

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

July 22, 2021
Elizabeth, New Jersey

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called on July 22, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. using an online platform technology. Voice conferencing technology for the July 22, 2021 meeting was available to the public at <https://www.facebook.com/epsnj> and <https://www.youtube.com/user/epschools>.

Board President Jerry Jacobs presented the following statement at 12:05 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good afternoon. 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 using an online platform was sent to The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth on July 20, 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.

There will be an online public portion for citizens to address the Board. Participants for the public portion must register online up to the start of the meeting so that they may have the opportunity to speak. The public participation form states the name, email, and phone number of the person who wants to comment. Members of the public who prefer not to or do not have the means to participate using the online platform may continue to participate by emailing statements relative to agenda items and/or educational matters to the Secretary of the Board at kennedha@epsnj.org. All statements received will be read into the record during the Meeting’s Public Comment Portion. All emails must be submitted and received by the Secretary of the Board up to the start of the meeting and, as is always the case, must include the public member’s full name for the record. Each statement submitted by a participant shall be limited to three minutes in duration. The total time of public comment shall be limited to 60 minutes. Emails received but not read after the 60 minute duration will be spread in full in the Official Board Minutes of this meeting.”

Present: Nathalie Alcaide-Hernandez, Charlene Bathelus, Maria Carvalho, Iliana Chevres, Stephanie Goncalves, Jerry Jacobs – 6

Absent: Diane Barbosa, Rosa Moreno-Ortega, Stanley Neron – 3

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., and Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP were present via online platform technology.

Board President Jerry Jacobs presented the following public participation statement.

“At this time, the meeting is open for public comment online to those who have registered with the online participation form prior to this session. I shall call individuals to participate 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 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. Jacobs called upon the first online public participant, Maria Lorenz, to address the Board.

Maria Lorenz spoke about her child’s education and broken promises.

Mr. Jacobs thanked her for her comments and called upon the next online public participant, Daria Rodrigues, to address the Board.

Daria Rodrigues spoke about concerns of remote learning and asked about the protocols for the new school year.

Mr. Jacobs thanked her for her comments and called upon the next online public participant, Christina Moreira, to address the Board.

Christina Moreira spoke about parental concerns of student uniforms for this school year. Mrs. Moreira asked about the schedule for vaccines for children at the Dunn Sports Center.

Mr. Jacobs thanked her for her comments. Since there were no other public participants, Mr. Jacobs closed the public portion of the meeting.

Mr. Jacobs asked for a motion and second to adopt the following agenda:

Personnel Report

Award of Contracts Report

Resolution – Authorizing Board President and Administrator to Execute Two Leases for School Purposes Located at 209 Princeton Road and 943 Bond Street

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mrs. Alcaide-Hernandez, to adopt the above agenda.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Alcaide-Hernandez, Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho (abstain- Resolution – Authorizing Board President and Administrator to Execute Lease – 943 Bond Street), Chevres, Goncalves (abstain- Resolution – Authorizing Board President and Administrator to Execute Lease – 943 Bond Street), Mr. Jacobs – 6

Negative: None

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

Mrs. Carvalho asked if we could mail our Reopening Plan to the parent who spoke earlier.

Mr. Jacobs responded yes.

On a motion by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mrs. Goncalves, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Alcaide-Hernandez, Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Chevres, Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs – 6

Negative: None

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