

APPROVED
Bd. Mtg. 7-15-21

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

June 10, 2021
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular agenda and business meeting of the Board of Education was called to order on June 10, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy, 40 Morrell Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

In light of the Governor's recent order lifting Covid restrictions on indoor gathering capacity limits and social distancing requirements, the Meeting will be open to the public in person. In person attendees will still be required to follow Covid precautions including masks, temperature monitoring, and visitor Covid monitoring sign-in log. The Board will open in Public Session at 6:30 p.m. The Board reserves the right to go into Private Session to discuss matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act. Action will be taken.

Board President Jerry Jacobs presented the following statement at 6:47 p.m.

"Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a combined regular agenda and 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 June 7, 2021. 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 Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy and to our television viewers to this June 10, 2021 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 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: Diane Barbosa, Charlene Bathelus, Maria Carvalho, Iliana Chevres (via online platform), Rosa Moreno-Ortega (arr. 7:13 p.m.), Stephanie Pestana (via online platform), Jerry Jacobs – 9

Absent: Nathalie Alcaide-Hernandez, Stanley Neron – 2

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer Cedeno, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Judy Finch-Johnson, Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta, Comptroller Rajeev Malhotra, Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP, and members of the community were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key

The national anthem of Portugal was played.

Board President Jerry Jacobs called for a moment of silence for the loss of Francis A. Murphy, network technician in the Department of Technology and eleventh grade student Kevin Goldsmith from Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy.

Mr. Jacobs stated that this month we are recognizing Portugal Day which is a big day for all our Portuguese residents here in Elizabeth and around the country. Mr. Jacobs thanked the Juneteenth Unified Committee and Friends of New Jersey Legacy Foundation who are present tonight so we can properly honor Juneteenth. Mr. Jacobs stated that Juneteenth is an item we will be considering adopting on our academic calendar as a holiday for next year.

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint presentation with community update information. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that on Monday, Governor Murphy issued an executive order on indoor gatherings and the Elizabeth Public Schools will now be holding indoor ceremonies for eighth grade promotion ceremonies and high school graduation ceremonies.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide showing the schedule for the eighth grade promotion ceremonies and stated that the promotion ceremonies will be held on June 22nd through June 24th. Mrs. Hugelmeyer reviewed the dates and times for the eighth grade promotion ceremonies and stated that tomorrow morning we will be issuing a letter to the parents of our eighth grade students with the information. Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide showing the schedule for the high school graduations with the scheduled arrival one hour prior to the start of the graduation ceremony. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that this will allow our nurses to be able to screen our students properly and that masks will be required to be worn. Mrs. Hugelmeyer reviewed the dates and times of the high school graduations and stated that the class awards ceremonies will be held with the high school graduations from Friday, June 25th through Tuesday, June 29th. Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide and stated that the 28th Annual Excellence Awards Dinner for the top 100 seniors of the graduating Class of 2021 will be held on Wednesday, June 23rd.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide showing the schedule for the administration of high school final exams. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that notices will be sent to our families with reminders of the dates and times for final exams that will begin on Thursday, June 17th through Tuesday, June 22nd. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that, prior to the meeting tonight, she had the pleasure of speaking to some of our high school students who are in attendance

