

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

September 14, 2017
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called on September 14, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., in the MultiPurpose Room, Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Stanley Neron presented the following statement at 5:45 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 The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth on September 11, 2017. 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 and our television viewers to this September 14, 2017 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 this public portion may sign in up to the start of the public speaking portion 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: Mmes. Amin (arr. 6:20 p.m.), Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 9

Absent: None

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, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Schools Judy Finch Johnson, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Francisco Cuesta, Comptroller Rajeev Malhotra, Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP, and members of the public were in attendance.

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

Mr. Neron called for a moment of silence to honor and remember all those who lost their lives during the tragic and devastating events of September 11, 2001.

Mr. Neron stated that on September 11th the Marine Corps Junior R.O.T.C. held a flag raising ceremony at the Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy with a special flag donated to the district. Mr. Neron stated that Mark Detering donated the American

Flag that belonged to his father, Henry August Detering who was a physical education teacher and coach at Thomas Jefferson High School and Thomas A. Edison Vocational and Technical High School in the 1930's prior to serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a gunnery officer during World War II.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by preschool students Samantha Mauro, Davian Marte, and Rhomen Romero from Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51.

The *Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key was performed by trumpeter Daniel Lazo, tenth grade student at Elizabeth High School Frank J. Cicarell Academy.

The Pledge of Ethics, early childhood version, was led by preschool students Samantha Mauro, Davian Marte, and Rhomen Romero from Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51.

Mr. Neron introduced preschool students from Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51 who performed a dance to *La Gozadera* by Gente de Zona and Marc Anthony. Mr. Neron thanked the students for a wonderful performance.

Ms. Bathelus recognized team members from Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51 who work with our youngest students and deserve special praise for helping to provide the foundation for a lifelong love of learning including teachers Julian Acebo and Milagrosa Sader, child development associates Danny Guerrero and Marina Rodriguez, secretary Marga Torres, security guard Maria Roche, and custodian Maria Esteves. Ms. Bathelus and Board members congratulated them and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

Mrs. Carvalho recognized team members from the Division of Plant, Property, and Equipment for their behind the scenes work preparing our schools including carpenters Robert Donnellan, Vito Cassano, Steven Fedorochko, Vito Giannetta, Guiseppe Paparatto, Michael Vena; electricians Fidel Perez, Emmanuel Adames, Robert Anderson, Robert Linder, Noel Ortiz, Jose Vargas, and Jose Vazquez; general repairman Glen Bulle; laborers Rafiq Abdul-Nafi, Ralph Howard, Henry Ramirez, and Charles Reagor; painters Paul Cerqueira, Norberto Tamayo, John Mitchell, Luis Mayorga, Louis Sheppard, and Thiago Assis; plumbers Gary Schmitt, Kevin Brennan, Scott Huey, John Thompson, Ronald Asbaty, and Emilio Barreira; tinsmith Ronald McElroy; truck drivers Nicholas DiMaria, Walter Evers, Gary Foti, John Meola, Anthony Parenti, and Daniel Sinnott; and custodians Nelly Acevedo, Irvin Alarcon, Jose Arvelaez, Nester Betes, Eugenio Blanco, Humberto Boy, Nathaniel Boyd, Corey Carey, Orlando Carnet, Paula Carvalho, Eduardo Castanon, Edith Castillo-Garcia, Maria Castro, Lisandro Colon, Michael Conaty, Michael Coppa, Segundo Cruz, Carolina Echeverry, Rolando Escalona, Josue Fajardo, Martha Gallego-Riascos, Alvaro Gaviria, Jairo Gomez, Wilson Gonzalez, Luigi Guiducci, Itschack Hasson, Arley Hernandez, Ricardo Hinostroza, Joseph Kwiatek, Nobel Leon, Joseph Maddaloni, Maria Marques, Ana Medina, Alfrugum Minter, Ana Ortiz, Diego Padilla, Orlando Perez, Oswaldo Ramirez, Norma Ramos, Maria Rincon, Lino Rodrigues, Daniel Rodriguez, Marino Rodriguez, Luis Roman, Robert Saldana, Mirialvis Serrano, Willard Shaw, Joseph Tramuta, Antonio Zabbara, Luis Zurrita, Wilfredo Ceiro, Luis Gongora, Guadalupe Yanes; Coordinator of Mechanics Luis Milanes, Coordinator of Buildings and Properties Antonino Arcieri, Coordinator of Warehouse Eduardo Dias, and Director Luis Couto. Mrs. Carvalho and Board members congratulated them and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

