

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

November 20, 2017
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular agenda meeting of the Board of Education were called on November 20, 2017 at 5:30 p.m., at Frances C. Smith Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 50, 1000 South Elmora Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Stanley Neron presented the following statement at 5:38 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a regular agenda 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 November 14, 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 November 20, 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 the public portion may sign in up to the start of the public speaking so that they may have the opportunity to speak. The sign-in sheet states the name, address, telephone number and reason that the person wants to comment, whether it is an agenda item or a general education comment.”

Present: Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Nina, Mr. Neron – 5
Absent: Mmes. Amin, Barbosa, Messrs. Perreira, Rodriguez – 4

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer stated that at the October 19, 2017 Board meeting the Board approved a generous donation from Jets Football Coach Todd Bowles and Taneka Bowles. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the donation was presented to the Elizabeth Public Schools at the Jets Play 60 Program held at Thomas G. Dunn Sports Center on October 18, 2017.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer introduced Supervisor of Physical Education, Health, and Safety Joseph Pryztula, Jr. to present how we are using the donation.

Supervisor of Physical Education, Health, and Safety Joseph Pryztula, Jr. explained the Special Olympics Play Unified program. Mr. Pryztula stated that the program is being held at Elmora School No. 12, Victor Mravlag School No. 21, Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28, Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy, and John E. Dwyer Technology Academy. Mr. Pryztula presented a handout to the Board members stating that Play Unified differs from traditional Special Olympics in that the athletes compete side by side with their partners; that Special Olympics Play Unified looks different in each school dependent on their student population; that Elmora School No. 12, Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28, Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy, and John E. Dwyer Technology Academy expanded their Unified Physical Education programs with athletes and partners having a buddy-up for instruction, fun and games during their school's physical education and intervention periods; and that the schools culminated their program with their own Unified Game Day at their individual schools. Mr. Pryztula stated that for this school year the program will be held at the same schools and the students will participate in bowling at Linden Lanes during the day.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if it includes practice as well.

Mr. Pryztula responded yes as well as the competition.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer thanked Mr. Pryztula for the presentation. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that also approved at the October Board meeting is the United Way Partnership. Mrs. Hugelmeyer introduced Acting Coordinator of Alternative Learning Lyle Mosely to present the United Way Partnership.

Acting Coordinator of Alternative Learning Lyle Mosely presented the United Way Partnership Youth Employment Pathways Program (YEPP) for academic and counseling services for twenty students who would graduate in 2018 but are in risk of dropping out. Mr. Mosely stated that thirty students were identified and sent to the United Way of Greater Union County for consideration and then twenty are selected.

Mr. Mosely stated that the requirements include attending school, ages between 14 and 21, low income, citizen/authorization to work, at risk of not completing high school, parental and student commitment, and completion of all registration requirements. Mr. Mosely stated that the requirements include one or more of the following: basic skills deficient, ELL, an offender, homeless, pregnant or parentings, individual with disability, and someone who needs assistance to enter or complete an educational program. Mr. Mosely stated that the EPS criterion include free/reduced lunch, eleventh graders with between 80 and 105 credits, 85-95% attendance rate, GPA between 1 and 2.1, and all EPS academies. Mr. Mosely stated that the United Way YEPP services include tutoring services provided by UWGUC and the students will be given a stipend for their attendance; counseling services provided by PROCEED and clinical and career counseling are available; and students who successfully engage in the program will be afforded the opportunity to participate in a summer work program.

Mr. Neron asked if there is any cost to EPS.

Mr. Mosely stated that there is no cost to the district and it is funded by the United Way.

Miss Goncalves asked if the number of participants will increase.

Mr. Mosely stated that we are hoping to increase for next year.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if the district has any input in the selection of students.

Mr. Mosely responded yes and the students must fit the criteria. Mr. Mosely stated that they may have a waiting list due to attendance issues or non-interest in the program.

Mr. Neron stated that we have many community partnerships to address the needs of the district. Mr. Neron congratulated the winners of the district board member election, Maria Carvalho, Rosa Moreno, and Jerry Jacobs. Mr. Neron congratulated all who ran for their efforts and stated that it is an arduous process.

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, spoke about the number of bus accidents. Mrs. Lorenz questioned why there is no resolution for a person who was suspended in April.

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

Board President Stanley Neron stated that this is an agenda setting meeting. Mr. Neron stated that we will go tab by tab and each Board member may ask questions. Present for the meeting were Director of Plant, Property & Equipment Luis Couto, Director of Transportation Michael Rijo, Director of Security Matthew Glackin, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment Amy Gil, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Aaron Goldblatt, Director of Special Projects Dorothy McMullen, Acting Director of Athletics Bartolomeo Candelino, Director of Special Services Diana Pinto-Gomez, Director of Bilingual and ESL Education Sandra Nunes, Director of Food and Nutrition Services Jamie Leavitt, Chief Information Officer (Technology) Alberto Marsal, and Purchasing Agent Mario Rodrigues. The Board reviewed the agenda for the November 20, 2017 regular meeting.