tonight and agreed to meet with them in person to be able to hear their concerns. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that it is difficult to go from a pandemic year to what is considered a normal school year as we restore our practices and trying to understand with regard to these requirements and the reasons why. Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide and stated that she wanted to share with the parents and students the importance of high school exams. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in the 2019-2020 school year, the final exams were canceled as a result of the acute severity of the pandemic. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in the 2020-2021 school year, the district organized itself around the goal of returning to normalcy. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that with the goal of returning to normalcy during the 2020-2021 school year, teachers and school administrators notified students in September and throughout the school year that final exams would be administered. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in recognition of the extraordinary circumstances caused by the pandemic, we have set a minimum grade for final exams for this school year in order to avoid harming a student's opportunity to pass a course. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that final exams are important because they address knowledge and skills that may not have been mastered when benchmarks, unit tests, and other assessments were administered but may be mastered by the end of the school year, provide students an opportunity to bring up 20 percent of their final grade for the school year, provide an additional component of a course final grade to give new entrant students the opportunity to gain course credit, and provide educators and students in grades 9-11 with instructional and curricular feedback for the following school year. Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide showing the Policy for the Evaluation of Individual Student Performance (File Code 6147.1) for exam exemption. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that seniors qualify for exemption from final exams in any class in which they meet the criteria. Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained the criteria for seniors to be exempt from final exams in advanced placement courses and general courses.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide and stated that on Monday, June 4, 2021, Governor Murphy issued an executive order and removed the restrictions for indoor gatherings including the removal of the general indoor gathering limit which was currently at 50 people, removal of the indoor gathering limit for political gatherings, weddings, funerals, memorial services, performances, and other catered and commercial events which was at 250 people, and removal of the 30 percent capacity limitation for indoor large venues with a fixed-seating capacity over 1,000. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in consultation with Chief Medical Inspector Dr. Guillermo Munoz and City Health Officer Mark Colicchio, it has been determined that the district schools can hold eighth grade promotion and graduation ceremonies indoors without issues pertaining to capacity. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the district has determined that capacity for any of the ceremonies, given the guidelines of two adults per student, will fall well below the capacity of any of the respective designated venues.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide and stated that on Monday, June 4, 2021, Governor Murphy issued an executive order on the use of face coverings. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Governor Murphy spoke about the heat as it relates to schools and noted in his presentation, "in school masking requirements include exceptions for extreme heat. School officials are empowered to make the best decisions for their buildings and communities." Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in consultation with Chief Medical Inspector Dr. Guillermo Munoz and City Health Officer Mark Colicchio, it has been determined that in cases of extreme heat, students and staff will have the option to remove their masks while inside the school building. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the same should apply when people are outdoors.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide showing the Summer Programs. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the Summer Programs will be offered from July 6th through August 5th. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that all programs will be held at air-conditioned facilities and transportation will be provided to K-8 students that reside 2.0 miles and beyond for eligible programs. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that online registration will be required for these programs. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the Summer Program brochure will be available online on June 15th.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer presented a PowerPoint slide about the American Rescue Plan. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the Elizabeth Public Schools has been awarded American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds this school year. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that stakeholder forums will be held to offer a brief presentation on the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Mrs. Hugelmeyer encouraged all our stakeholders including parents, teachers, and others to comment on the plan via the email address established for this purpose. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that public comments on this plan will be considered as the Elizabeth Public Schools finalizes its plan. Mrs. Hugelmeyer encouraged students, families, teachers, team members, and community members to complete a survey that takes fewer than five minutes to submit to let your voice be heard and all survey responses are anonymous. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the ARP ESSER survey is open through Wednesday, June 30th and is available in English, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, and Arabic. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that to date they have received over 700 responses to the survey and numerous emails that will be reviewed for inclusion into the district's ARP ESSER plan and grant application. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that concluded her presentation on the community updates.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we are honoring the Portuguese heritage and introduced a video presentation celebrating the culture and culinary traditions of Portugal Day including a special event for high school students to learn the art of making traditional Portuguese custard cups, Pasteis de Nata, at Roc's Café in Elizabeth.

Board members Diane Barbosa and Maria Carvalho gave traditional Portuguese Pasteis de Nata to the audience in attendance at the meeting.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that as we continue to recognize and celebrate the Portuguese culture, we are recognizing our Director of Special Services Diana Pinto-Gomez in our Excellence News this month for receiving the Union County Women of Excellence Award for Special Education Advocacy. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Diana Pinto-Gomez was among eleven women from throughout the county to be recognized with the Women of Excellence award to recognize women who lead, serve, and inspire in Union County for their impact on the community. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that as the Director of Special Services for the past four years, Diana Pinto-Gomez has been an outstanding advocate for the district's students with special needs. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that under her guidance, the Division of Special Services has routinely held information sessions for families through its Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC), hosted fairs to provide important resources and connect families of students with special needs with service providers, and participated in unique events such as the Ride on Santa's Train on the Montclair-Boonton Line created by Railmen for Children to bring joy to special needs and less fortunate children each year. Mrs. Hugelmeyer congratulated Diana Pinto-Gomez for this outstanding honor.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in our Excellence News we are also recognizing bilingual teacher Dr. Serra who has served 35 years at the Elizabeth Public Schools and is retiring July 1st. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Dr. Serra has mastered three languages including English, Portuguese, and Spanish. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Dr. Serra was born and raised in Angola, Africa and moved to the United States with her family and was married in 1979. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Dr. Serra also taught for twenty years as an assistant professor at Rutgers University. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that throughout her career, Dr. Serra has dedicated countless hours working with our students and their parents whether it was during her preparatory period, lunchtime, or in the evening. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Dr. Serra has worked diligently with our English Language Learners over the years and exemplifies all of the exceptional qualities a teacher should possess.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer introduced Elizabeth Public School administrators and team members of Portuguese descent and invited them to come forward to be recognized.