Mr. Rodriguez recognized team members from the Transportation Department for their commitment to our students including bus drivers Mariano Megazo, Norma Crespo, Bethzaida Cruz, Mirtha Dominguez, Stephen Garron, Beatriz Giardinieri, Madeleinis Gonzalez, Providencia Gonzalez, Gladys Hernandez, Madelaine Herrera, Maria Irizzari, Joseph Jean, Farzin Khiabani, Jose Laranjeira, Julio Lobos, Milagros Lorenzo, Frederick Lutz, Luz Marin, Frank Marinaccio, Maria Marques, Paulo Martin, William Merten, Sr., Marta Pais, Fabiola Perez, Nelson Pulido,

Jose Romero, Maria Romero, Maria Santana, Victor Trujillo, and Edgar Valente; Coordinators of Transportation Harold Cardenas and Luis Ferreira; and Director of Transportation Mike Rijo. Mr. Rodriguez and Board members congratulated them and presented each with a certificate of commemoration.

Mr. Nina recognized the baseball players from the Elmora Troopers Little League Team who won the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Regional Tournament including Santiago Alvarez, Louis Aponte, Jr., Jayden Capindica, Derek Escobar, Salvador Garcia, Justin Labrador, Yadel Mateo, Emmanuel Nunez, Jordan Rey, Jayden Rosado, Joseiah Sharpe, Noah Sosa, and Yamil Soto; manager Louis Aponte; and coaches Alfonso Rey and Patty Aponte. Mr. Nina and Board members congratulated them and presented them with a certificate of commemoration.

Mr. Neron stated that after twenty years we have new marching band uniforms. Mr. Neron asked trumpeter Daniel Lazo, tenth grade student at Elizabeth High School Frank J. Cicarell Academy, to come forward and show the new marching band uniform. Mr. Neron introduced Band Directors Wayne Dillon and Ben Schwartz and Supervisor of Music Denis Argul and thanked them for the tremendous work they do with the music program and bands.

Ms. Bathelus excused herself from the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Mr. Neron called for a short recess at 6:26 p.m.

The Board reconvened in public session at 6:38 p.m.

Mr. Neron stated that we continue our partnership with the community in these important days and months ahead of us as we aim to become one of the nation's highest performing urban school districts. Mr. Neron stated that we have already made strides towards becoming a great school district including providing our students with high quality instruction and safe and caring school environments. Mr. Neron stated that in 2017-2018 we continue to have high expectations for our schools and envision a year in which we will all have greater academic performances and more efficient operational output. Mr. Neron stated that our students are depending on us to provide an excellent education that prepares them for college and career opportunities. Mr. Neron introduced a video presentation that captures the opening of the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Neron thanked the Superintendent for the vision and the IT Department for the video. Mr. Neron stated that a lot of work has been done and there is a lot to be done.

Board President Neron presented the following public participation statement.

"At this time, the microphones are open for public comment to those who have signed in. 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. Neron called upon the first public participant, Maria Lorenz, to address the Board.

Maria Lorenz, 103 Murray Street, stated that she has received several complaints from parents for Special Services at School Nos. 13 and 52 regarding the IEPs. Mrs. Lorenz asked when the SEPAC meeting will be held. Mrs. Lorenz stated that a Board member did not disclose on her Financial Disclosure that her son works at the Elizabeth Police Department.

