

MINUTES OF THE PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION MEETING

January 4, 2024 – 6:24 p.m.
Joseph A. Taub School

Presiding: Dr. Laurie W. Newell, Superintendent of Schools

Present:
Khalifah Shabazz-Charles, Esq., General Counsel

Comm. Redmon read the Open Public Meetings Act:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of, and to attend the meetings of the Paterson Public School District, as well as other public bodies at which any business affecting the interest of the public is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this law, the Paterson Public School District has caused adequate and electronic notice of this meeting:

**Organization Meeting
January 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
Joseph A. Taub School
202 Union Avenue
Paterson, New Jersey**

to be published by having the date, time and place posted in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Paterson, at the entrance of the Paterson Public School offices, on the district's website, and by sending notice of the meeting to the Arab Voice, El Diario, the Italian Voice, the North Jersey Herald & News, and The Record.

REPORT ON THE RESULTS OF THE BOARD ELECTION

Dr. Newell: At this point, I will be providing the results from the election, read in the order of candidate's ballot position. The Paterson School Board certified results for the November 7, 2023, election are as follows:

<u>Candidates for the Three-Year Term</u>	<u>Vote Total</u>
Mohammed H. Rashid	2,834
Corey L. Teague	2,451
Vincent Arrington	2,475
Kenneth L. Simmons	2,691
Joel D. Ramirez	2,503
Flavio Rivera	2,382
Jonathan Hodges	2,317
Akeem L. Dunham	608
Dania Martinez	1,674

Filling the Three-Year Seats
Mohammed H. Rashid

Kenneth L. Simmons
Joel D. Ramirez

SWEARING IN CEREMONY OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Mayor Andre Sayegh: Madam Superintendent, before I proceed with the administration of the oath of office, good evening, Paterson. Happy New Year! I not only greet you as the proud Mayor of the Historic City of Paterson, but as the proud parent of three public school children. I am swearing in both Joel and Mohammed as not only the Mayor, but as the father of three children who wants all of our children to succeed in all of our schools. It is our duty to make sure that the lady to my left succeeds because if our Superintendent succeeds, then all of our children succeed as well.

Present and sworn in by Mayor Andre Sayegh was Joel D. Ramirez.

Mayor Sayegh: Let it be noted that Mohammed Rashid made history by becoming the first Bengali American elected to the Paterson Board of Education. Again, as a fellow parent, I want to thank the parents here because a lot of our high-achieving, high-performing students happen to be your sons and daughters. Thank you for sending them to the Paterson Public Schools.

Present and sworn in by Mayor Andre Sayegh was Mohammed H. Rashid.

Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly: Good evening and Happy New Year. Congratulations to all of the winners for the School Board election. At this time, I will read in Commissioner Kenneth Simmons.

Present and sworn in by Assemblyman Benjie Wimberly was Kenneth L. Simmons.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Comm. Oshin Castillo-Cruz
Comm. Valerie Freeman
Comm. Eddie Gonzalez
Comm. Manuel Martinez
Comm. Della McCall

Comm. Joel Ramirez
Comm. Mohammed Rashid
Comm. Nakima Redmon
Comm. Kenneth Simmons

NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT

Comm. Castillo-Cruz: I nominate Comm. Manny Martinez.

Comm. Rashid: I nominate Manuel Martinez.

On roll call all members voted in the affirmative on the nomination of Comm. Manuel Martinez for President. The motion carried.

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Comm. Freeman: I nominate Kenneth Simmons for Vice President.

Comm. Rashid: I nominate Comm. Simmons.

On roll call all members voted in the affirmative on the nomination of Comm. Kenneth Simmons for Vice President. The motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Newell: At this point, I would like to call Ms. Dania Martinez to the podium. In her three years on the Paterson Public Schools Board of Education, Comm. Dania Martinez has made an impact on the city's education system. As the 3-time chair of the Family & Community Engagement Committee, Comm. Martinez spearheaded many initiatives to assist our parents in becoming more involved in their child's education. Her dedication to our students' social and emotional health can be seen in her work. She has not spared any of her passion, energy, or commitment towards fulfilling her goals. Her experience and perspective have been a great service to our children and the city that she loves. A Paterson native, Comm. Martinez has long been an advocate for the city's communities and has especially been a champion for girls and women. Her story is one of perseverance in working for social justice and equality for all. Commissioner, I know that you will continue in this much-needed work as you achieve your goals. Although we have not been working together for a long time, you have taken time to meet with me to share your insights and knowledge of Paterson students and communities. In our meetings, you have shown deep care for the city's families and sensitivity to their needs. For myself and on behalf of the Paterson Public School District, I want to thank you for your service and your advocacy for our children. Thank you. The plaque reads: "Presented to Dania Martinez, in appreciation for your hard work, dedicated service, and outstanding commitment as a member of the Paterson Board of Education January 2021 to January 2024. Laurie W. Newell, Superintendent of Schools."

Ms. Dania Martinez: Thank you, Madam Superintendent, for your beautiful and kind words. It has truly been an honor to serve as your Commissioner for the past three years and the last year as your Vice President. As Dr. Newell has said, I'm very passionate for my community and my children, especially my special education babies. As a social worker, I know the importance of making sure that parents understand their rights. As a single mother and a teen mom, holding this seat I felt I paved the way for other single and teen mothers. When you work hard and push yourself, no dream is impossible. This was my dream, to hold public office. It was not easy. Anything that you want to achieve in life is never easy, but if you're willing to sacrifice the time and do the work, anything is possible. Nothing is short to be achieved. What can I say about my Paterson Public Schools? I'm so proud. I'm amazed at how we pushed our district forward. When I was first elected, we gained local control, being a part of that process, maintaining it, and being a part of those important decisions and advocating for what's best for our children. I commend our cabinet. The work that you do is impeccable. I'm so proud of you. I know I don't say it enough. I love the relationship that we have built and will continue to have. I will be calling each of you individually. My colleagues, you guys have been like my family, dealing with my rants, keeping me checked, spearheaded, and supporting my advocacy for my community and parents and trusting in me to hold this seat to advocate and be your voice. Although I might not have this seat this time around, it doesn't mean that my work is done. I will still be advocating. I will still be pushing for things that are important for our families, children, and staff. Today I leave with a high head. I'm proud of the work I've done during the past three years. I apologize beforehand if there were things that I was not able to accomplish. I worked with a humble heart and did everything to the best of my capabilities. Thank you so much to the community for voting me in in 2021. Lastly, I want to thank my mom. She is not here today, but I had the honor and privilege to allow her to witness me being sworn into office. She knew that this was my longtime dream and I know she's looking up in heaven proud of the woman I am today after she left me. I know

she's still with me by my side guiding me and spearheading me to the next step. My future is bright and I'm looking forward to what's next. Paterson Public Schools, this isn't goodbye. This is a see you later.

Dr. Newell: At this time, can we have Dr. Jonathan Hodges, please. Dr. Hodges needs no introduction. He has been an integral part of this Board for over 20 years. Throughout this time, he has been a steady advocate for our children and has often spoken truth to power throughout Paterson Public School's state-controlled era. This is a person who has never been afraid to speak of who we are, what we are as an educational community, and where we were failing. But he always believed in our collective ability to correct ourselves and to be excellent. Before joining the Board, Dr. Hodges was a physician in St. Joseph's emergency room where he would occasionally meet children with significant educational challenges while treating them. He would put aside time from his practice to visit schools and become a member of the school management teams. He challenged Trenton on missing funds and a deficient curriculum, which compelled the state to change district leadership. He has been a fighter on this Board, and I will expect him to continue fighting even though he will no longer be on the Board. Dr. Hodges, there are those who are praiseful of you and those who are critical. Of all those people, it would be near impossible to find one who does not respect you. Your candor, soft-spoken strength, and unyielding advocacy for our children's capacity for greatness have been hallmarks of this Board. You have made an indelible impression on this district and on the lives of so many young Patersonians. The upward mobility for the children of this city has been your passion and purpose over these past two decades. For your commitment to their education, your unwavering belief in their capacity for high achievement, and service to this district, I thank you. The plaque reads: "Presented to Dr. Jonathan Hodges, in appreciation for your tireless work and outstanding commitment to serving the students of Paterson as a dedicated member of the Paterson Board of Education for over 20 years, April 2002 to January 2024." Thank you for your service, Dr. Hodges.

Dr. Jonathan Hodges: I want to thank this community for giving me the privilege of being an advocate for your children. It has been some of the best things I have done in my life. Your children are bright, beautiful, and they deserve everything that we can give them, much of which we have not done yet. I'm not going to talk about any stories from my 22 years because that was just the last episode before the great work that's ahead of you. I came home in high school with a 98 on a science quiz. It was one of a series of quizzes that I came home with 98. When I handed it to my mother she said to me, "Why can't you get a 100? What is wrong with you that all you can do is a 98?" I was flabbergasted because that was pretty high and six or seven times in a row. I walked away scratching my head. The very next day she was in my school complaining to the principal and she said, "If he gets 98, that means you're not challenging him enough and I want more of a challenge for my child." That confused me at the time, but it taught me what her expectations were for me. It taught me what her expectations were for the school. It taught me what my expectations should be. I brought those expectations with me for the last 22 years. You cannot accept where we are now. You cannot accept where your children are now. You have to push and demand more from them and from us. We are given charge of the lives that you bring to us. They are priceless. You can't put a value on them like your wallet or purse or anything else. You want the best for them, and you have to fight for it. That's my understanding and my words to this Board. You have to roll up your sleeves and fight for these children. We shouldn't be where we are now and with your help we will be much further along. I will take my clock and I will say thank you for 22 years, some of the best years of my life. Thank you.

Comm. Martinez: Ladies and gentlemen, as we take a moment to allow our Superintendent Newell to rejoin us here at the dais, I just want to take a moment to allow our Vice President to say a couple of words and then I will do the same thereafter.

