

**NEW 11/18/2021 MEETING (Thursday, November 18, 2021)**  
*Generated by Patricia Wright*

**HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
 REGULAR MEETING  
 NOVEMBER 18, 2021  
MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education was held in the A.B.G.S Middle School Band Box, 70 Greenwich Street, Hempstead, New York 11550. The meeting was called to order at 6:09 P.M., moved by Trustee and seconded by Trustee Pratt. All of the Board Members were present, Trustee Pratt attended via zoom and Trustee Stith arrived at 6:43 P.M. There was a presentation from Global Resurrection and Mrs. Reina Jovin in reference to the community schools grant. The Superintendent offered remarks and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Public participation was entertained, all concerns were addressed by the Board, Superintendent and staff.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Olga Brown Young, President  
 Victor Pratt, Vice President-Zoom  
 LaMont Johnson, Trustee  
 Patricia McNeill, Trustee  
 Randy Stith, Trustee

**SED MONITOR:**

Dr. William Johnson

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Regina Armstrong, Superintendent  
 Djuana Wilson, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education  
 Jamal Scott, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations  
 Gary Gentles, Business Administrator  
 Rodney Gilmore, Ed. D., Associate Superintendent for HR  
 James Clark, Assistant Superintendent for Special Assignments  
 Allan Wakefield, Facilities Consultant  
 Patricia Wright, District Clerk  
 John Sheahan, General Counsel  
 Leandre John, Labor Counsel  
 Austin Graff, Special Counsel  
 Stuart Besen, Special Counsel

**A. MEETING OPENING**

Procedural: 1. Pledge of Allegiance

Procedural: 2. Moment of Silence

**B. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

**C. SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS**

**D. COMMENDATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

Emergime Aqua Cultural Facilities Program

Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill to approve the consent calendar.

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**

To approve the  
 consent calendar

**E. BOARD OPERATIONS**

1. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approve the 2nd reading of policy # "Gender Neutral Restrooms" (Attached)

**F. CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL**

**RESIGNATION – RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **ACCEPT** the resignation(s) from the following Civil Service personnel for **RETIREMENT/PERSONAL PURPOSES**:

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>POSITION</u></b>	<b><u>REASON</u></b>
Marco Martinez	Cook	Letter of resignation received for personal reasons.

Eff. 12/21/21

High School

**CIVIL SERVICE PERSONNEL**

**APPOINTMENT(S) - RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **APPOINT** the following **CIVIL SERVICE** Personnel:

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>POSITION</u></b>	<b><u>REASON</u></b>	<b><u>COMPENSATION</u></b>
Maria Ringgold Eff. 11/29/21	Attendance Aide, Barack Obama	Lv. 21, St. 5-prorated <b>PURPOSE:</b> Replacing T. Lake, resigned 11/2/21; Bd. action 10/14/21	\$31,065-prorated (Lv. 21, St. 5)

**A. RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **APPROVE** the following personnel for the Weekly AIS "I Can" After-School Program on Tuesdays and Thursdays, effective - April 12, 2022 from 3:20 PM to 5:45 PM (for Teachers and Teaching Assistants) and from 4:05 PM to 6:05 PM (for Administration/Clerical/Security) - (Title I Grant Funded).  
Meeting Dates: (37 sessions) October 19, 21, 26, 28/ November 4, 8, 15, 18, 30/ December 2, 7, 9, 14, 16/ January 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27/ February 1, 3, 10, 15, 17/ March 1, 3, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24/ April 5, 7, 12. (Source of Funding - American Rescue Plan)

**RECOMMENDED BY:** Keesha Keller - David Paterson – After School Program

<b><u>NAME</u></b>	<b><u>POSITION</u></b>	<b><u>COMPENSATION</u></b>
<b><u>DAVID PATERSON</u></b>		
Patricia Barnes Eff. 11/23/21	Clerical	Contractual Straight Time Rate

Trustee Stith moved seconded by Trustee Johnson to adopt the resolution in honor of Florence Galloway  
**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF**  
**Mrs. Florence Galloway**  
**November 18, 2021**

**WHEREAS**, the Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education, Superintendent and Staff takes special pride in recognizing the services of Florence Galloway who diligently served the district for many years, and;

**WHEREAS**, Florence Galloway took an enormous leap of faith and was a dedicated employee of the district duly appointed to the position of a Teacher on December 9, 1968;

**WHEREAS**, Florence Galloway again accepted the responsibility of being appointed to an Administrative position; and

**WHEREAS**, Florence Galloway performed the duties of an Administrator with honor and pride until her retirement in July 2004;

**WHEREAS**, Florence Galloway will forever be remembered as a woman with moral values and dedication to the students and staff;

**THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED**, that the Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education, Superintendent and Staff will be forever grateful for the outstanding services of Florence Galloway and;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education will retain this resolution as a part of the official minutes of this organization in honor of the dedication Florence Galloway displayed during her term of service in this District and;

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED**, this resolution will be adopted on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Board President-Olga B. Young

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent of Schools-Regina Armstrong

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice President-Victor Pratt

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee-Lamont Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee-Patricia McNeill

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trustee-Randy Stith

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Clerk - DISTRICT SEAL

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**

To adopt resolution  
in honor Florence Galloway

**Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill the SED Monitor's plan as revised.**

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accepts the 2021-2022 revisions of the State monitor's academic and fiscal improvement plan.