Resolution – Portugal Day

The resolution was read by Board members Diane Barbosa and Maria Carvalho.

Mr. Jacobs thanked them and all our Portuguese staff members as we recognize Portugal Day.

Mr. Jacobs introduced a video presentation in remembrance of the Centennial of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. Mr. Jacobs stated that the video details the tragic events that took place May 31, 1921 in Tulsa's Greenwood District, a thriving community known as Black Wall Street.

Mr. Jacobs stated that recently the school district also sponsored the adaptation of the play, Black Wall Street, by the United Youth of New Jersey to commemorate the occasion. Mr. Jacobs stated that it is important to our history because it was only recently in 2019 that they actually started teaching about the Tulsa Massacre in Oklahoma schools. Mr. Jacobs stated that it is important that we recognize all history by various cultures but, more importantly, our Black history because so many times our Black history becomes white-washed and it is not properly recognized and taught in the school districts.

Resolution – Tulsa Race Massacre

The resolution was read by Board member Charlene Bathelus and Assistant Superintendent for Schools Judy Finch-Johnson.

Mr. Jacobs thanked them and stated that it is important. Mr. Jacobs stated that this past week we had a meeting of the Amistad Collaborative and we have come such a long way in a short period of time in trying to make sure that the Amistad curriculum is being taught properly in our classes. Mr. Jacobs stated that we are happy to say that we have definitive proof that we know that there are 33 different lesson plans that contain the Amistad curriculum. Mr. Jacobs stated that it is very important that we make sure that our Black history is recognized and honored and not forgotten.

Mr. Jacobs introduced a video presentation in recognition of Juneteenth Independence Day and the end of slavery here in the United States. Mr. Jacobs stated that the video highlights the historical events that led to the end of slavery, the celebration of Juneteenth, and the work we are doing with the Harvard Reimagining Integration: Diverse and Equitable Schools (RIDES) Project.

Mr. Jacobs invited the Friends of the New Jersey Legacy Foundation and the Unified Juneteenth Committee to come forward to receive a copy of the Resolution for Juneteenth Independence Day.

Resolution – Juneteenth Independence Day

Mr. Jacobs read the resolution.

Mr. Jacobs stated that tonight we will be considering adding Juneteenth as an official holiday for next year's calendar.

Mr. Jacobs 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 microphone based on the order of the sign-in. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes in duration. The time limit will be strictly enforced and audio transmission will be terminated at the end of three minutes. 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: 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. Jacobs called upon the public participant, Jennifer Espinosa, to address the Board.

Jennifer Espinosa spoke about the transfer of her child's teacher.

Mr. Jacobs thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Dominic Rodriguez, to address the Board.

Dominic Rodriguez spoke about the transfer of his teacher.

Mr. Jacobs thanked him for his comments and called upon the next public participant, Maria Lorenz, to address the Board.

Maria Lorenz spoke about special education and SEPAC.

Mr. Jacobs thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Kason Little, to address the Board.

Kason Little spoke about the time limit for public speaking at the last meeting.

Mr. Jacobs thanked him for his comments and called upon the next public participant, Danielle Fienberg, to address the Board.

Danielle Fienberg spoke about LGBTQ.

Mr. Jacobs thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Layla Sayed, to address the Board.

Layla Sayed stated that they should not have final exams because these are not normal times.

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

Mr. Jacobs commented that he is not going to attack another black man because that is not good optics. Mr. Jacobs stated that it is unfortunate how people in the community will take an opportunity to do so to another at this time in the environment that we are in and claim to be Black Lives Matter. Mr. Jacobs stated that more importantly, the narrative that is being put out there is not true. Mr. Jacobs stated that just because that is the narrative that you choose to use doesn't mean that it is true. Mr. Jacobs stated that let's be clear, he is here to serve his community and he is here to serve the people who elected him to be on this Board. Mr. Jacobs stated that just because you may not agree with certain things that happen, regardless of what happens in the school district, doesn't change the fact of what we, here, are elected to do.