Comm. Simmons: First, I want to thank God because without him none of this is possible. I want to thank my family, my friends, my team, and the people of Paterson for reelecting me to serve in this position. I want to thank tonight my colleagues for trusting me to serve as Vice President. We have been deliberate about the work we have been doing. Comm. Ramirez is back. Comm. Rashid is joining us. When I say we have been deliberate, there are operations, and this work involves a lot of things. We have been deliberate in making sure that we have policy in place to choose minority vendors. When we look at vendors, we are looking at geographic location besides qualifications. They have to be qualified. One of the things we want to do in terms of building community is making sure that we have folks who are involved in this district that not only represent the community but are here to support the work we do for children. With all of that, I want to briefly read something because I had a long drawn-out thing, but I wanted to read something that describes why we do this work. Two-thirds of students who don't read proficiently by the end of the fourth grade will end up in jail or on welfare. 70% of inmates cannot read above the fourth-grade level. Students who don't read proficiently by the third grade are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma than proficient readers. Kids who become illiterate adults are more likely to be stuck in a cycle of poverty with limited opportunities for employment or income generation. The effects of illiteracy are very similar in developed and developing countries that lack sufficient opportunities for employment, which leads to higher chances of poor health, turning to crime, and dependency on social welfare or charity. The cost of illiteracy to the global economy is a staggering \$1.2 trillion. Learning how to read and write can break the cycle of poverty. There is a positive correlation between crime rates and illiteracy, as well as employment and literacy. The higher a person's literacy rate, the greater their opportunity for employment. The lower a person's literacy rate, the greater the chance they will become involved in crime. If you aren't here to focus on the work at hand, this is the wrong place. If you are outside of this body and not influencing the work that we need to do to move, not only this district forward, but to do what's best for children, then we really don't need you around us. We like to focus on the work. I'm going to challenge all of my colleagues to focus on the work because we have a lot to do. We've seen our test scores. We know that we have to get them increased. I'm here for the work and I'm challenging all my colleagues to be here for the same. I know definitely that Comm. Gonzalez is because he talks about it often. Again, we have a lot of work to do and I'm just hoping everyone stays focused on the work at hand. Thank you.

Comm. M. Martinez: Your words certainly resonate and ring true. It is the mission and the desire of everyone on this dais to see this district succeed. Thank you for your words. I want to take a quick moment to say thank you to my colleagues for entrusting me in this position. It is an honor and privilege to be here, and I thank you all for the opportunity. This is not something that I take lightly. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. To President Redmon and Vice President Martinez, thank you for your year of service and leadership. It's a tough job. You guys did it well and we appreciate how you handled it and what you did for us. Sincerely, thank you. To Comm. Hodges, I hope you're still here. I believe you are. I can't say enough or thank you enough for your 20 years of dedicated service to our district and our children. I've learned so much from you simply by observing the way you comport and handle yourself. Sincerely and from the bottom of my heart I say thank you. You're greatly appreciated and loved by many in this district and city. To our Superintendent, cabinet, and staff, we look forward to the challenge of continuing to work together in a respectful and collaborative manner

in our shared vision of making our district the best that it can possibly be. We certainly have difficult decisions in front of us, but with extreme focus we will make those decisions based on what will be in the best interest of the young people in this district. That is why we're here, to make the decisions that are based on the best interests of our young people in this district. Thank you.

READ AND DISCUSS NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS

Comm. McCall:

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

Comm. Freeman:

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

Comm. Gonzalez:

3. *I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.*

Comm. Castillo-Cruz:

4. *I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.*

Comm. Simmons:

5. *I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.*

Comm. Martinez:

6. *I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.*

Comm. Ramirez:

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

Comm. Rashid:

8. *I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.*

Comm. Redmon:

9. *I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.*

Comm. McCall:

10. *I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.*

SELECTION PROCESS FOR BOARD STANDING AND ADHOC COMMITTEES

Comm. Martinez: In your respective folders you have the yellow, orange and pink forms. Each Board member will select which committee they would like to be on and then return their choices to Cheryl.

APPOINTMENT TO PASSAIC COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD AND NJSBA LEGISLATIVE DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE

Comm. Martinez: You can fill these out, submit your recommendation or desire to sit on either of those bodies. Once we have them, we will respond and get them back to you in a timely fashion.

ADOPTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND DESIGNATIONS

Resolution No. 1

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools is required by legislation to meet with the Board as frequently as necessary for the effective operation of the school district, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education will meet on a monthly basis during the 2024- 2025 school year, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the list of dates, times and locations for monthly Board of Education meetings of the Paterson Public School District for the 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 2

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the recommendations of the Superintendent of the Paterson Public School District in the County of Passaic, for the following designations for the 2024-2025 school year in accordance with annual reorganization:

Northern Region Educational Services Commission: Dr. Laurie W. Newell
Board Secretary: Richard Matthews
Homeless Liaison: Cheryl Coy
Affirmative Action/Equity Officer: Houry Yeganeh
American Disabilities Act Officer: Houry Yeganeh
Section 504 Compliance Officer: Tamisha McKoy
Title IX Coordinator: Boris Zaydel, Esq
Asbestos Management Officer: Neil Mapp
Safety & Health Officer: Neil Mapp
Indoor Air Quality Officer: Neil Mapp
Integrated Pest Management Coordinator: Neil Mapp

Right to Know Officer: Neil Mapp
 Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Coordinator: Neil Mapp
 Chemical Hygiene Officer: Neil Mapp
 Custodian of Records: Boris Zaydel, Esq.
 Investment Officers: Richard Matthews
 Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.): Richard Matthews
 Auditor of Record: Wielkottz & Company, LLC
 Architects of Record: Coppa Montalbano Architects; CTS Group Architecture/Planning PA; DMR Architects; DiCara/Rubino Architects; Grant Engineering & Construction Group; H2M Architects & Engineers, Inc.; FVHD Architects; Netta Architects; Parette Samjen Architects; Remington & Vernick Engineers; SSP Architects; El Associates; LAN Engineering; Becht Engineering BT, Inc.; Grant Engineering & Construction Group LLC
 Broker of Record: Alamo Insurance Group
 Substance Awareness Coordinator: Laurel Olson
 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Coordinator: Nicole Payne
 Disciplinary Hearings: Nicole Payne

Resolution No. 3

STRATEGIC PLAN, Goal Area #3: Communications & Connections, Goal Statement: To establish and grow viable partnerships with parents, educational institutions, and community organizations to support Paterson Public Schools educational programs, advance student achievement and enhance communication.

BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-42 the District Superintendent of the Paterson Public School District in the County of Passaic has appointed the following Medical Doctors as School Physicians, for the 2024-2025 school year beginning September 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, as Part-Time Employees at the salary rate to be determined by Human Capital Contract:

Name	Assignments	Name	Assignments
Eniola Ayeni-Silvester	DALE-NSW-Newcomers HS	Mannan Razzak	PS#16-MLK
Olupe Ayodeji-Daniels	PS#13-PS#18-YMA	Mayuri Shah	PS#9-DHA
Vacant	AHA-RC-ATM- P-Tech	Apexa Shukla	PS#19-PS#27
Harleen Brar-Chatterjee	PS#6-EWK-NRC	Maria Turizio	JFK High School
Deelip Chatterjee	PS#10-PS#21	Maria Vasena-Mareno	PS#7 & IHS
Shideh Doroudi	Eastside HS	Samir Zaina	PS#2-PS#3-PS#8
Claudia Kim	PS#5-JAT		
Mercedes Lesesne-Ayodji	PS#15-PS#24		
Krishna Pandey	PS#1-PS#26-RP-STEAM		
Neha Pandey	PS#20-PS#25		
Craig Piper	PS#4-PS#12-PS#28		

Resolution No. 4 was pulled.

Resolution No. 5

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A: 18A-1 et seq., legal services constitute "professional services," and N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5.1 permits the

awarding of a contract for professional services without public advertising for bids and bidding; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the 5 Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Area #3: Communications and Connections; and

WHEREAS, based on the recommendation of the Governance Committee, it is recommended that this contract be awarded for Legal Services, General Counsel, to Souder, Shabazz & Woolridge Law Group, LLP, and

WHEREAS, all bills shall be forwarded to the Superintendent of Schools or designee for review and recommendation prior to processing of payment; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves retaining the firm of Souder, Shabazz & Woolridge Law Group, LLP, as General Counsel at an amount not to exceed \$280,000, and Special Counsel from the firm of Souder, Shabazz & Woolridge Law Group, LLP, for Labor Relations, Negotiations, Redevelopment and all other legal services at an amount not to exceed \$270,000, for the 2024-2025 school year, for a total amount not to exceed \$550,000, pending budget approval.

Resolution No. 6

WHEREAS, each member of the Board of Education shall possess the qualifications required by law and shall be bound by the provisions of the School Ethics Act in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24.1, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is required on an annual basis to sign an acknowledgment that he/she received a copy, read and will become familiar with the Code of Ethics for School Board Members contained within N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq, now therefore

BE IT APPROVED, that the Board of Education adopts the New Jersey School Board Member Code of Ethics to include that the School Ethics Act and Code of Ethics has been received and discussed; that the policies and procedures regarding training of district Board of Education members has been adopted in Bylaw 0144 Board Member Orientation and Training; and that each Board of Education member acknowledges receipt of the Code of the Code of Ethics for School Board members and has become familiar with the Code of Ethics for the 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 7

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is required to adopt, on a yearly basis, Rules, Regulations and Policies for the governance of the schools during the upcoming school year, now therefore

BE IT APPROVED, that the Board of Education adopts all Rules, Regulations and Policies not inconsistent with state laws and which were in force and effect during the preceding year, for the governance of the district; and, approval to amend and supplement district policies, including those policies establishing the district's own bylaws and operational procedures during the 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 8

WHEREAS, the Paterson Board of Education has been utilizing the firm of Strauss Esmay Associates for policy consultant services since April 2002, and

WHEREAS, Strauss Esmay's fee is below the bid limit for the 2024-2025 school year, and

WHEREAS, the district wishes the continuity of services provided by Strauss Esmay Associates, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that Strauss Esmay Associates be appointed as the district's policy consultant to provide the Board of Education policy and regulation updates in compliance with State and Federal mandates, as well as ELANOnLine and DISTRICTOnline services for the 2024-2025 school year, at an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00, pending budget approval.

Resolution No. 9

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the City of Paterson in accordance with Policy 0164 Conduct of Board Meetings, has adopted as its parliamentary authority Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, in its deliberations and acts in all cases in which it is not inconsistent with statutes of the State of New Jersey, rules of the State Board of Education, or the Paterson Board of Education bylaws for the 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 10

WHEREAS, it is necessary to designate the official newspapers, on a yearly basis, to be used by the Paterson Public School District, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education authorize the following newspapers be designated as the official newspapers to be used by the Paterson Public School District for publication of any district matters during the 2024-2025 school year:

El Diario (Workshop and Regular)
North Jersey Herald & News
TAPinto Paterson
The Arab Voice
The Italian Voice
The Record
The Star Ledger
El Especialito

Resolution No. 11

WHEREAS, the district's Brighter Futures Strategic Plan's first priority is Effective Academic Programs; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey law requires each school district to adopt annually the curriculum and high school course approved for the schools of the district, and

WHEREAS, the attached list has been prepared indicating the kindergarten through 12 curricula and courses of study to be used in the Paterson Public Schools for the 2024-2025 school year, and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools approves the attached list of curricula and courses of study for use in the district's schools for the 2024-2025 school year or until such time as they may be modified and presented to the Board for review and approval.

