee Place, congratulated Coach Quinn and the Elizabeth High School Football Team and commented that he requested two fan busses and commended Board member Carlos Trujillo for honoring his request with many busses. Mr. Carey stated that he was upset with the Star Ledger newspaper ranking a parochial school number one instead of the Elizabeth High School Football Team and requested a letter be written by the Board to the NJSIAA and the Star Ledger expressing outrage toward the rankings.

Mr. Nazco thanked him for his comments.

Since there were no other citizens signed in to address the Board, Mr. Nazco declared this portion of the public meeting closed.

Mr. Trujillo stated that Miss Perez gave him her number several months ago and apologized for misplacing her number and said it is not that he is disinterested in hearing the problem and helping her but he sincerely lost her number. Mr. Trujillo stated that we do everything that is possible to create a safe learning environment and working environment for our employees and take safety in the district very serious. Mr. Trujillo stated that we go to great lengths to provide an excellent, well trained security staff, we contract with police, have video surveillance, and policy in place. Mr. Trujillo stated that we are not perfect yet but we are striving for perfection. Mr. Trujillo thanked Ms. Carbajal for everything she does with special needs and within our community at School No. 4 and stated that if we had more parents like Ms. Carbajal we would have an even better district. Mr. Trujillo stated that if anyone missed the football game they should watch it online and it is seldom that we have an opportunity to bring so many people together behind our children. Mr. Trujillo stated that we talk about parent participation and getting everyone involved and they came around this football team and brought people together. Mr. Trujillo stated that generations of people were there to support the football team to the end and it literally came down to the end of the game. Mr. Trujillo stated that he was glad to be able to help in his community and thanked his colleagues for their support and the idea of providing fan bussing is one reason why the game was so well attended. Mr. Trujillo stated

that he realized the inability of some of the parents to travel to some of the games, that some people do not own a car and use public transportation and a mother told him that she took a cab to some of the games and thanked him for the bussing so she could bring all of her children to watch the game. Mr. Trujillo stated that the fact that the football team won the championship was great and we won the battle of getting people to the game which was important for getting parents involved in something positive with their children. Mr. Trujillo stated that if we continue to work on that then that is the right direction and our best interest for all the children.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Munn, to study in committee to provide fan bussing to home and away games.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Mrs. Munn stated that some parents do not have the opportunity to go to the games. Mrs. Munn stated that the stands at the last football game were full to capacity because of the fan bussing and she supports fan bussing.

Mr. Trujillo stated that The Star Ledger has not been fair to this district at all and his personal opinion is that they put politics ahead of our children. Mr. Trujillo stated that they have the right to write their stories and a lot of the time they have not written the good stories of success in the classroom. Mr. Trujillo stated that when we achieve success academically, athletically or in the arts they tend to ignore us and again although the football rankings are subjective, they mean a lot to our community. Mr. Trujillo stated that there are a lot of good things happening here in the City of Elizabeth and unfortunately what people read is the negative stuff. Mr. Trujillo stated that the urban areas are where the stories happen and the suburban areas are where the papers are sold and no one in the suburbs wants to hear about how great the people in the city are doing, they want to hear about all the bad things that are happening so they can justify why they live in the suburbs. Mr. Trujillo stated that if we are going to be the No. 1 Urban School District going forward we have to demand the respect of the largest newspaper in the State of New Jersey and if they continue this path of writing these stories he is prepared to call for a boycott of The Star Ledger.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Munn, to write a letter expressing disappointment regarding the coverage in The Star Ledger.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Mr. Monteiro congratulated the Elizabeth High School Football Team and stated that he has been attending football games since his freshmen year at Rutgers. Mr. Monteiro stated that this football game was one of the most exciting, thrilling, most competitive games that he has watched with the score changing back and forth. Mr. Monteiro stated that seeing these young men work so hard all season and achieving a perfect, undefeated season and in the last game coming down to the last several minutes where defeat was almost at hand and they turned the game around. Mr. Monteiro commented that to feel that excitement, energy and what it did for our school and for the kids was so gratifying. Mr. Monteiro stated that we are very proud of them and hopes in the near future this Board shows how proud we are of them. Mr. Monteiro stated that he agreed with Mr. Carey that The Star Ledger does not pay the respect to a great public school district as Elizabeth and the disrespect it showed to our kids, that the parochial school teams are recruited from all over the State and sometimes out of state. Mr. Monteiro stated that

the credit goes to the kids here in Elizabeth and they made the season here a historic one, a fairy tale dream come true. Mr. Monteiro stated that he is proud of them, their parents and this community and everyone who attended the game and showed their support. Mr. Monteiro stated that going forward he hopes it continues not only for the football team but for all the sports and our band which is also the No. 1 two years in a row and we don't get any notoriety for that. Mr. Monteiro stated that he agrees with Mr. Carey and supports sending the letter. Mr. Monteiro stated that we will continue the good work that is happening here.

