

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

March 14, 2013
Elizabeth, New Jersey

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called on March 14, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., in the Multi Purpose Room, Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Tony Monteiro presented the following statement at 6:55 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a special 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, March 8, 2013. 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 to this March 14, 2013 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: Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso (arr. 7:01 p.m.), González, Nazco, Padlo, Trujillo (arr. 7:01 p.m.), Monteiro – 8

Absent: Mr. Perreira – 1

Superintendent of Schools Pablo Muñoz, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Board Attorney Kirk Nelson, and Assistant Board Secretary Donald Gonçalves were in attendance. There were no members of the public in attendance.

Mr. Kirk Nelson gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Ethics

Core Beliefs and Commitments

Mr. Monteiro 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.”

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

The President requests a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for the Superintendent’s Evaluation, Superintendent of Schools Annual Performance Report, Board Member Self Evaluation and School Board’s Professional Development Improvement Plan. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

A motion was made by Mr. Padlo, seconded by Ms. Bathelus, to go into private session at 7:00 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Mr. Nazco excused himself from the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Mr. Trujillo excused himself from the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

The Board reconvened in public at 10:10 p.m.

Kirk Nelson, Board Attorney, facilitated the Board members in a professional development improvement plan directed towards increasing knowledge and skills in policy making and governance. The Board members discussed the professional improvement plan including developing better communication and continuing work with Center for Reform of School Systems (CRSS).

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

Mr. Monteiro suggested asking Governor Chris Christie to be the keynote speaker at the high school graduation and asked if there were any other suggestions.

Board members suggested asking First Lady Michele Obama and Dr. Oz.

Mr. Monteiro stated that the Excellence Parade is scheduled for Sunday, May 5, 2013 with the rain date being Sunday, June 9, 2013.

On a motion by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. González, the meeting was adjourned at

10:40 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Padlo,
Monteiro – 6

Negative: None

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