Resolution No. 12

WHEREAS, the district's Brighter Futures Strategic Plan's first priority is Effective Academic Programs; and

WHEREAS, each school district annually adopts textbooks and software approved for use within the schools of the district, and

WHEREAS, the attached list has been prepared indicating the textbooks and software to be used in the Paterson Public Schools for the 2024-2025 school year, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Paterson Public schools approves the attached list of textbooks for use and software for use in the district's schools or until such time as they may be modified and presented to the Board for review and approval.

Resolution No. 13

WHEREAS, the districts' Brighter Futures Strategic Plan's first priority is to provide Effective Academic Programs, the Division of Academic Services/Special Programs recognizes that field trips are supplemental supports for essential concept acquisition of instructional programs, and

WHEREAS, field trips afford students a firsthand educational experience that is not available in the classroom, and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Superintendents have approved/recommended the addition of the attached field trip locations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson Board of Education accepts the attached list of approved destinations as appropriate field trip sites for the students of the Paterson Public Schools for the 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 14

BE IT RESOLVED, in accordance with 6A:32-7 the Paterson Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, authorize the collection and maintenance of permitted pupil records for the 2024-2025 school year, as defined in Board Policy 8330 which are collected in order to promote the educational welfare of the Pupil.

Resolution No. 15

Whereas, in accordance with ordinary business practices, many contracts to which the school district is a party require payment within 30-60 days of submission of invoice and voucher; and

Whereas, at certain times during the year, an extended period of time occurs between the regularly scheduled Board of Education meetings; and

Whereas, such discrepancy between contracted payment schedules and the calendar of board meetings creates an untenable position for the district which exposes it to liability and may cause hardship for affected vendors; now therefore

Be It Resolved, that in the event there exists an extended period of time between regularly scheduled Board action meetings during the 2024-2025 school year, the Superintendent is authorized to approve any and all invoices (not in excess of \$100,000.00 individually), with the exception of health benefits, leases, charters, early childhood and utilities for payment. In accordance with Board policy 6470 (Payment of Claims). Only in the event a special board meeting cannot be scheduled, when there exists a period of time exceeding thirty (30) calendar days between regularly scheduled board action meetings, during the 2024-2025 school year, and after consultation with the Board President; and

Be It Further Resolved, that a separate bills list with all claims that have been approved by the Superintendent will be presented to the Board at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting for ratification.

Resolution No. 16

WHEREAS, prompt submission of grant applications, as well as carryover applications, budget modifications, quarterly reports, and final reports relating to the grants is often time sensitive;
and

WHEREAS, the district might lose an opportunity to apply for grants or file mandated reports in between board meetings; and

WHEREAS, it is in the district's best interest to submit grant applications, as well as carryover applications, budget modifications, quarterly reports, and final reports, to avoid losing an opportunity for receipt of the funding;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools and School Business Administrator are authorized to sign grant applications, as well as carryover applications, budget modifications, quarterly reports, and final reports between board meetings unless grant regulations specify to the contrary for the 2024-2025 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all grant applications, as well as carryover applications, budget modifications, quarterly reports, and final reports relating to the grants will continue to be reviewed by the respective committees of the board and subsequently ratified by the board.

Resolution No. 17

WHEREAS, there is a requirement to establish bank accounts, on a yearly basis, for the fiscal operation of the Paterson Public School District, and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the list of bank accounts, to be established for the fiscal operation of the

Paterson Public School District for the City of Paterson, in the depositories as listed herein and subject to the withdrawals in accordance with the name or names as set forth for the 2023-2024 school year, as attached hereto and made a part of the minutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Resolution No. 18

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the City of Paterson authorize the Superintendent of Schools and the School Business Administrator to implement the 2024-2025 budget pursuant to local and state policies and regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education authorizes the Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts (2023-2024 Edition) for New Jersey Public Schools for 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 19

THE PATERSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT seeks to procure goods and services through the use of state contract vendors (18A:18A-10-a) during the 2024-2025 school year, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-10a and N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.29(c), may by resolution and without advertising for bids, purchase any goods or services under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program for any State contracts entered into on behalf of the State by the Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of the Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson School District has the need on a timely basis to purchase goods or services utilizing State contracts; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District intends to enter into contracts with current State Contract vendors and additional State Contract vendors as needed through this resolution and properly executed contracts, which shall be subject to all the conditions applicable to the current State contracts; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson Public School District authorizes the Purchasing Department to purchase certain goods or services from those approved New Jersey State Contract Vendors as needed for the 2024-2025 school year, pursuant to the vendor's state contract award date, terms, and conditions.

Resolution No. 20

A Resolution Authorizing the Paterson Public Schools to Enter into A Cooperative Pricing Agreement for the Purchase of Electricity, Technology, Work, Materials, and Supplies for the 2024-2025 school year:

WHEREAS, "The Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act," P.L. 1999, c. 23 authorizes the New Jersey School Boards' Association (hereinafter NJSBA) to obtain

electricity and other energy-related services for individual local boards of education on an aggregated basis; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 and 40A:11-10 authorizes local district boards of education to enter into cooperative pricing agreements with local government units, i.e. municipalities and counties, (hereinafter local units"); and

WHEREAS, NJSBA has offered voluntary participation in a cooperative pricing system for the group purchase of electrical generation and/or natural gas for consumption by the local units; any ancillary or administrative services related to the purchase of electrical generation and/or natural gas; and related energy services; and digital and electronic products and services and other technology products and programs to be purchased by local units; and services and such other items or services as two or more participating local units in the system agree can be purchased on a cooperative basis; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools in the county of Passaic, State of New Jersey, desires to participate in NJSBA's Cooperative Pricing System;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED This RESOLUTION shall be known and may be cited as the "ACES Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Paterson Public Schools Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-11 and 40A:11-10, the District is hereby authorized to enter into NJSBA's ACES Cooperative Pricing System Agreement. The New Jersey School Boards Association shall be responsible for complying with the "Public School Contracts Law," N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq. all other applicable laws in connection with the preparation, bidding, negotiation and execution of contracts in connection with NJSBA's ACES Cooperative Pricing System. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Resolution No. 21

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to join the Educational & Institutional Cooperative Service, Inc. (E & I) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of goods and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay no fee to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with E&I for the purchase of supplies & materials, for the 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 22

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the department of purchasing to join Educational Data Services hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the procurement of goods & services contracts:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of time & materials contracts, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with Educational Data Services for the utilization of goods & services contracts during the 2024-2025 school year, not to exceed \$3,500 annually.

Resolution No. 23

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of goods and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District encourages the use of shared services through State approved cooperative entities; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, The Educational Services Commission (ESCNJ) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency", is a Service Cooperative to allow participating governmental and municipal agencies to reduce the cost of purchased goods by leveraging their combined purchasing power at no cost.; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency (ESCNJ) entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency (ESCNJ) for the purchase of goods and services, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 24

Resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with The Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of work materials, services and supplies for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District encourages the use of shared services through State approved cooperative entities; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, The Lead Agency, is a Service Cooperative to allow participating governmental and municipal agencies to reduce the cost of purchased goods by leveraging their combined purchasing power at no cost for membership; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as The Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission Cooperative Pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency (The Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission) entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency (Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission) for the purchase of work materials, services and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Area # 3, Communication & Connections; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission for the purchase of work materials, services and supplies, for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 25

Resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with The Interlocal Purchasing Systems (TIPS) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of work materials, services and supplies for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District encourages the use of shared services through approved cooperative entities; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and WHEREAS, The Lead Agency, is a Service Cooperative to allow participating governmental and municipal agencies to reduce the cost of purchased goods by leveraging their combined purchasing power at no cost for membership; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Cooperative Pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency (The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS)) entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency (The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS)) for the purchase of work materials, services and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) for the purchase of work materials, services and supplies, for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 26

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the department of purchasing to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with Keystone Purchasing Network hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of work materials and supplies for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, The Keystone Purchasing Network hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency", is a Service Cooperative to allow participating governmental and municipal agencies to reduce the cost of purchased goods by leveraging their combined purchasing power at no cost.; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as Keystone Purchasing Network Cooperative resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency (Keystone Purchasing Network) entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11- 1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency (Keystone Purchasing Network) for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with Keystone Purchasing Network for the purchase of work materials and supplies, for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 27

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Council hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of work materials and supplies for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency (Township of Randolph) for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay an annual fee of not to exceed \$2,000.00 to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Area # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency (Township of Randolph) entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with the Morris County Cooperative Council for the purchase of work materials and supplies, for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 28

Resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to join New Jersey Edge hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the procurement of goods & services contracts:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of time & materials contracts, as needed; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with NJ Edge for the utilization of technology contracts during the 2024-2025 school year.

Resolution No. 29

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the department of purchasing to join the OMNIA Partners (OMNIA) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of good and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay no fee to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with the OMNIA Partners for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 30

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the department of purchasing to join the Premier Educational Purchasing Program (PEPPM) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of goods and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay no fee to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Area # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with PEPPM for the purchase of goods & services for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 31

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the department of purchasing to join the Sourcewell Cooperative hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of goods and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay no fee to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with the Sourcewell for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 32

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to join The Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of goods and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay no fee to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby

authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with The Cooperative Purchasing Network for the purchase of supplies & materials, for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 33

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the department of purchasing to join the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of goods and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency for the purchase of work materials and supplies, as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay no fee to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Area # 3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with the NCPA for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 34

Resolution of the School District of the city of Paterson, County of Passaic, State of New Jersey, authorizing the Department of Purchasing to join The New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance hereinafter referred to as the "lead agency" for the conduct of certain functions relating to the purchase of work materials, supplies and services for their respective jurisdictions:

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District encourages open public bidding for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for obtaining the most competitive and responsive bid for goods and/or services; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall be known and may be cited as the cooperative pricing resolution of the School District of the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S. 40A:11-11(5) the School District of the City of Paterson is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Lead Agency as needed; and

WHEREAS, The Paterson Public Schools shall pay no fee to join said Cooperative Pricing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the awarding of this contract is in line with the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Are #3, Communication & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency entering into contracts on behalf of the School District of the City of Paterson shall be responsible for complying with the provision of the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S. 40A:11-1 et seq.) and all other provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Purchasing of the School District of the City of Paterson, County of Passaic and State of New Jersey is hereby authorized to enter into a cooperative pricing agreement with The New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance for the 2024-2025 school year, as needed.