Minutes of the Meetings of October 12 and 19, 2017
Secretary/Treasurer's Report for the Month of September 2017

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron added the Minutes of the Meetings of October 12 and 19, 2017 and the Secretary/Treasurer's Report for the Month of September 2017 to the agenda.

Personnel Report

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron added the Personnel Report to the agenda.

Tuition Report

Supplemental Tuition Report

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron added the Tuition Report and Supplemental Tuition Report to the agenda.

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron added the Superintendent's Report – Considerations, Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities, and Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities to the agenda.

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron added the Superintendent's Report – Field Trips to the agenda.

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

Mr. Neron added the Superintendent's Report – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results to the agenda.

Authorizations Report

Supplemental Authorizations Report

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions on the reports.

Mr. Neron added the Authorizations Report and the Supplemental Authorizations Report to the agenda.

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers, etc.

Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions on the reports.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if this is the final payment to Netta Architects.

Mr. Couto responded no and explained that this is for the initial work.

Mr. Neron added Finance and Accounting Reports for Authorization to Pay Vouchers, etc. and Transfer of Funds to the agenda.

Award of Contracts Report

Supplemental Award of Contract Report

Second Supplemental Award of Contracts Report

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions on the reports.

Mrs. Carvalho asked about the Gaggle.net Internet Safety for Parents workshops and how the parents are notified.

Director of Special Projects Dorothy McMullen responded that she will get the information.

Mrs. Carvalho asked about the Commvault contract.

Chief Information Officer (Technology) Alberto Marsal explained that it is the software for all data being backed up.

Mr. Neron added the Award of Contracts Report, Supplemental Award of Contracts Report, and the Second Supplemental Award of Contracts Report to the agenda.

Miscellaneous Communication (none)

Claims List

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron added Miscellaneous Communication and Claims List to the agenda.

Resolution – U.C.E.S.C. Teacher Instructed Services Agreement ESEA Title 1 2017-2018

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron asked about this agreement.

Mr. Kennedy explained that Union County manages the services.

Director of Special Projects Dorothy McMullen explained that the services include basic skills, nursing, and speech that are part of Title I.

Mr. Neron added the resolution to the agenda.

Resolution – NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJ QSAC) Submission 2017-2018

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that on an annual basis we are required to document in compliance with all regulatory statutes. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that this is a self-assessment and is submitted to the County Superintendent for review and then a follow-up with the County Superintendent and QSAC Specialist.

Mr. Neron added the resolution to the agenda.

Resolution – Payment for Unused Sick Days

Resolution – Payment for Unused Vacation Days

Resolution – Student Accident Insurance Policy for 2017-2018

Resolution – New and Revised Policies and Exhibits

Resolution – Payment for Medical Health Insurance Waiver

Resolution – Approving New Route Student Transportation – Shore Vans, Inc.

Resolution – Appointing A Plus Glass & Metal, LLC and Approving Form of Contract

Resolution – Submission of Early Childhood Budget for the 2018-2019 School Year

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – L.B.

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – C.N.

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – B.T.

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – J.T.

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – N.G.

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – J.O.

Resolution – Settlement Agreement – R.B.

Resolution – Reorganization

Resolution – Correction of Salaries

Resolution – Transfer of Supervisor

Mr. Neron asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Neron asked about the resolution for Shore Vans.

Director of Transportation Michael Rijo explained the contract for two new routes.

Mr. Neron asked about the resolution for A Plus Glass & Metal for classroom alterations.

Director of Plant, Property and Equipment Luis Couto explained that due to the enrollment at Halsey Annex an additional classroom is needed.

Mr. Nina asked about the Awards of Contract Report contract with Martin Giorgieff d/b/a Martin Piano Tuning. Mr. Nina asked how the process works for piano tuning since we have a local business that has been here for 100 years.

Director of Bilingual and ESL Education Sandra Nunes responded that she will get more information.

Purchasing Agent Mario Rodrigues explained the threshold amount for bids and quotes for purchasing.

Ms. Bathelus asked about the Supplemental Authorization Report for a donation from LensCrafter. Ms. Bathelus asked how did we get the donation, is this the first time, and how were the 15 students chosen.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained the donation from LensCrafter and that it was done by a school nurse and submitted to Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction Anne O'Dea. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that she will follow-up if it has been done in the past.

Mr. Neron added the resolutions to the agenda.

Mr. Neron stated that the Board members are using laptops tonight to be eco-friendly. Mr. Neron stated that in the past an astronomical amount of paper was used for the Board meetings. Mr. Neron stated that this is a more efficient app with note taking and thanked the Technology Department for their hard work. Mr. Neron stated that due to scheduling we are getting ready for the second meeting tonight.

On a motion by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Nina, the agenda meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Nina, Mr. Neron – 5

Negative: None

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