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

Christina Moreira, 805 Gebhardt Avenue, asked about the \$250 fee for school trips and the revised dress code policy for K-2nd grade girls to wear pants. Mrs. Moreira spoke about the transportation without bus aides of PreK children and more than twenty young children on a bus without an aide. Mrs. Moreira stated that when we are transporting young children on a bus safety should be a top priority.

Mr. Neron thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Maria DaRassi, to address the Board.

Maria DaRassi, 420 Fay Avenue, stated that she was a victim of one of the people running for school board and that she did not receive pictures or a refund and questioned how that person would handle the children's school budget. Mrs. DaRassi stated that all the candidates are running for a position and there should be the same respect for all candidates. Mrs. DaRassi stated that at a City event the School Board President named one candidate running for the school board and did not recognize any others.

Mr. Neron thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Suzette Negron, to address the Board.

Suzette Negron stated that her son got hurt at school and she would like a copy of the incident report.

Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP, explained the procedure.

Mr. Neron thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Diane Cortes, to address the Board.

Diane Cortes stated that her daughter is at Cicarell Academy and is up to date with all of her credits and courses but has four electives and asked why she has to be there for half a day for four electives. Mrs. Cortes stated that students in this academy are treated differently, work very hard, and have harsher rules. Mrs. Cortes asked if she can be released one period early and still have three electives and asked for a policy on this.

Superintendent Olga Hugelmeyer stated that a full time student at Elizabeth High School has required start and end times and explained the options of an internship or a work study program with regard to early release.

Mr. Neron thanked her for her comments and requested that the parent speak with the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes. Since there were no other public participants signed in to address the Board, Mr. Neron closed this portion of the meeting.

Mr. Neron thanked everyone for bringing their concerns and stated that we have the proper personnel who can address each concern. Mr. Neron stated that the transportation issue is not an easy solution and is something that we are still working on and unfortunately it has been at least two years. Mr. Neron stated that it is not something that we are overlooking and is something that we are trying to figure out what can be done to create room with our budget to see what options exist. Mr. Neron stated that we have yet to find an option and there are a lot of demanding programs that are necessary and that we need.

Mr. Neron stated that this District was awarded \$6.7 million in additional funding to make up for some of the lost services. Mr. Neron stated that we had a lot of lost services and this

district was \$60 million underfunded. Mr. Neron stated that there are a lot of needs and things that we need to repair and bring back. Mr. Neron stated that with regard to field trips that even if everyone had the opportunity to have a trip we would need to encourage them to take them. Mr. Neron stated that we talked about bus aides and we are constantly going over and reviewing bus aides to make sure there are enough bus aides, bus drivers, and buses to make sure our special needs children are being properly addressed. Mr. Neron stated that we are six days into the new school year and there are a lot of kinks that need to be worked out and most of the kinks start with transportation early on because of the new routes. Mr. Neron stated that there are about 200-300 additional children on buses because of the expansion of schools and the expansion of special needs. Mr. Neron stated that a lot of adjustments are being made and the work continues. Mr. Neron stated that we are working hard and we are not perfect, we make mistakes every day, we learn from them, continue to do better, and move forward.

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the minutes of the meetings of August 10, 17, 25 and 31, 2017 be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves (abstain – minutes of August 25, 2017 meeting), Messrs. Nina, Perreira (abstain – minutes of August 17, 2017 meeting), Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Secretary and Treasurer's Report for the Month of July 2017

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Amin – 1

Negative: None

Personnel Report

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Supplemental Personnel Report

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

Tuition Report

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron (abstain- National Forum on Character Education) – 8

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Perreira (abstain- At Heart's Length), Rodriguez (abstain- Saint Peter's University, At Heart's Length), Neron – 7

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities with Fees

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Mr. Neron introduced Peter Vosseler, Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC/Affirmative Action/Guidance who presented the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results.

Mr. Vosseler stated that according 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 each investigation and include any services provided, training established, discipline imposed, or other action that was taken or recommended. Mr. Vosseler stated that since our last Board meeting there have been 0 new cases. Mr. Vosseler 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.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC/Affirmative Action/Guidance Peter Vosseler stated that we are required by state law to present the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying self-assessment two times per year. Mr. Vosseler stated that tonight he is presenting a report, *Assessing our Performance Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights*.