Resolution No. 35

WHEREAS, the District's first goal under the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan is teaching and learning; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Special Education has aligned its education goals and efforts to accomplish and promote high standards of academic achievement for all students; and

WHEREAS, the District is required under N.J.A.C. 6A:14 to ensure that the placements and services needed by each student with a disability in order to receive a free, appropriate public education are based on the student's unique individual needs; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has determined that the District is in need of specialized instructional placements and services for students with disabilities in accordance with their Individualized Education Plan (IEP); and

WHEREAS, the public, private and residential schools represent that it is fully qualified to provide the services hereunder and has and will maintain all required licenses, approvals and certifications; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District is authorized to enter into contracts with public, private or residential schools and include the related services of speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, nursing services, interpreters of the deaf, assistive technology, bedside instruction, and transportation for the 2024-2025 school year as per the attached list.

Resolution No. 36

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools receives local taxes on an annual basis consistent with the district's approved budget; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools 2024-2025 budget includes \$73,168,370 in Fund 10 as the General Fund local tax levy; and

WHEREAS, the district requires that these funds are received on a periodic basis over the course of the 2024-2025 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the following requisition of taxes for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 will be presented to the City of Paterson:

General Fund Tax Payments:

Due the fifth of every month for 12 months, July '24 through June '25: \$6,097,364

Total General Fund Local Taxes: \$73,168,370

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the City of Paterson approve the Requisition of Taxes Schedule listed above for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (final tax levy TBD pending budget approval).

Resolution No. 37

RESOLUTION FOR AND APPOINTING A QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT IN A BOARD OF EDUCATION OR OTHER ENTITY SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1:

WHEREAS, the Public School Contract Law 18A:18A-3 permits a board of education the ability to increase and maintain their bid threshold up to \$44,000 and its quotation threshold to \$6,600; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3a permits an increase in the bid threshold if a Qualified Purchasing Agent is appointed as well as granted the authorization to negotiate and award such contracts below the bid threshold; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq. establishes the criteria for qualifying as a Qualified Purchasing Agent and issues certification after the successful completion of a State administered exam; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Lance Gaines, Director of Purchasing & Central Stores, possesses the designation of Qualified Purchasing Agent as issued by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Board of Education desires to continue the bid threshold as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Paterson Board of Education, in the County of Passaic, in the State of New Jersey hereby continues its bid threshold of \$44,000.00 and its quotation threshold to \$6,600 for the 2024-2025 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent has appointed Mr. Lance Gaines, as the Qualified Purchasing Agent to exercise the duties of a purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2b, with specific relevance to the authority, responsibility and accountability of the purchasing activity of the Board of Education and to award

contracts up to the bid threshold without public advertising pursuant to 18A:18A-3(a); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.2, the Board of Education Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution and a copy of Mr. Gaines certification to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, and that this resolution takes effect with the approval of the Board of Education.

Resolution No. 38

Whereas, P.L. 20.07, Chapter 53, approved March 15, 2007, requires that school district travel expenditures include, but not limited to, all costs for transportation, meals, lodging registration or conference fees to and for the travel event; and

Whereas, P.L. 2007, Chapter 53, requires school district travel expenditures to include costs for all required training and all travel authorized in existing school district employee contracts and school board policies including but not limited to professional development and other staff training, required training for new school board members and attendance at specific conference authorized in existing employee contracts; and

Whereas, P.L. 2007, Chapter 53, requires a school district to establish annually, in the pre-budget year, a maximum travel expenditure amount for the budget year and also requires listing the maximum travel amount established for the pre-budget year and the travel amount spent to date; and

Whereas, the Paterson Public School District established a maximum travel expenditure amount of \$250,000 for the 2023-2024 fiscal year in its 2023-2024 budget of which \$41,988.00 has been expended as of December 1, 2023; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Paterson Public School District establishes a maximum travel expenditure amount of \$250,000 for all funds including federal funds in the 2024-2025 fiscal year; and

Be It Further Resolved, that pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3(b), an annual maximum amount per employee will not exceed \$1500 for regular business travel only for which prior Board approval is not required.

Resolution No. 39

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey allows boards of education to establish tax-sheltered deferred compensation plans under Section 403b of the federal Internal Revenue Code at no expense to the board and at the option and discretion of the non-bargaining unit employee(s); and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District offers tax shelter annuity services to all of its employees; and

WHEREAS, the employees of the Paterson Public School District select the tax shelter annuity company that best addresses their needs; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District payroll department makes the necessary salary adjustments as approved by each employee for their tax shelter annuity company; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26 (P.L.205.C3271. X.2) the aforementioned entity has submitted the required Political Contribution Disclosure Form and Stockholder Disclosure Certification of which they both are on file and now therefore,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the City of Paterson, hereby approves the following tax shelter annuity companies for 2023.2024 approved at the January 2024 reorg Meeting.

AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company (Endorsed by all Unions)
Lincoln Investment Planning (Endorsed by all Unions)
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (Endorsed by all Unions)
Aspire Financial Services, LLC (Sun America - Endorsed by all unions)
Transamerica Retirement Solutions (Diversified Investments - Endorsed by all Unions)
USAA Investment Management (Not endorsed by PEA)
VALIC (Endorsed by all Unions)
Great American Life (Not Endorsed by PEA)

Resolution No. 40

WHEREAS, The State of New Jersey allows boards of education to establish tax-sheltered deferred compensation plans under Section 457b of the federal Internal Revenue Code at no expense to the board and at the option and discretion of the non-bargaining unit employee(s): and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District offers tax shelter annuity services to all of its employees; and

WHEREAS, the employees of the Paterson Public School District select the tax shelter annuity company that best addresses their needs; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District payroll department makes the necessary salary adjustments as approved by each employee for their tax shelter annuity company; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.26 (P.L.205.C3271. X.2) the aforementioned entity has submitted the required Political Contribution Disclosure Form and Stockholder Disclosure Certification of which they both are on file and now therefore,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the City of Paterson, hereby approves the following tax shelter annuity companies for:

Approved at the January 2024 Reorganization meeting.

AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company (Endorsed by all Unions)
Lincoln Investment Planning (Endorsed by all Unions)
Metropolitan Life Insurance Company (Endorsed by all Unions)
Transamerica Retirement Solutions (Diversified Investments - Endorsed by all Unions)
VALIC (Endorsed by all Unions)

Resolution No. 41

Purpose: Resolution is to comply with school district policies, including Board Policy 5350 (Student Suicide Prevention), by obtaining approval of the Crisis Intervention Manual.

WHEREAS, approving the "Crisis Intervention Manual", supports the 'Paterson: A Promising Tomorrow, 5-year strategic plan 2019-2024' mission statement of providing a safe and nurturing educational environment by meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District recognizes the need for establishing, implementing and maintaining a Crisis Intervention Manual; and

WHEREAS, the Crisis Intervention Manual outlines procedures for Suicide Ideation and other crisis situations within the district for both in-person and virtual referrals; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools approve the Crisis Intervention Manual for the 2023-2024 school year.

Resolution No. 42

PURPOSE: Comply with the following:

- Integrated Pest Management NJAC 7:30-13.1
- Chemical Hygiene Program Title 29 Federal Regulation Part 1910.1450
- Indoor Air Quality NJAC 12:00-10.1
- Hazardous Communication Program NJAC 12:00-7, Title 29 Federal Regulations Part 1910.1200
- Exposure Control Plan Title 29 CFR 1910.1030

WHEREAS: Approving the Integrated Pest Management, Chemical Hygiene Program, Indoor Air Quality, Hazardous Communication Program, Exposure Control Plan is in line with the "A Promising Tomorrow" Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal 2: Facilities, Objective 4 and 5.

WHEREAS: Paterson Public Schools will approve the revision summarized in each program: Integrated Pest Management, Chemical Hygiene Program, Indoor Air Quality, Hazardous Communication Program, Exposure Control Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Paterson Public Schools accepts these revised version of the following documents, Integrated Pest Management, Chemical Hygiene Program, Indoor Air Quality, Hazardous Communication Program, Exposure Control Plan, with the revision noted on the attached.

Resolution No. 43

Purpose: Athletic League Participation/Membership

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools District supports and encourages programs and initiatives that promote the "Brighter Futures: Priority I Effective Academic Programs; Goal Four: Create Student Create Student Centered Supports where all students are engaged in school by increasing participation in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports; and

WHEAREAS, The Paterson Public School District through John F. Kennedy High School's participation in the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA), the New Jersey Big North Conference and the Passaic County Coaches Association, agrees to support and abide by the rules and bylaws of each organization governing interscholastic sports; and

WHEAREAS, The Paterson Public School district in accordance with State mandates and district policy wishes to remain a member in good standing of the aforementioned NJSIAA, NJBNC and PCCA leagues and conferences,

WHEAREAS, membership in the NJSIAA, NJ Big North, and PCCA necessitates travel to and from member schools for the purpose of interscholastic competition that may include an overnight stay, and the payment of fees for tournaments;

BE IT RESOLVED, the District shall remit payment as part of the District's regular bill list, upon submission and approval of invoice and proper execution by the NJSIAA, Big North Conference, and the Passaic County Coaches. Association of the district vouchers and other documents which may be required for the proper fiscal management of the public school district; and

1. July 1, 2024 to June 2025	Big North Conference	Annual Dues	\$2,500.00
2. July 1, 2024 to June 2025	NJSIAA	Annual Dues	\$3410.00
3. July 1, 2024 to June 2025	PCCA	Annual Dues	\$5370.00
4. July 1, 2024 to June 2025	NJFSC	Annual Dues	\$335.00

NOT TO EXCEED \$11,615.00

Resolution No. 44

WHEAREAS, increasing participation in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports, supports Goal 4, Objective 1 of the District's five-year strategic plan;

WHEAREAS, Eastside High School participates in the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA), Passaic County Coaches Association (PCCA), Big North Conference, and North Jersey Super Football Conference (NJSFC) in accordance with the rules and bylaws of each organization,

WHEAREAS, the district wishes to remain a member in good standing with the leagues and conferences,

WHEAREAS, membership in the NJSIAA, PCCA, BNC, and NJSFC necessitates travel to and from member schools for the purpose of interscholastic competition that may include an overnight stay, and the payment of fees for tournaments, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the District approves payment of 2024-2025 annual membership fees and dues for the following athletic leagues and conferences: PENDING BUDGET APPROVAL

Organization	Amount
NJSIAA	\$2,500.00
PCCA	\$3,410.00
Big North Conference	\$4,190.00
NJSFC	\$390.00