Mr. Jacobs stated that we will go tab by tab to review the agenda and each board member may ask questions.

Minutes of the Meeting of May 6, 2021

Secretary/Treasurer's Report for the Month of April 2021

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda.

Personnel Report

Supplemental Personnel Report

2nd Supplemental Personnel Report

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda.

Tuition Report

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda.

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

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

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that pursuant 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: 1) Any services provided; 2) Training established; 3) Discipline imposed; or 4) Other action taken or recommended by the chief school administrator. Mrs. Hugelmeyer 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.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer welcomed everyone to the Public Hearing on Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) and our Student Safety Data System Reporting for the period starting July 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020.

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." Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that during the Week of Respect, school districts are expected to organize activities, including but not limited 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, 2020, 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 December 31 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 violence, vandalism and harassment, intimidation and bullying which occurred during the previous reporting period.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that from September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, there were 14 HIB investigations completed by appropriate school staff. Of those cases investigated, 7 were confirmed cases of HIB. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the following Anti-Bullying Specialists, Anti-Bullying Specialist Alternates and Anti-Bullying Coordinator conducted these investigations including Dinorah Mejia, Cindy Goncalves, Shayra Bustamante, Kenyetta Jackson, Melissa Zappia, Kerry O'Connor, Laura Bellevue, Norma Cardona, Veronica Vega, Lisa Baginski-Matlosz, and Peter Vosseler.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that of the founded cases for HIB there were 2 incidents based on race/national origin, 1 incident based on gender identity or expression, 1 incident based on mental, physical or sensory disability, and 5 incidents based on other targeted bases. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that of the founded incidents, 5 incidents were verbal, 0 incidents were physical, and 5 incidents involved an electronic communication. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that for all HIB investigations, there were 0 out of school suspensions, 0 in school detentions, and 3 other disciplinary actions. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that additional services such as virtual

counseling, virtual skill development sessions, virtual classroom lessons, referrals for outside treatment resources, referrals to outside agencies, and virtual parent conferences were offered to all involved students.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that between September 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020, the district provided appropriate virtual HIB training to school counselors and social workers, and to new staff and support staff in the district. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that additionally, all district certified staff received the 2 hour mandatory virtual HIB training on December 7, 2020, which is required every 5 school years. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the district also provided extensive virtual 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 virtual training. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that new school level administrators and new HIB staff received virtual training in the HIBster reporting program.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that from September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 there was 1 total substance abuse incident districtwide. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that there were 0 incidents of violence, 0 incidents of vandalism, and 0 weapons incidents as school buildings remained closed throughout this timeframe due to the pandemic.

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.

Authorizations Report

Supplemental Authorizations Report

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda.

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda.

Award of Contracts Report

Supplemental Award of Contracts Report

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs requested that the contracts for Ace Endico, Corp., and Seashore Fruit and Produce Co., be removed from the agenda.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda (except for Ace Endico, Corp. and Seashore Fruit and Produce Co., which were removed).

Miscellaneous Communication – None

Claims List

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jacobs added the above to the agenda.

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Amended Tuition Agreement for Alternative High School for School Years 2020-2021 through 2024-2025

Resolution – E.R.E.S.C. Transportation Agreement for 2021-2022 School Year

Resolution – Colombia’s Independence Day

Resolution – Gun Violence Awareness Month

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Chapters 192-193 Services for 2021-2022

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Non-Public Technology Initiative Program for 2021-2022

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Non-Public Textbooks for 2021-2022

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Non-Public Title I Teacher Instructed Services for 2021-2022

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Non-Public School Security Aid Program for 2021-2022

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Professional Services for 2021-2022

Resolution – N.J.S.I.A.A. Membership for 2021-2022

Resolution – Qualifying and Appointing Professional Consultant for Board’s Sustainability

Resolution – Approving Addendum to Extend Agreement with Kelly Services, Inc.

Resolution – Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Capital Reserve

Resolution – Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Maintenance Reserve

Resolution – Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Emergency Reserve

Resolution – NJSBA 2021 Workshop Reimbursement

Resolution – Juneteenth Independence Day

Resolution – Centennial of 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre

Resolution – Transfer of Capital Reserve Funds

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any questions on the above resolutions.
Mr. Jacobs added the resolutions to the agenda.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that there is a Resolution for Gun Violence Awareness Month. Mrs. Carvalho offered condolences on behalf of her family and her colleagues to the family of Moussa Fofana, a junior and captain of the soccer team at Columbia High School in Maplewood, who was shot to death this past week. Mrs. Carvalho stated that it touches home because it could have been any of our children and it is fitting that this resolution is on our agenda tonight.

