

(Approved June 27, 2024
Board Meeting)

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

May 29, 2024,
Elizabeth, New Jersey

Board President Charlene Bathelus Dorgely welcomed everyone to the May 29, special meeting of the Elizabeth Board of Education.

Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely called the meeting to order and read the following statement at 6:14 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 The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth on May 24, 2024. 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 here at School No. 51 and to our television viewers to this May 29, 2024, 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 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.

“There will be a public portion for citizens to address the Board. Participants for the public portion must personally sign in prior to the 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.”

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.”

Present: Diane Barbosa, (arrived at 6:18 p.m.), Maria Carvalho, Illiana Chevres
Jerry Jacobs, (arrived at 6:20 p.m.) Rosa Moreno Ortega, Stanley Neron, Stephanie
Goncalves Pestana, Isaias Rivera, (arrived at 6:15 p.m.) Charlene Bathelus Dorgely –
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Absent: None

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Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., and Co-General Counsel Edward Kologi, Esq. of Kologi Simitz Law Offices, LLP, were present.

Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and Star-Spangled Banner.

Board Member Stanley Neron led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Star-Spangled Banner was played.

Board Member Stephanie Goncalves Pestana read the Pledge of Ethics.

The Board President read 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 microphone 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 60 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 participation shall apply:

1. Time limits will be strictly enforced.
2. No personal attacks on individuals.
3. No vulgar or indecent language.
4. A person may address the Board no more than once during a single meeting.
5. 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.”

Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely stated since there were no public participants registered to address the Board, Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely closed this portion of the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Rivera and seconded by Mrs. Moreno-Ortega to rescind the vote at the May 9th meeting to now reflect that Mrs. Carvalho, Mrs. Cheveres and Mr. Neron abstained on the Personnel Report Tab 2 A pg. 27 Employment of Certified and Non Non-Certified Tenured and Non Tenured Personnel.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Carvalho, Chevres, Moreno Ortega, Mr. Neron, Mrs. Goncalves Pestana, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely – 7

Negative - None

Board President Charlene Bathelus Dorgely, requested a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for discussion of the following matters: Superintendents Evaluation & Personnel Matters.

A motion was made by Mrs. Goncalves Pestana, seconded by Mrs. Chevres, to go into private session at 6:17 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Carvalho, Chevres, Moreno Ortega, Mr. Neron, Mrs. Goncalves Pestana, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely – 7

Negative - None

Mr. Neron left the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Mrs. Carvalho and Mrs. Cheveres left the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Board President Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely asked for a motion to reconvene in public session at 9:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Goncalves Pestana and seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, to reconvene in public session at 9:15 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno Ortega, Mrs. Goncalves Pestana, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely -6

Negative: None

Board President Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely asked if any Board members had comments or questions. Hearing none she asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Rivera, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno Ortega. Mrs. Goncalves Pestana, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely-6

Negative: None

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