It was moved by Comm. Simmons, seconded by Comm. Redmon that Resolution Nos. 1 through 44 be adopted. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

Paterson Board of Education Standing Abstentions

Commissioner Oshin Castillo-Cruz

- Self
- City of Paterson
- Transportation (Bus Companies)
- Downtown Special Improvement District
- Celebrate Paterson
- Passaic County
- Passaic County Board of Social Services

Commissioner Valerie Freeman

- Self
- Family
- Paterson Cares, Inc.
- Paterson Community Health Center

Commissioner Eddie Gonzalez

- Self
- Family
- New Jersey Community Development Corporation (NJCDC)
- Community Charter School of Paterson

Commissioner Manuel Martinez

- Self

Commissioner Della McCall

- Self
- City of Paterson

Commissioner Joel D. Ramirez

- Self
- City of Paterson
- Passaic County Community College

Commissioner Mohammed H. Rashid

- Self

Commissioner Nakima Redmon

- Self

- Historic Preservation of the City of Paterson
- County of Passaic

Commissioner Kenneth Simmons

- Self
- Family

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Newell: Good evening everyone and Happy New Year. I wanted to say congratulations again to the new Board Commissioners. Also congratulations to President Martinez and Vice President Simmons. I'm looking forward to working collaboratively with everyone as we move the district forward. I also wanted to introduce again someone to the district, the new Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Rodney Henderson, if he could just stand and be acknowledged. Dr. Henderson started last week. We are very pleased to have him on board. We have a lot of work to do and I'm excited about this next chapter as we move the district forward. I also wanted to talk about some of the things that we have planned for this upcoming year. We will be putting together parent community forums for our meet-and-greet with the Superintendent and now with the Deputy as he has come on board. This will allow the community to get to know us and to see what our vision is for the district. Given some weather concerns we are considering that these meet-and-greets will be virtual and in-person. We will be doing a mixture. Stay tuned as we finalize what these events will look like and the locations. Social media and our other communications channels will be broadcasting what our plans are. There will be more information forthcoming. Finally, January is our Muslim-American Heritage Celebration Month. This was a bill that was passed in New Jersey, NJSJR-105. Our district will be having events around the district to highlight and celebrate our Muslim-Americans in our district. The team is working on having different events and celebrations where we acknowledge and celebrate our brothers and sisters. There will be notable information. For example, we have had our Muslim-Americans arrive into this county as early as 1527. We have a lot of history, and it needs to be shared so we look forward to sharing all of that and celebrating the culture with everyone. That ends my report.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

It was moved by Comm. Ramirez, seconded by Comm. Simmons that the Public Comments portion of the meeting be opened. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

Mr. Luis Furcal: Happy Holidays to the School Board. My name is Luis Furcal. I'm a proud parent of two students at Alexander Hamilton Academy. I recently was at my kids' school and a few teachers and administration at the school talked to me about the overcrowding there. I was doing a little research looking at the State Board of Education numbers. My son is in seventh grade. There are 30 students in his classroom for one teacher. Per state guidelines it should be 26 students so I'm assuming we're four over. I have a few questions for the Board. I know that there is a lot of building in the City of Paterson. Has the School Board planned for this overcrowding? Alexander Hamilton Academy six years ago was a Choice school and Blue Ribbon School. Now the school is regressing instead of progressing. What is the School Board's plan to assist Alexander Hamilton Academy? Speaking to the principal, it seems like they don't have a plan. What are the requirements for the Choice schools?

Ms. Greta Mills: Hello everyone, my name is Greta Mills. Happy New Year to everyone in the building! Is it true that they're getting paid more than teachers that have to drive into the building and work with the students while they sit and do virtual? Are they making more than the teachers who have been working here for years? There are supposed to be four students per teacher for the after-school program. About 20 students were signed up for this but only four attended. Even though we're here to try to help the students, there has to be some accountability on the part of parents for making sure the students come to school, get their work done, and help and assist with this issue. If we're offering things in the district to try to bring up the 60% of students who are failing, there has to be some accountability on the part of the parents to make sure they come to school on time and the behavior that needs to be corrected. There are students who are going on other students' accounts. Even though we have Go Guardian, they go on other students' accounts and play games and do other things they're not supposed to do. I have sent emails to the technology department to see if there is something that can be done to block those students. I'm in Montclair and some of the people I'm working with suggested that we use QR codes or something. There needs to be some way to stop that. Congratulations to all the people who are here, but can you just give added time when it's needed? Thank you so much and have a nice day. Once again, enjoy 2024.

Mr. Ernest Rucker: Before I begin, I do have a very valid point I need to get out. If I extend over the time, I wish you would give me a courtesy. I have not been to this Board meeting in quite a while. My focus has been City Council, which has been a mistake. What happened in the 2023 election is why I'm here today. What Mr. Keith Furlong was allowed to get away with because you guys did not vote for his contract. He used his PAC to attack members of this Board. That is insane. To have a vendor use his political contacts from the Democratic Party to attack Board of Education members who receive not one dime for your service cannot be tolerated. I'm angry. I'm not just angry for you. I'm angry for the community. This puts no shade on those who are elected. To allow a vendor to use a PAC because you voted against a contract that was not good can no longer happen. My organization Save the Village will be asking the State of New Jersey Department of Education to investigate this item. I believe that Mr. Keith Furlong, a guy who has been a ghost to many of you and whose face you haven't seen, has been pulling strings and making deals in this Board of Education for years. That is over. I'm back. I know you want me to stay at City Council, but I need to come here now. Mr. Furlong has gotten to my last nerve. To watch an individual so greedy that he would displace members of this Board who were dedicated to children and education cannot be tolerated in the City of Paterson. How long are we going to allow others, carpetbaggers, to come into this city and dictate to us who shall serve and who shall not? My name is Ernest Rucker. I will be at your meetings and I'm watching. Anyone under the 2023 election who received a benefit from Keith Furlong who votes in his favor for anything should recuse themselves from any vote on any contract that he brings forth. I will be watching. Let's further discuss Mr. Furlong. He represents many companies in many forms. Utilizing a PAC, his own PAC, to dislodge one of you because you made a decent vote, a correct vote, because the contract was not good and to be able to remove you is wrong. Don't think it just happened to them. Next time it will be someone else. If we do not prepare to make sure this can never happen again, this Board itself should ask for an investigation into those shenanigans of Mr. Furlong. I spoke to him on the phone, which if any of you know me, I wasn't very pleasant and I do have a problem controlling language when I'm dealing with that type of trash that would come to this city and tell me if you don't support him you will have to be taken out. This was an assassination of the Board of Education by a carpetbagger, someone who doesn't live here. He was a ghost. Nobody knew his face until I revealed it. Now we know who Mr. Furlong is and we're going to talk about him a whole lot more. I

congratulate this Board, the new President, the outgoing President, the new Vice President, and the members who were elected. What happened in 2023, believe me, will not ever happen again. Thank you.

Councilwoman Ruby Cotton: Happy New Year to everyone up there and to you all out there. Congratulations to the new Board members, Mohammed, Joel and Kenny Simmons. I've been around six superintendents. I was here when Dr. Napier was a superintendent. I know how difficult it can be, but there are so many good things that can happen. I want to say congratulations to you, Mr. Mohammed. I did not know you but I am here to work with you. Anything I can do to help you and I know the rest of the Board members feel the same. To you Joel, we've always had a good working relationship. Whenever I call, you pick up the phone. We talk about things, and we have been fighting for different items for quite some time together. I want to say congratulations. To my buddy Kenny Simmons, he's been with me for the last 15 years. He's been cooking with me for the last 15 years, my Christmas and Thanksgiving dinners. This year marks 40 years that we've been doing it at the Masonic Temple in the City of Paterson. I want to say I appreciate you. Kenny also started the Young Men's Leadership Summit. You've been out in the community. You've been doing great things and helping people. You have a quiet side, but you're out there. I've seen it for the last 15 years, maybe a little more than that. I just want to say congratulations. A city can't run well if the Board of Education, City Council, and administration aren't working together. It's just not going to work and that's why you will have chaos after chaos and things are not getting along. Whether we like each other or not we're here to work with each other. When I was part of the parent association for Eastside High School, Rosa Parks, and School No. 13, I wanted to get the parents more involved. We had to say to parents we know that we have to do certain things, but it's so important that you be part of your child's life and everything they do. My daughter went to an HBCU and she came back. It took a long time for her to get into the school system. Our kids need to walk down the street and say, "my teacher lives right there." Our kids need to see that. They need to be around people who live in the community, whose doorbell they can ring, who can stop and talk to us. We need to make a greater effort of making sure that our children who go away to college and want to come back and be in the education field get brought in. They know what children go through. Some people don't know what some of our children go through. I see some items on here for mental illness. There are a lot of things that we must do to help our children. I say to people it doesn't have to be your child. All the 28,000 children in the school system are our children. No matter what, we have to do everything that we can to make sure we do this and that it works and try to get parents more engaged. Back in the day when I sat there, they had leadership teams. They let us as parents sit in on interviews when they brought new staff in. We need to make parents more involved with being part. I think sometimes now they don't feel involved. Don't keep putting me in the room and telling me what you're going to do, and I can't ever get anything done. Let me be engaged and part of the process of things that we need. The state passes laws, but the state puts a lot of mandates and doesn't give you money to go with it. We have to lobby our elected officials to make sure we get things done. I want to say to all the administrators over here, I know every one of you because I've been around, and I was always a big believer in public schools. I can say that to Manny because your father and my husband were good friends back in the 70s. I can say that to Val Freeman because we were around when she was working at School No. 12, and we took parents to see what other schools look like. When you don't see what something else looks like, you don't know what you're supposed to have. You have to see what they should have somewhere else. Della, you've been around. Eddie Gonzalez, you've been working with NJCDC for many years trying to get kids summer jobs. I have to mention my friend up there, Khalifah Shabazz, who went to school with my baby girl who played

basketball. I'm so proud to see her sitting up there. A Patersonian is sitting up here who went through the system and is giving back. Nakima's family goes way back in this community. I remember when Oshin first got started. I remember when Joel first got started. It's about reaching out and helping. My motto is I don't need to know you to help you. If you come to me for something that means you're looking for help. We must extend to people because we have to get things done. Just keep that in mind. We have been trying to get a meeting for the last year. I don't know when, but it's going to come. We have to get it together. When the Board of Education, City Council and administration can all come together then it can work, and things can get better. Once again, congratulations to the three newly elected School Board members. I look forward to working with each and every one of you. It's about helping and doing. I tell the community that even if you don't have a child in the school system, participate. You need to see doors open. You need to see what our kids are doing. Kids say you don't have to come, but they really do want you to. As much as we can I want to say thank you for allowing me once again. Congratulations again. I remember the cameraman over there. Let's all work together and get it done. Let's do what we're supposed to do for our children. Let's not be fighting. We shouldn't be brawling. Our brawl should be to make sure our kids have the best of everything. I want to thank all of you once again. All of you out there in the audience thank you for coming out. God bless you all. Thank you.