Mr. Kennedy led the Board members in a reading of the following Code of Ethics for New Jersey School Board Members.

“In accordance with N.J.S.A.18A:12-24.1 the Board shall see that all members of the Board receive training in understanding and adhering to the Code of Ethics and shall discuss it annually at a regularly scheduled meeting. Each member shall sign documentation that he/she has received a copy of it and has read and understood it.

The members of the Board of Education recognize that they hold authority not as individuals but as members of the Board. In order to make a clear public statement of its philosophy of service to the students of the district the Board adopts the following Code of Ethics.

The Board members will uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.

The Board members will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.

The Board members will confine their Board action to policy making, planning and appraisal and will help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them.

The Board members will carry out their responsibility, not to administer the schools, but together with their fellow Board members, to see that they are well run.

The Board members will recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the Board.

The Board members will refuse to surrender their independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

The Board members will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, the Board members will provide accurate information and, in concert with their fellow Board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.

The Board members will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

The Board Members will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

The Board members will refer all complaints to the Superintendent of Schools and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.”

Mr. Kennedy asked if there were any questions or comments and explained the acknowledgement of receipt that needs to be signed and submitted by each Board member.

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, contracts and legal matters. The Board will reconvene in public and may add to the agenda.

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbosa, seconded by Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, to go into private session at 8:56 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Chevres, Moreno-Ortega, Pestana, Mr. Jacobs – 7

Negative: None

Ms. Bathelus excused herself from the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Ms. Bathelus returned to the meeting (via online platform) at 8:59 p.m.

Mrs. Carvalho excused herself from the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

Mrs. Carvalho returned to the meeting (via online platform) at 10:02 p.m.

Mrs. Pestana excused herself from the meeting at 11:39 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Barbosa, seconded by Mrs. Chevres, to reconvene in public session at 11:40 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus (via online platform), Mmes. Carvalho (via online platform), Chevres (via online platform), Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Jacobs – 6
Negative: None

Mr. Jacobs added the following to the agenda:
Resolution – Appointment of Supervisor of Special Services – Thelusma Cadet
Resolution – Insurance Coverage for Liability, Property, and Excess Workers' Compensation
Resolution – Appointing Third Party Administrator - D&H Alternative Risk Solutions, Inc.
Resolution – Appointing Managed Care Organization - First Managed Care Option, Inc.
Supplemental Authorizations Report – Add Approval of 2021-2022 Calendar
Award of Contracts Report – Additional contracts for nursing services

Mr. Jacobs asked for a motion and second to adopt the following agenda:
Minutes of the Meeting of May 6, 2021
Secretary/Treasurer's Report for the Month of April 2021
Personnel Report
Supplemental Personnel Report
2nd Supplemental Personnel Report
Tuition Report
Superintendent's Report – Considerations
Superintendent's Report – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results
Authorizations Report
Supplemental Authorizations Report
Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers
Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds
Award of Contracts Report
Supplemental Award of Contracts Report (except for Ace Endico, Corp. and Seashore Fruit and Produce Co., which were removed)
Miscellaneous Communication – None
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Resolution – Appointment of Supervisor of Special Services – Thelusma Cadet
Resolution – Insurance Coverage for Liability, Property, and Excess Workers' Compensation
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Supplemental Authorizations Report – Add Approval of 2021-2022 Calendar
Award of Contracts Report – Additional contracts for nursing services

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, that the above be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho (abstain- Supplemental Personnel Report – F.M.; Authorizations Report – M.C.), Chevres, Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Jacobs – 6

Negative: None

Mr. Jacobs asked if there were any Board member comments.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she is very proud of what Mr. Jacobs announced tonight about Juneteenth as a holiday for next year. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated to her Board colleagues, Diane Barbosa, Maria Carvalho, and Stephanie Pestana, that tonight we are celebrating Portuguese Day and thanked them for their hard work and dedication. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega recognized all our community of Portuguese descent in this great City of Elizabeth. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega wished all the fathers a Happy Father's Day.

On a motion made by Mrs. Barbosa, seconded by Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

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