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 5</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
To accept Monitors Plan as revised		

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Stith to convene to executive session a 8:56 P.M. to discuss personnel, a particular individual and advice of legal counsel.**

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 4</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
To convene to executive session		
	(****Trustee Pratt lost connection)	

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Stith to reconvene to open session at 11:55 P.M.**

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 5</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
To reconvene to open session		

**HAND CARRY  
NOVEMBER 18, 2021**

**Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve to waive policy # 2342.**

**POLICY WAIVER**

**1. BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Education waives Policy 2342 requiring the agenda, together with supporting background materials, to be distributed to Board members seven days in advance of a Board meeting, and the Board shall permit the consideration of the hand-carry resolutions presented at the November 18, 2021 meeting of the Board; and

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the waiver of Policy 2342 is effective only for the hand-carry resolutions considered at the November 18, 2021 meeting.

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 5</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
To waive policy # 2342		

**ITEMS 2,3,4,5, & 6 PULLED**

**2. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves to accept the terms and conditions of the employment agreement for Patricia Wilson- Wright, District Clerk and the HUSD Board of Education effective July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

**3. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the terms and conditions of the employment agreement for Djuana Wilson, Assistant Superintendent for Special Education effective July 1, 2021.

**4. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the terms and conditions of the employment agreement for Rodney Gilmore, Ed. D, Associate Superintendent effective July 1, 2021.

**5. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the terms and conditions of the employment agreement for James Clark, Assistant Superintendent for Special Programs effective July 1, 2021.

**6. BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to extend the services of Ed Cullen, Business Consultant to June 30, 2022 at an hourly rate of \$130.00 not to exceed 20 hours per week.

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Stith to approve the settlement agreement as indicated.**

**7. WHEREAS**, the Plaintiff Noel Rios ("Plaintiff") commenced an action ("Action") in the Eastern District of New York under Docket Number 17-cv-3444 on June 8, 2017 alleging claims against the District and former Superintendent Susan Johnson ("Johnson") alleging racial discrimination, retaliation, equal protection violation and direct participation and aiding and abetting discrimination and retaliation; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 17, 2017, the District and Johnson (collectively referred to as "Defendants") requested permission to make Motion to Dismiss pursuant to FRCP Rule 12(b)(6); and

**WHEREAS**, on May 7, 2018, the Plaintiff filed an Amended Complaint; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 8, 2018, the Defendants filed an Answer to the Amended Complaint, denying the allegations and asserting affirmative defenses; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 9, 2020, the Defendants sought permission to make a Motion for Summary Judgment; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 9, 2020, the Plaintiff opposed the Defendants' request to make a Motion for Summary Judgment; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 17, 2020, based solely upon the parties' pre-motion conference letters, the Court denied the Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 6, 2021, the parties participated by Zoom in a settlement conference before the Hon. James M. Wicks, U.S.M.J. and agreed to resolve this Action under the terms described in this Settlement Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, in the interests of avoiding the cost, expense and uncertainties of trial, the Plaintiff and the Defendants (collectively, the "Parties") desire to resolve all claims asserted in the Action or which could have been asserted in the Action or which may otherwise have been available to Plaintiff or existed arising from his employment with the District;

**WHEREAS**, without any admission of any wrongdoing or liability by or on the part of any party hereto, the Parties have reached an agreement to compromise, settle, resolve and terminate all claims, disputes and matters asserted in the Action or which could have been asserted in the Action or which may otherwise have been available to Plaintiff or existed arising from his employment with the District or in any possible manner related thereto; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby approves and adopts the Settlement Agreement, and with it the resolution of the litigation as between the Defendants and the Plaintiff, which Settlement Agreement shall be kept on file in the District's Office of Human Resources, pursuant to its terms and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby authorizes the Board President or her authorized designee to execute the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the District.

Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to approve the personnel appointments.

### PERSONNEL

8. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves the Superintendent's recommendation to **APPOINT** the following professional personnel:

Funding Source is Smart Scholars Grant for the 2021-2022 school year effective 11/22/21 through 6/30/22, Monday through Friday and Saturdays. Clerical hours from 4pm to 6pm M-F and 9-1pm on Saturdays, Teachers and Guidance counselors can mentor students before school, during school hours and afterschool.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>COMPENSATION</u>
Tamara L Darien	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Aston Bell	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Patricia Ortmann	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Randi Eskenazi	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Melissa Spleen	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Tracey Brown	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Jennifer Garcia	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Michael Higgins	Smart Scholars Mentor	\$50/Hr. 3 hrs. per week
Marsha Hutchinson	Guidance Counselor	Service Assignment III-\$2,908

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 5</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
To approve personnel appointments		

Trustee Stith moved, seconded by Trustee McNeill to approve to attend Board of regents meeting.

**RESOLVED**, the Board of Education hereby authorizes Trustee McNeill, Trustee Stith, Trustee Pratt and Trustee Johnson to attend the Board of Regents meetings scheduled on December 13, 2021 and December 14, 2021, and authorizes the reimbursement of meals, travel expenses and lodging for said Board members in accordance with Board Policy.

### **G. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee McNeill moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 12:03 A.M.

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>YES 4</b>	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
Meeting adjourned		

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Wright  
District Clerk