Councilman Alex Mendez: Good evening and Happy New Year to our Paterson residents and to our great Superintendent and all the Board members. It is a great pleasure for me to be here tonight because great things are happening in Paterson. Let me take this time to congratulate our newly elected Board members, Comm. Mohammed Rashid and Comm. Joel Ramirez, and my good friend Comm. Kenneth Simmons. Let me also congratulate our new Board President, Comm. Martinez, and Comm. Simmons as Vice President. It was great to see my Council colleague here tonight. We have scheduled a joint meeting with the Board of Education. We decided to wait until the new election and allow the new Board members to take their place. Now that it's happened, I'm looking forward to sitting down with our Board President and having that joint meeting. It's time for us to talk about the shared services agreement and how we can serve the city in a better capacity. I'm looking forward to seeing the administration, the Superintendent, and Board members sitting in the room. This is our city. These are our children. I believe in our Paterson School District. I have three beautiful children brought up in the Paterson Public Schools. Alexander is 23 already. He finished college. He came back and is working in the city and county. My daughter is 19 and lives in Washington, D.C. attending Howard University in the medical school. They are kids from Paterson Public Schools. My son is doing great. He's 15. I do believe those are our children and we have to serve this community together. It's time for us to work together. I'll be reaching out to you tomorrow to get that meeting going. God bless you. Comm. Castillo-Cruz, Happy New Year. Just keep going. This is something very important. We have to support our great Superintendent. We have a Superintendent who cares about our community and our children, and you know our community. We have to work together. We're behind you 1,000%. We're going to make sure that you succeed. If you succeed, our children will succeed. God bless you all and have a good night. Thank you.

Mr. Michael Taylor: Good evening, Board. Michael Taylor, still Parent of the Year. I'm here in the spirit of my daughter, Mary Taylor. I started going to the Board of Education meetings because of the HIB situation my daughter dealt with. I'm here now to be an anti-bullying advocate for the children of Paterson. I'm specifically here to hold the Board of Education accountable. This is what I'm going to do from now on, respectfully hold you accountable. The people of Paterson must realize that if you have a student

that's either gifted & talented or in special education you must research New Jersey HIB rules, laws, and policies. If you have a student in New Jersey public schools, you must research New Jersey anti-bullying laws. The reason I empathize that is because New Jersey anti-bullying laws protect the bully. No student is immune from bullying. All across the country you have bullying seminars. No one ever presents the laws of each state with bullying. I'm emphasizing that is because bullying leads to the school-to-prison pipeline. I want to emphasize this to the parents of Paterson. Each time there is a fight and there are two separate parties, you have to be careful on how you handle the situation. The Board might want you to press charges on each other. If you press charges on each other, the situation is no longer in the Board's hands. If one party presses charges the other presses charges. It's not fair on either side of whatever the issue is. If you both press charges, you both will end up with a record. Every time there is a fight and there's a crowd gathering, you're setting yourself up for the school-to-prison pipeline. Get it together. They are not going to tell you this. I experienced this. I lived it. I appreciate the acknowledgement of Dr. Castro at International High School for granting me Parent of the Year. It's my spirit that I cannot stop fighting for justice for my daughter, Mary Taylor. From this point on, I'm going to continue advocating for the children of Paterson. Do your research on New Jersey anti-bullying laws. Thank you. Michael Taylor, still Parent of the Year.

It was moved by Comm. Simmons, seconded by Comm. Redmon that the Public Comments portion of the meeting be closed. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Items Requiring a Vote

PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Comm. Martinez presented the minutes of the December 13, 2023 Workshop Meeting, and the December 20, 2023 Regular Meeting, and asked if there were any questions or comments on the minutes.

It was moved by Comm. Castillo-Cruz, seconded by Comm. Redmon that the minutes be accepted with any necessary corrections. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative, except Comm. Ramirez and Comm. Rashid who abstained. The motion carried.

RESOLUTION ITEMS (1-16)

Resolution No. I&P-1

WHEREAS, Goal Area #1: Teaching & Learning of the Paterson School District's Strategic Plan - A Promising Tomorrow is to create a student-centered learning environment to prepare students for career, college readiness and lifelong learning; Dual Enrollment courses serve the purpose of providing instruction that challenges high end learners and meets each student's learning needs.

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools has partnered with Felician University to provide educational alternatives for high school students and eligible employees.

WHEREAS, Felician University has agreed to offer select students in Grades 11-12, dual enrollment opportunities for articulated college credit from Felician University. As

well as enrolling qualifying students into Felician University's Project Forward program, which allows high school students to take on-campus and online courses at Felician University. Both Dual Enrollment and Project Forward students will receive Felician University credit for their coursework and will receive credit at Paterson towards graduation. All tuition, textbooks and fees will be paid for by the district.

WHEREAS, eligible Paterson employees will receive a 30% tuition reduction of the Felician's standard tuition rates. This tuition reduction does not apply to programs that are already discounted such as our Adult Undergraduate and certificate programs. Eligible Employees may also be assessed registration, insurance, and technology fees, as applicable. The discounted rate is not retroactive, and the district shall not be responsible for any tuition or other costs charged by Felician to eligible employees.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Paterson Board of Education approves the attached articulation agreement between Felician University and Paterson Public Schools at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Resolution No. I&P-2

WHEREAS increasing student achievement through effective academic programs is Goal 1 of Priority 1 of the Strategic Plan for Paterson Public Schools, and creating and sustaining partnerships with community organizations, agencies, and institutions are Goal 3 of Priority 3; and,

WHEREAS the partnership between Paterson Public Schools and Teen Mental Health First Aid (tMHFA) will take place at Paterson P-TECH High School located at 201 Memorial Drive, Paterson, NJ 07505, beginning in the Spring of 2024. The partnership will be open to all 11th grade male and female students of all races who attend Paterson P-TECH High School.

WHEREAS approving the Teen Mental Health First Aid (tMHFA) partnership supports the Paterson Public Schools Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum which is an integral part of education and human development. The process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.

Be It Therefore Resolved that the Paterson Board of Education approves Paterson Public School's partnership with Teen Mental Health First Aid (tMHFA) to participate in an evidence-based training program for teens in grades 10-12 or ages 15-18. It teaches teens how to identify, understand, and respond to signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges and crises among friends and peers. Teens gain the skills to have supportive conversations with their friends and learn how to get the help of a responsible and trusted adult.

This program will provide training for two qualified adults as tMHFA instructors as well as the materials and support needed to offer the curriculum to the 11th grade students. The program will take place at Paterson P-TECH HS during lunch hours beginning in the Spring at no cost to Paterson Public Schools.

Resolution No. I&P-3

WHEREAS, the District's priority is effective academic programs under the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan. The Department of Special Education has aligned programs to meet this priority. The placement of this student will achieve this priority through implementation of his/her IEP; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Special Education has aligned its education goals and efforts to accomplish and promote high standards of academic achievement for all students; and

WHEREAS, the District is required under N.J.A.C. 6A:14 to ensure that the services and placement needed by each student with a disability in order to receive a free, appropriate public education are based on the student's unique needs; and

WHEREAS, the State District Superintendent has determined that the District is in need of instructional services for a student in accordance with the student's Individualized Education Program; and

WHEREAS, Passaic County Technical Institute represents that it is fully qualified to provide the services hereunder and has and will maintain all required licenses, approvals and certifications;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District approve agreements to provide tuition reimbursement to Passaic County Technical Institute for a total cost not to exceed \$67,917.50 during the 2023-2024 school year.

September 1, 2023 – June 30, 2023 - (Interpreter Svcs.)
Interpreter Services - J.I. 2050319 \$6,791.75 x 10 mos. = \$67,917.50

Resolution No. O-4

WHEREAS, the district's Five-Year Strategic Plan's Goal Area #1: Teaching and Learning, to create a student-centered learning environment to prepare students for career, college readiness and lifelong learning.

WHEREAS, Wilson Reading's Foundations® utilizes a structured literacy approach grounded in the science of reading to make learning to read fun while laying the groundwork for lifelong literacy. Foundations is aligned with the science of reading and guides teachers to provide effective instructional practices.

WHEREAS, Wilson® offers workshops and courses to help educators build the knowledge to begin teaching the program. Programs are most successful when instruction is delivered with fidelity by qualified teachers and student success depends on a teacher's knowledge and skills. Workshops hosted by Wilson Language Training® (WLT) professional learning are delivered following guidelines and standards set by WLT and by a Foundations Presenter, Just Words Presenter, Wilson Credentialed Trainer (W.C.T.), or Wilson Literacy Specialist.

WHEREAS, the district would like to conduct Foundations level K, 1, and 2 workshops for K-2 instructional staff at the Categorized schools in the winter of 2024. Foundations Levels K-2 Workshops provide the practice and guidance needed to effectively begin teaching the Foundations Levels K-2 curriculum. They are full-day workshops that are highly interactive and designed to allow for teacher input and active engagement via

activities and discussions. The workshops will cover an overview of the programs, a dive into the materials and resources needed to teach Foundations Levels K-2, a review of how to use the Teacher's Manual, practice planning lessons, and wrap-ups with the chance to debrief and look at "next steps" that will help participants kick off their Foundations instruction.

WHEREAS, after the workshops, educators will be able to: identify the skills taught in Foundations print awareness; phonological awareness; phonemic awareness and the alphabetic principle; sound mastery; phonics; vocabulary; high frequency/trick words; fluency; comprehension strategies; handwriting, spelling, and punctuation. They will be able to understand the principles of instruction: explicit, sequential, and cumulative instruction that engages multiple learning modalities with multisensory activities, repetition, and immediate, specific feedback. They will also be able to identify and understand the use of all materials in the Foundations Teachers' Kits. Lastly, they will learn how to visualize the flow and pace of a full Foundations lesson completed with fidelity.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the Wilson Language Reading Foundation workshops for Categorized schools K-2 teachers for a total not to exceed \$42,000.