Mr. Vosseler stated that a No Bully Zone is important and in Elizabeth we believe that every child has the right to go to school and to get an education no matter what size, shape, color, race, disability, or financial background he/she has. Mr. Vosseler stated that that no child should ever be made to feel that school is a place where he or she will be degraded, demoralized, singled out, hounded, discriminated against or taken advantage of in a vulnerable situation.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the schools complete the self-assessment at the end of each school year and tonight he is presenting the results. Mr. Vosseler stated that a rubric was developed by the State to aide districts in assessing the school's efforts and improving their Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights programs. Mr. Vosseler stated that the rubric was designed to be a growth model and to be used to enhance programs at schools and districts and consists of eight core elements and twenty-six indicators with each indicator having a score of zero to three points. Mr. Vosseler explained that the first core element deals with programs, approaches, and initiatives and whether they are designed to create a better school climate. Mr. Vosseler stated that the second core element is training on our policy and includes looking at who we have to train, making sure our policy includes the protected classes under the law, and that we discuss the policy with students in an age appropriate manner. Mr. Vosseler stated that the third core element is about staff instruction and training programs and there is a requirement in the law that in every five-year cycle certified staff have to get two hours of HIB training and suicide training. Mr. Vosseler stated that the Anti-Bullying Specialists have to be able to meet with the Anti-Bullying Coordinator during school time and to be able to receive training during that time. Mr. Vosseler stated that we have to be able to provide professional development to the school safety and climate team which is a group that oversees the process at each school and that school leaders have also received the appropriate information. Mr. Vosseler stated that the fourth core element is curriculum and instruction and although it does not have a lot of indicators within this core element it is important because it is assessing how the school is providing appropriate instruction within the curriculum and whether the school and district are observing the Week of Respect which is the first full week in October. Mr. Vosseler stated that the fifth core element is regarding HIB required personnel and whether there is an Anti-Bullying Specialist and we go beyond the requirement by also appointing an Alternate Anti-Bullying Specialist in each school. Mr. Vosseler stated that it assesses whether we met the minimum requirement of meetings which we do and surpass and that the school safety and climate team met in the appropriate manner. Mr. Vosseler stated that the sixth core element is whether we have implemented the district's procedure for reporting HIB and all the required elements that go along with it and whether we have the procedure to put in new information into older cases. Mr. Vosseler stated that the seventh core element is our actual procedure and this deals a lot with timelines and did we meet all the timelines including doing investigations within ten school days, sending the results to the superintendent within the two days of the completed investigation. Mr. Vosseler stated that the last core element is HIB reporting and is there a system for our staff to report things. Mr. Vosseler stated that our HIB assessment scores are on the main website and each individual school website.

Mr. Vosseler explained the scoring and that zero is for not meeting the requirements, 1 is for partially meeting the requirements, 2 is for meeting all the requirements, and 3 is for exceeding the requirements. Mr. Vosseler stated that to meet and exceed the requirement there are a lot of indicators on the rubric that the school has to meet. Mr. Vosseler stated that the highest possible score is 78 which means that every indicator was scored a 3 and they have exceeded every indicator. Mr. Vosseler stated that a score of 52 means all of the indicators were met. Mr. Vosseler stated that our schools this year ranged from 52 to 69, and all of our schools scored 52 or more which is meeting the requirements. Mr. Vosseler stated that the average score across all the schools becomes the district score which is 61 and is up from 59 last year.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the self-assessment process is that all of the school safety and climate teams complete the self-assessment in May of each year. Mr. Vosseler stated that they