Mr. Monteiro commented that we have a student from Elizabeth, Khaseem Greene, who is outperforming on the football field of Rutgers University and for the last four years he has had the privilege and honor of watching Khaseem Greene, a prodigy of the Elizabeth Public Schools and Elizabeth Football Team. Mr. Monteiro stated that last week Khaseem was ranked the Big East Defensive Player in the country and will probably be ranked one of the top NFL draft choices.

Mr. Nazco requested a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for discussion of personnel, specifically, E.D., D.K., M.H., K.N., T.E., M.M., L.S., M.R., S.Z., G.R., L.S. and D.B.; OFAC corrective action plan, contract arbitration, Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying results, and workers' compensation claims, specifically, S.L., D.K., C.S., and M.A. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, to go into private session at 9:35 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Mr. Trujillo excused himself from the meeting at 11:45 p.m.

The Board reconvened in public at 11:47 p.m. to continue with the meeting and take formal action.

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

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Affirm Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Decision

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement - Technology Arbitration

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 6

Abstain: Mr. Donoso – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement – D.B.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Munn, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement – D.K.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Authorization to Settle Seniority Cases

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Transfer of Security Guard to Welcome Center effective December 14, 2012 – L.S.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Accept Declination of Appointment – G.R.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement between EBOE and M.M.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Leave of Absence without pay effective January 1, 2013 – M.R.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Administrative Leave with pay effective July 1, 2012 – S.Z.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. González, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Leave of Absence without pay effective January 1, 2013 – M.H.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. González, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Nazco – 7

Negative: None

Mr. Trujillo returned to the meeting at 11:55 p.m.

Resolution – Recusal of Board Counsel in Legal Matter

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Acceptance of Corrective Action Plan for the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC) Case # ED Jobs -063-11 Education Jobs Fund and Certain Special Education Programs Monitoring

The Corrective Action Plan and Office of Fiscal Accountability and Compliance (OFAC) Report of Examination inclusive of audit recommendations, comments and actions to be implemented were read and reviewed.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Termination effective December 3, 2012 – E.D.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Padlo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim No. 2010-32215 – S.L.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim No. 2010-32217 – S.L.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

Mr. Nazco asked if there was any old business to discuss.

Since there was no old business to discuss Mr. Nazco asked if there was any new business to discuss.

Mr. Monteiro thanked Assistant Board Secretary Donald Goncalves and staff members for the outstanding work for the OneFest celebration. Mr. Monteiro stated that he saw the enthusiasm and the smiles on the faces of the students, staff, administrators, and Board members and suggested having a one day FunFest in the spring possibly at no cost to the district to recognize the hard work that went into this successful year.

Mr. Trujillo asked if this would be for the public or for the staff.

Mr. Monteiro responded that it could be for the district, staff, administration and families and we could bring our food. Mr. Monteiro didn't know if it is feasible but perhaps we could discuss it with Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Goncalves, and the Legal Department.

Mr. Nazco stated that this could be discussed at the next Legal Committee meeting.

Mr. Monteiro acknowledged his colleague on the Board, Anthony Padlo, who has done a wonderful job serving here. Mr. Monteiro commented that he is a remarkable young man and he enjoyed serving on the Board with Mr. Padlo and he is sure that Mr. Padlo is not done and that he has a lot to give to the public in the City of Elizabeth. Mr. Monteiro thanked Mr. Padlo for all his hard work and stated that he enjoyed serving with him on the Board.

Mr. Padlo thanked everyone and stated that he enjoyed serving on the Board and it was a very rewarding experience during his tenure on the Board. Mr. Padlo stated that he will support this Board and do what he can to help and thanked everyone on the Board for their support.

On a motion by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Donoso, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 a.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Monteiro, Mrs. Munn, Messrs. Padlo, Trujillo, Nazco – 8

Negative: None

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