Resolution No. O-5

WHEREAS, this initiative supports the district strategic plan, "Paterson- A Promising Tomorrow", Goal # 1: Teaching and Learning- To create a student-centered learning environment to prepare students for career, college readiness and lifelong learning and Goal Area #3: Communications & Connections- To establish viable partnerships with parents, educational institutions and community organizations to support Paterson Public Schools educational programs, advance student achievement and enhance communication, and

WHEREAS, participants will receive a 2-year certification for CPR, AED, and First Aid that meets Janet Law requirements and NJSIAA requirements for coaches. They will provide the CPR mannequins and all materials; Paterson Public Schools will provide a location to hold the class and audio-visual components, and

WHEREAS, upon the completion of the certification, the PPS Physical Education department will support the school community by providing CPR and First Aid in the event of an emergency and have the capability of operating an AED machine which is in each school through the Janet Law requirements, and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves services from Giancarlo Riotto and Talent Stock LLC at a cost not to exceed \$3,600.00.

Resolution No. O-6

WHEREAS, approving the following route for student transportation service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal 1, increasing accountability for performance, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has identified a need to provide transportation for Paterson pupils to out of district special needs/regular education programs and to various other in district schools for the 2023-2024 SY, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has agreed to jointure with various School Districts throughout the New Jersey and the District agrees to the terms of the contract for the 2023-2024 SY, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public School District ratifies the action of the Superintendent approving the following jointure contract for the 2023-2024 SY with the School Districts listed, as follows:

Passaic Public Schools
663 Main Avenue,
Passaic NJ 07055

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, each vendor has been notified that no goods or services will be provided to the District without first receiving a fully executed purchase order; and that the terms on the purchase will be honored completely; if the vendor does not agree with the terms on the purchase order, the vendor will not provide any goods or services to the District until such time a new purchase order is completed and delivered with terms the vendor will honor; and the vendor being awarded renewal of these contracts have complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this resolution, to jointure with various School Districts throughout New Jersey, to transport regular and special needs pupils to their respective schools in and an out of the district for regular and special needs pupils for the 2023 ESY and 2023-2024 SY, shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

Special Education Account # 110002705156850000000000	\$ 10,000.00
Estimated	
Estimated cost for the 2023 ESY and 2023-2024 SY	\$ 10,000.00

Resolution No. O-7

WHEREAS, on March 15, 2007, the State of New Jersey adopted P.L.2007, c.53, *An Act Concerning School District Accountability*, also known as Assembly Bill 5 (A5), and

WHEREAS, Bill A5, N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12(3)f, requires that conferences/workshops have prior approval by a majority of the full voting membership of the board of education, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12(2)s, an employee or member of the board of education who travels in violation of the school district's policy or this section shall be required to reimburse the school district in an amount equal to three times the cost associated with attending the event, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves attendance of conferences/workshops for the dates and amounts listed for staff members and/or Board members on the attached and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that final authorization for attendance at conferences/workshops will be confirmed at the time a purchase order is issued.

CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP REQUESTS

STAFF MEMBER	CONFERENCE	DATE	AMOUNT
Cynthia Jimenez	Rutgers Continuing Studies: Transporting Students with Disabilities	January 16 – March 11, 2024	\$1,058.00 (registration)
Transportation Coordinator	Virtual		
Ruben Ayala	NJASA TECHSPO' 24 Conference	January 24-26, 2024	\$1,005.17 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Technology Operations Coordinator	Atlantic City, NJ		
Michael Gonzalez	NJASA TECHSPO' 24 Conference	January 24-26, 2024	\$1,005.17 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Technology Integration and Program Specialist	Atlantic City, NJ		
George Lisboa	NJASA TECHSPO' 24 Conference	January 24-26, 2024	\$1,005.17 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
IT Project Manager	Atlantic City, NJ		
Lenny Moore	NJASA TECHSPO' 24 Conference	January 24-26, 2024	\$1,004.23 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Director of MIS	Atlantic City, NJ		
Ramon Solis	NJASA TECHSPO' 24 Conference	January 24-26, 2024	\$1,005.17 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Network Technician	Atlantic City, NJ		
Domenico Carriero	NJASA TECHSPO' 24 Conference	January 25-26, 2024	\$851.16 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Principal/School 9	Atlantic City, NJ		
Anthony Licamara	NJASA TECHSPO' 24 Conference	January 25-26, 2024	\$810.34 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Vice Principal/MLK	Atlantic City, NJ		
Nakima Redmon	NSBA Equity Symposium	January 26-27, 2024	\$1,587.15 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Board Member	Washington, DC		

Kenneth Simmons	NSBA Equity Symposium	January 26-27, 2024	\$1,611.80 (registration, transportation, lodging, meals)
Board Member	Washington, DC		
Nakima Redmon	NSBA Advocacy Institute	January 28-29, 2024	\$1,783.90 (registration, lodging, meals)
Board Member	Washington, DC		
Kenneth Simmons	NSBA Advocacy Institute	January 28-30, 2024	\$2,264.00 (registration, lodging, meals)
Board Member	Washington, DC		

***FOR RATIFICATION**

Total Number of Conferences: 12
Total Cost: \$14,991.26

Resolution No. O-8

WHEREAS, the Paterson Board of Education is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12 to adopt policy and approve travel expenditures by district employees and board members using local, State, or Federal funds to ensure that travel is educationally necessary and fiscally prudent; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the training and informational programs sponsored by NJSBA and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of board members' duties; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the training and informational programs sponsored by NJSBA and set forth below are directly related to and within the scope of the listed job title's current responsibilities and the board's professional development plan; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that participation in the NJSBA training and informational programs requires school district travel expenditures and that this travel is critical to the instructional needs of the district and/or furthers the efficient operation of the district; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that the school district travel expenditures to NJSBA programs are in compliance with State travel guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury and within the guidelines established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget; except as superseded by conflicting provision of Title 18A of the New Jersey Statutes: and

WHEREAS, the board of education finds that a mileage reimbursement rate equal to that of the federal Internal Revenue Service mileage reimbursement rate of [\$0.47] per mile is a reasonable rate; and

WHEREAS, the board of education has determined that participation in the NJSBA training and informational programs are in compliance with the district policy on travel; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the board of education hereby approves the attendance of the listed number of school board member(s) and/or district employee(s) at the listed NJSBA training and informational programs, and the costs of attendance including all registration fees, and statutorily authorized travel expenditures, provided that such expenditures are within the annual maximum travel expenditure amount and pending district funds; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education authorizes in advance, as required by statute, attendance at the following NJSBA training programs and informational events, effective January 2024 through December 2024:

- Governance I: New Board Members - New Board Member Orientation Conference
- Governance II: 1st Term, 2nd full year of service - Finance
- Governance III: 1st Term, 3rd full year of service - Student Achievement
- Governance IV: Re-elected/Reappointed Board Members in the first year of any succeeding term - Legal Update
- Upcoming Sessions and County SBA Meetings

Total Cost: \$3,000.00

Resolution No. F-9

BE IT RESOLVED, that the list of bills and claims dated through January 4, 2024, beginning with check number 240473 and ending with check number 240511, along with direct deposit number beginning with 1906 and ending with 1939, in the amount of \$17,045,611.47, and wire in the amount of \$10,000,000.00, for a total of \$27,045,611.47; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and has been duly audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2.

Resolution No. F-10

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator, pursuant to 18A:22-8.1, has prepared and presented for approval the monthly transfer report 1701, for the month of November 2023, and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Administrative Code 6A:23A-13.3 requires the Board Secretary and the Board of Education to certify that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations, all transfers were fully executed consistent with code and policy prior to obligating funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves transfer of funds within the 2023-2024 school year budget, for the month of November 2023, so that no budgetary line item account has been over-expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations, as requested by various budget managers, and as identified in the list of transfers attached hereto and shall be made part of the minutes. Furthermore, the transfers were approved by the Department of Education.

Resolution No. F-11

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator, pursuant to 18A:17-9, has prepared and presented the Board Secretary Report, A-148, for the month of November 2023, and

WHEREAS, the School Board Administrator certifies, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-16.10(c)(3), that no line item or program category account has been over expended, and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year, and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary's Report is in agreement with the Treasurer's Report, A-149, and

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary's Report is subject to adjustments following annual audit and Department of Education directions regarding Fund 15's School Based Budgets, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson Public Schools acknowledges receipt and certifies the Board Secretary Report for November 2023 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A-23A-16.10(c)(4), acknowledging no line items or program category account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools hereby incorporates the Board Secretary's Report for the fiscal period ending November 2023, as part of the minutes of this meeting and note the public discussion of same for the minutes; and, that the School Business Administrator be directed to forward to the County Superintendent the minutes together with Treasurer's Report, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Resolution No. F-12

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary, pursuant to 18A:17-9, has prepared and presented the monthly reconciliation of bank account statements, for the month of November 2023, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson Public Schools acknowledges receipt of the Reconciliation Report for November 2023 and acknowledges agreement with the November 2023 Board Secretary's Report, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools hereby incorporates the Reconciliation Report for the fiscal period ending November 2023, as part of the minutes of this meeting and note the public discussion of same for the minutes; and, that the School Business Administrator be directed to forward to the County Superintendent the minutes together with Reconciliation Report, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon its adoption.

Resolution No. F-13

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School approves payment for the gross payroll checks and direct deposits dated 12/15/23 in the grand sum of 14,433,742.12 beginning with

check number 1017761 and ending with check number 1017867 and direct deposit number D003567780 and ending with D003572603.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School approves payment for the gross payroll checks and direct deposits dated 12/22/23 in the grand sum of 13,789,590.39 beginning with check number 1017868 and ending with check number 1017949 and direct deposit number D003572604 and ending with D003577320.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that each claim or demand has been fully itemized, verified and has been duly audited as required by law in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-2.

Resolution No. F-14

WHEREAS, the Board Secretary pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18:17-7, must record minutes of the proceedings of the board; and

WHEREAS, transcription services for board meetings will not exceed the bid threshold for the 2024-2025 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the District solicited quotations pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3 for transcription services for the recording of board proceedings in the 2024-25 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, Angelique T. Mojica submitted the lowest quotation; and

WHEREAS, the award of this contract is in line with the District's "Bright Futures" strategic plan Priority IV: Efficient and Responsive Operations, Goal 1: Improve Internal Communications; and

WHEREAS, the vendor will be paid at a rate of \$600.00 per meeting, and there will be no charges to the District for out-of- pocket expenses; now

BE IT RESOLVED, for the 2024-2025 fiscal year transcription services for board proceedings are awarded as follows:

Angelique T. Mojica	Verbalink	Transcription Services Live
\$600.00 per meeting	\$720.00 per meeting Avg. meeting 4hrs x \$3 per min.	\$840.00 per meeting Avg. meeting 4hrs x \$3.50 per min.