input the information on the NJ DOE website and the results are then presented to the public. Mr. Vosseler stated that then we receive approval from the Board of Education as well as assurances from the Superintendent. Mr. Vosseler stated that after that is completed we submitted all of our self-assessments to the NJ DOE for the school year and it was approved and then the results are uploaded to our websites. Mr. Vosseler stated that at the next Board meeting a second presentation is required by state law to present the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying self-assessment. Mr. Vosseler stated that tonight he is presenting the HIB self-assessment for the school year on how well our district is implementing the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the highlights of our work to date include an annual Week of Respect, district training for our team members, state and county training for the Anti-Bullying Coordinator, and guest speakers who address different aspects of anti-bullying at the schools. Mr. Vosseler stated that we have contracted with the community program called Breaking the Cycle and also contracted for cyber-bullying and internet safety training to all of our students from the Union County Prosecutor's Office. Mr. Vosseler stated that we also have HIB character education programs, Positive Behavior Supports in School (PBSIS), Generation Text Online, Peekapak, and Bully-Busting Curriculum in various schools. Mr. Vosseler stated that we are using the HIBster reporting system which is a streamlined way to process the incidents in a most efficient manner.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the work ahead of us is to analyze self-assessments by school, ensuring ongoing parental involvement on our school safety climate teams for all schools, focus on working with improving school climate at all schools, and implementing and expanding consistent HIB character education programming for all schools.

Mr. Vosseler asked if there were any questions and if there was anyone who would like to comment on tonight's report. No dialogue transpired and no comments were made regarding the presentation on Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Self-assessment.

Mr. Neron asked for a motion to accept the HIB Self-Assessment Report and send it to the New Jersey Department of Education.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted and sent to the NJ Department of Education.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Authorizations Report

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Amin – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Authorizations Report

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Amin – 1

Negative: None

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mr. Rodriguez – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa (abstain- The Uncommon Thread; Platt Psychiatric Associates, LLC; Medserv Healthcare Solutions, LLC; Rite Aid; Care Finders Total Care, LLC), Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Amin – 1

Negative: None

Mr. Neron asked for a motion to approve the following:

Supplemental Award of Contracts

2nd Supplemental Award of Contracts

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the Supplemental Award of Contracts Report and 2nd Supplemental Award of Contracts Report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Amin – 1

Negative: None

Miscellaneous Communication - None

Claims List

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Neron – 7

Abstain: Mr. Rodriguez – 1

Negative: None

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, specifically, L.I.,

supplemental personnel report, appointment. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez, to go into private session at 7:35 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira, Rodriguez, Neron – 8

Negative: None

Mrs. Amin and Mr. Perreira excused themselves from the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, to reconvene in public session at 8:25 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez, Neron – 6

Negative: None

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, to suspend the rules.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Rodriguez, Neron – 5

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Acting Vice Principal – Maria Lojo

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Rodriguez, Neron – 5

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Fit for Duty – L.I.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Rodriguez, Neron – 5

Abstain: Mr. Nina – 1

Negative: None

Mr. Rodriguez excused himself from the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

2nd Supplemental Personnel Report

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Neron – 5

Negative: None

Mr. Rodriguez returned to the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Mr. Neron asked for a motion to approve the following:

Resolution – School Violence Awareness Week

Resolution – Week of Respect

Resolution – Christopher Columbus Day
 Resolution – National Disability Employment Awareness Month
 Resolution – Italian-American Heritage Month
 Resolution – National Hispanic Heritage Month
 Resolution – Payment for Unused Sick Days
 Resolution – Payment for Unused Vacation Days
 Resolution – Appointing H. Schrier & Co. Inc. and Approving Form of Contract
 Resolution – Authorizing the Public Sale of Obsolete Computer Equipment
 Resolution – Authorizing the Public Sale of Out-of-Service School Buses
 Resolution – Expansion of Scope of Services and Related Contract Modification for
 Suplee, Clooney & Company Professional Services Contract for Auditing Services
 Resolution – Member Participation in a Cooperative Pricing System – Keystone Purchasing
 Network Program
 Resolution – Requisition for Taxes
 Resolution – Payment for Medical-Health Insurance Waiver
 Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim (2015-32083) – P.A.
 Resolution – Settlement Agreement and Release – S.V.
 Resolution – Appointing Eric Armin, Inc. Trading as EAI Education and
 Approving Form of Contract

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, that the above resolutions be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez,

Neron – 6

Negative: None

Superintendent’s Report

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that her report includes highlights from *InsideEPS*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the first article is *EPS Welcomes Back Administrators*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the new principals and vice principals appointed for the 2017-2018 school year include Principal of Winfield Scott School No. 2 Samuel Etienne, Principal of Joseph Battin School No. 4 Hollis Mendes, Vice Principal of Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5B Annex Robyn Azriel, Vice Principal of Jerome Dunn Academy School No. 9A Annex Linda Ferreira, Principal of Elmora School No. 12 Mari Celi Sanchez, Principal of Benjamin Franklin School No. 13 Alina Stewart, Principal of Christopher Columbus School No. 15 Gina Dalton, Principal of Madison Monroe School No. 16 Antonio DiFonzo, Vice Principal of Victor Mravlag School No. 21 Michael Wansaw, Principal of Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 Veronica Alvero, Vice Principal of Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29 Joia Hill, Principal of John E. Dwyer Technology Academy Sulisnet Jimenez, Vice Principal of John E. Dwyer Technology 9th Grade Academy Sean Black, Vice Principal of John E. Dwyer Technology 9th Grade Academy Dalia Elrakaybie, Vice Principal of Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy Michael Robel, Vice Principal of Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy John Byrne, and Vice Principal of Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy Danny Ortiz. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the new administrators of central administration for the 2017-2018 school year include Acting Assistant Superintendent for Schools Judy Finch Johnson, Acting Director of Athletics Bartolomeo Candelino, Acting Director of Bilingual and ESL Education Sandra Nunes, Director of Special Projects Dorothy McMullen, Director of Special Services Diana Pinto Gomez, Coordinator of Building and Properties Antonino Arcieri, Family and Community Outreach Coordinator Wilnes Jilus, Supervisor of Bilingual and ESL PreK-12 Rebecca Orellana, Acting Supervisor of Guidance Anthony DiDonato, Supervisor of Special Services Danica Davidman, Supervisor of Special Services Justine McConkey, and Supervisor of World Languages Ileana Mena.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the next article is *EPS Continues Partnership with NYU to Enhance STEM Education*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded NYU’s Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development a \$2.5

million grant to partner with the Elizabeth Public Schools in the effort to improve computer science and computational thinking at the elementary school level. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the grant is part of the NSF's Science, Technology, Engineering and Math plus Computing (STEM+C) Partnerships which seeks to address the urgent need to prepare students from early childhood through high school with essential skills to successfully participate in a world in which computing plays an increasing role. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that STEM+C promotes computational thinking and computing activities in the classroom through integrating computing in STEM education as well as STEM content in computer science education. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the NSF awarded NYU Steinhardt the grant to develop a year-long fifth grade science curriculum with a focus on English learners that integrates computational modeling. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the curriculum will align with the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), which is an effort to rethink and improve how science is taught and learned in U.S. classrooms. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that since their release in 2013, the NGSS were adopted by 18 states and D.C. while other states have adapted the standards. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the science curriculum will integrate computational models using StarLogoNova, a block-based programming environment to allow students to model causal relationships that explain the studied phenomena, such as what happens to garbage over time. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that to determine the feasibility of implementing the curriculum in classrooms, the researchers will gather data through focus groups, classroom observations, and teachers' feedback and to measure learning outcomes, students will complete assessments of science and computational thinking. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the three-year grant began August 1, 2017 and the project is led by Okhee Lee, Professor of Childhood Education at NYU Steinhardt along with NYU Steinhardt's Lorena Llosa, Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Eric Klopfer, and Vanderbilt University's Corey Brady and Douglas Clark. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the grant continues an already successful partnership forged between Elizabeth Public Schools and NYU Steinhardt. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the National Science Foundation previously awarded \$3 million to researchers at the NYU Steinhardt and Stanford University Graduate School of Education to create a language-focused science curriculum for fifth graders to be used in Elizabeth Public Schools and schools in California beginning in September 2015. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the project focused on developing STEM education that supports English language learners.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the next article is *EPS Summer Enrichment Program Explores Under the Sea*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that students of the Summer Enrichment Arts Program in grades 1-12 explored different facets of the fine and performing arts and participated in activities across the curriculum based on the theme *Under the Sea*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that hands-on activities were to be utilized to explore math, science, language arts, and social studies infused into a focus on the fine and performing arts. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the lessons were created around a broad spectrum of art activities integrated with interdisciplinary activities as they relate to sea life and the ocean. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that a variety of art projects were created while exploring different mediums to produce an amazing study of the ocean and all of its facets. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that through photography, sculpture, ceramics, drawing, and painting students made sea life and coral reef that adorned the gymnasium of School No. 21 to end the summer in an art show to remember. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that students in the theater arts wrote and produced a show highlighting the importance of keeping our ocean and beaches free from garbage and introduced scientific vocabulary explaining the tides and animals that live within the sea. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that they learned first-hand how to design costumes and write songs to be sung for a memorable performance. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the band offered a grand introduction to the festivities with a booming performance. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that among the concepts and skills learned by students was writing clearly and visually expressing writing skills through proper sentence structure with picture prompts, solving mathematical problems as it relates to dance, drama, space and form, and understanding historical time periods and current issues around the preserving sea wildlife.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the next article is *School No. 2 to Host Jazz House Kids Residency*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that as part of a rich and robust partnership shared between the Elizabeth Public Schools Performing Arts department and Jazz House Kids of Montclair, NJ, the Jazz House Kids will have a year-long residency at Winfield Scott School No. 2 as part of