Not to Exceed \$29,000.00 (pending budget approval)

Resolution No. P-15

WHEREAS, The Superintendent recommends the appointment, salary adjustments, transfers, supports the Paterson: A Promising Tomorrow Strategic Plan 2019-2024 which amongst its strategies goals is Priority I- Effective Academic Programs-Goal 1 - Increase Student Achievement; and

WHEREAS, The Board of the Paterson Public School District has reviewed the recommendation of the Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, The Board of the Paterson Board of Education communicated expectations that such recommendations are made on a timely basis and include the proposed appointment, transfer, personnel in compliance with the contractual and/or statutory requirements.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of the Paterson Board of Education accepts the personnel recommendations of the Superintendent adopted in the January 4, 2024 Board Meeting.

PERSONNEL

F.1 Motion to take action on personnel matters, as listed below; and appoint and submit to the County Superintendent applications for emergent hiring and the applicant's attestation that he/she has not been convicted of any disqualifying crime pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et. Seq., N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et. seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4.13 et. seq. for those employees listed below:
(All appointments are contingent upon receipt of proper teaching certification and all salary placements are pending receipt of college transcripts verifying degree status and letter stating years of service in other districts).

A. POSITION CONTROL ABOLISH/CREATE

A1. To reclassify **PC# 1416** Teacher of Art to a teacher of Music at Eastside High School Educational Campus.

A2. To reclassify **PC# 2343** Teacher of Technology to a Teacher of Cosmetology at Eastside High School Educational Campus.

B. SUSPENSIONS- N/A

C. RESIGNATION/ RETIREMENT

D. TERMINATIONS

E. NON-RENEWAL

F. LEAVES OF ABSENCE

G. APPOINTMENT

	Last Name	First Name	School/Location	Title	Salary	Reason
G1	Elmanfalouty	Nancy	Eastside High School	Teacher ESL	\$63,740.00	filling vacancy
G2	Fyffe-Chambers	Natoya	Central Registration	Part-Time Nurse	34.50/hour	filling vacancy
G3	Hervias	Liz	School #25	Teacher Preschool	\$60,985.00	filling vacancy
G4	Sanchez	Brenda	655 Special Education	Senior Specialist	\$42,690.00	filling vacancy
G5	Wallace	Shannon	School# 20	Teacher Special Ed Autism	\$66,755.00	

H. TRANSFERS

I. RECALL FROM RIF

J. LEAVE REPLACEMENT

K. DISTRICT/SCHOOL PROGRAM HIRING - N/A

L. STIPENDS

L1. To change **Mr. Christopher Taylor** to a substitute and add **Ms. Natalie Puente** as a teacher. The teacher will work from 3:10 p.m. to 5:10 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays on days when program is running. Program Dates: November 2023 through April 2024.

1 Teacher x 2 hours x \$35.00 an hour x 80 days = \$5,600.00

Account# 20.238.100.101.653.083.1024.001 Up to and not to exceed: \$5,600.00

L2. Authorization to provide stipends for the Science Data PLC for 6 sessions for 1.5hrs each from January 2024 to June 2024.

5 Teachers X 1.5 hrs X \$35/HR X 6 Days = \$1,575.00

5 Supervisors X 1.5 Hrs x \$40/ HR x 6 days = \$1,800.00

(Total \$1,575.00 + \$1,800.00 = \$3,375.00)

Keith Edghill

Meri Todhe

Ashley Ramirez

Maureen Bruins

David Scala

Nakeia Wimberly

Dorothy Daniello,

William Mirra

LaKisha Kincherlow-Warren

Michael Kleeman

Account# 11.000.221.110.739.053

Not to exceed: \$3,375.00

L3. Action to stipend **Christopher Awad** to participate in STEAM HS professional development as follows:

One (1) Vice Principal for (6) hours in total at \$40.00 an hour = \$240.00

Program will run from October 2023 until May 2024. Program will run as a (3) three, (2) two-hour sessions over the course of the 23-24 school year.

Account# 20.231.200.100.653.074.0000.001 Refer to PTF# 24-726 for funds

L4. PTF To hire **Mr. Muhanad Alagha** and **Mr. Marquette Burgess** as after school detention teachers. **Mr. Ricardo Llanos** will serve as the substitute in the event of an absence. Program will run from September 18th to June 1st 2024. Revised PTF **Ms. Debra Kira** will serve as the substitute in the event of an absence. #24-524 Amend.

Account# 15.000.221.102.307.053.0000.000

Not to exceed: \$5,950.00

M. AMENDMENTS

N. ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES

O. SICK/VACATION DAY PAY OUT

P. WITHHOLDING OF INCREMENTS

Q. HEALTH BENEFITS

R. MISCELLANEOUS

S. MISCELLANEOUS (FUNDING.)

T. ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

U. Administrative Longevity

V. RESTORE INCREMENTS

W. NEGOTIATIONS

X. JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Y. Grievance Settlements

Resolution No. P-16

The Paterson Public Schools District evaluation system is governed by TEACHNJ, regulated through AchieveNJ and New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC). The District's evaluation system is directly correlated to the Priorities and Goals contained in the Strategic Plan under the areas of Instruction and Program: curriculum implementation, Operations: data integrity and accountability/responsibility, Personnel: hiring and recruitment, and Governance: local control transition.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District (the "District") is required to annually submit to the Commissioner of Education, for review and approval, the evaluation rubrics that will be used to assess the effectiveness of teachers, principals, assistant principals, and vice-principals and all other certificated staff members pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-122;

WHEREAS, the District recommends using the Focal Point Teaching and Principal Practice Model evaluation instrument to evaluate all educators in all pre-kindergarten centers, elementary, middle, and high schools; this is inclusive of teachers, principals, assistant principals, and vice-principals and all other certificated staff members. Evaluation instruments are in alignment with revised standards: Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (PSEL) and New Jersey Professional Standards for Teachers/ New Jersey Professional Standards for Teachers;

WHEREAS, the Focal Point Teaching Practice Model was created Focal Point LLC and approved by the New Jersey Department of Education for meeting the minimum standards established by the State Board of Education (September 7, 2012); and

WHEREAS, results of evaluations will be used to identify and provide professional development to teaching staff members inclusive of teachers, supervisors, principals, assistant principals, and vice-principals and all other teaching staff members and will be provided to the commissioner, as requested, on a regular basis in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-123.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Paterson Board of Education approves the adoption and use of the Focal Point Model evaluation instrument listing for the 2023-

2024 school year for certificated staff members and recommends its submission to the Commissioner of Education for review and approval in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:6-122.

It was moved by Comm. Castillo-Cruz, seconded by Comm. Redmon that Resolution Nos. 1-16 be adopted. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

Paterson Board of Education Standing Abstentions

Commissioner Oshin Castillo-Cruz

- Self
- City of Paterson
- Transportation (Bus Companies)
- Downtown Special Improvement District
- Celebrate Paterson
- Passaic County
- Passaic County Board of Social Services

Commissioner Valerie Freeman

- Self
- Family
- Paterson Cares, Inc.
- Paterson Community Health Center

Commissioner Eddie Gonzalez

- Self
- Family
- New Jersey Community Development Corporation (NJCDC)
- Community Charter School of Paterson

Commissioner Manuel Martinez

- Self

Commissioner Della McCall

- Self
- City of Paterson

Commissioner Joel D. Ramirez

- Self
- City of Paterson
- Passaic County Community College

Commissioner Mohammed H. Rashid

- Self

Commissioner Nakima Redmon

- Self
- Historic Preservation of the City of Paterson
- County of Passaic

Commissioner Kenneth Simmons

- Self

- Family

OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Newell: Some of the questions we will have cabinet members reach out. There are some questions that require some research, but we will be getting back to you with those answers. One of the things I don't want to do is give an off-the-cuff answer and it's not accurate. Bear with us and we will get back to you with some of the concerns that you have raised. In the spirit of Dr. Hodges, some of the work that we've been doing and was started way before I got here is looking at our achievement levels. As we have been working on building the team and with the Board we have been having a lot of conversations about what our achievement levels are looking like. We've had presentations since I've been here. One of the things I want to make sure of is that as we go through the data and do the work that we also manage the expectations. As you've seen with the presentation on Credit Recovery, we do know that as we tighten up and put more processes and structures in place there is a likelihood that some of the scores that we have been looking at may potentially dip. I want to make sure that we are managing expectations as we are going through the school year and look at all of our achievement levels, data, and how our students are doing. We have a lot of work to do. We have started that work with the Board. But understand that as we go through and look at everything across the different schools, grades, and assessments we may discover some potential misalignment. I just want to make sure that is understood as we go through with presenting our work to the public. Thank you, President.

Comm. Martinez: Just to paraphrase using my own words, we have a bumpy road ahead of us so we will be sure to have our seatbelts on. As Dr. Hodges said, we're going to have to roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty to really move this district forward. I appreciate your candor and comments.

Comm. Freeman: Happy New Year everybody and welcome back. As we start this new year off, I just want to say a few things that have been on me. This past election that happened in November really grinds my gears. It's something that rubs me the wrong way, when you have a PAC that pushes two people in a race. Some people won't say it, but I can't hold things in. That may be something that's going to bite me one day, but those are consequences that I'm willing to deal with. When you do things like that, it only tells me that you're not for the children. My slogan when I ran was "Children Over Politics" and it will always remain that way. I'm going to be observing extra hard because if this gentleman thinks that he can persuade people to join a race thinking that he's going to have his way, I'm saying today that he's sorely mistaken. I'm willing to work on this Board with people who are for the children. All that political stuff, I'm not with it. I'm not going to sit up here and try to speak like you want me to speak. I'm going to speak how I speak. I'm not with the political games. That's why we are where we are in this city and in this Board of Education. Everybody wants to help somebody else. If it's not about the children, I will call you out. I will say it to you in your face, what I think it is and sometimes mostly what you know it is. All I'm asking is do not let people persuade you to do the wrong thing. They're going to tell you it's the right thing and it's not. If it's not about the children, you shouldn't be concerned. If we can leave politics out of it for this year and forward, we will be better. We will be in a better place and our children will be in a better place. You're going to do the work to get them the best things that they need to be productive citizens in this city. Was I hurt by the election? Yes, because I know why. I wanted to let you know that. I'm rough along the edges, but you'll get to know me. Congratulations. I hope you're up here free thinking for yourself. That's all. Do right by the children. Don't get sucked up in that game because at the end it's going to bite you. Good evening.

It was moved by Comm. Simmons, seconded by Comm. Ramirez that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.