their after school enrichment program. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Jazz House Kids is a community-based arts organization with a mission to provide year-round musical, educational, and cultural programs to students in grades K-12, teachers, adults, and families from diverse backgrounds helped to establish the residency. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that guest artists will work with our faculty in teaching students, family and community members how to sing and play jazz music. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the partnership is designed to enrich the lives of the School No. 2 community as well as raise the social/emotional learning of the students.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the last article is *Former EPS Bilingual Student Now Employed at Google*. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the goals of the Elizabeth Public Schools are for every child to be college prepared, career readiness, and on-time graduation and the district's ALL MEANS ALL philosophy is highlighted by the success of a former student of the John E. Dwyer Technology Academy bilingual program. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the Class of 2012 graduate Mariuxi Vasconez is currently an Information Technology Resident at Google. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that her relationship with Google began when she received a four-month internship at the tech giant in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 2016. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that receiving an internship at Google is ultracompetitive with thousands of students submitting resumes to the company on a daily basis. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in Vaxconez's case it was a recruiter from Google that asked for her resume as she attended the 2014 Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) conference and job fair. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the responsibilities of a Google Information Technology Resident include providing support across all channels, including chat, email, phone, video, in-person, etc; troubleshooting across Google's corporate resources, applications, and various operating systems including Linux, OS X, Windows, Chrome OS, and Android platforms; and supporting various services such as video conferencing, remote access, new internal products, and mobile technology. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Vasconez has a unique background as she was born in Ecuador and moved to Barcelona, Spain when she was 7 years old. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that when she was 16 she and her mother moved to America so she could attend American high school and get into a top U.S. university. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that during her two years at John E. Dwyer Technology Academy as a member of the bilingual program she maintained a weighted grade point average of 3.96 and was an honor roll student during her last seven marking periods including the last two marking periods of her senior year as a Superintendent's Scholar. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that she attended New Jersey Institute of Technology where she received a bachelor's degree in Business and Information Systems. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that she continued to be an excellent student at NJIT maintaining a high GPA in a demanding major and serving as a campus leader in the role of vice president of SHPE and also a co-founder of the Latin American Student Organization (LASO) at NJIT. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that concludes her report.

Mr. Neron thanked Mrs. Hugelmeyer for her report.

On a motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Rodriguez,
Neron – 6

Negative: None

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