

**MINUTES OF THE PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING**

November 18, 2020 – 6:07 p.m.  
Remote - Zoom

Presiding: Comm. Kenneth Simmons, President

Present:

Ms. Eileen F. Shafer, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Susana Peron, Deputy Superintendent  
Khalifah Shabazz-Charles, Esq., General Counsel  
Boris Zaydel, Esq., Board Counsel

Comm. Vincent Arrington  
Comm. Jonathan Hodges  
Comm. Manuel Martinez, Vice President

Comm. Joel Ramirez  
Comm. Nakima Redmon  
Comm. Corey Teague

Absent:

Comm. Oshin Castillo-Cruz

Comm. Simmons 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 notice of this meeting:

**Regular Meeting  
November 18, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.  
Remote - Zoom  
90 Delaware 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.

**PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**Hispanic Heritage Month**

Ms. Shafer: At this time, I'm going to ask Deputy Superintendent Peron to introduce the Hispanic Heritage Month presentation.

Ms. Peron: Good evening, everyone. It's with pride and joy that I get to introduce the National Hispanic Heritage Month presentation. It's a period from September 15 to

October 15 in the United States and it recognizes the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, the culture, and the achievements of the United States. This year, as you know, because of this pandemic and the state of our students being home and virtual, we set out through the department of academic services and teachers. It really was coordination and collaboration between the department of communications, academic services, school administrators, teachers, and students to put together their display of how they were celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. You will see in this brief video because we had to take it all down. We had a lot of selections to choose from. We had interviews of Hispanic Latinas. It was a combination of music, art, dance, and dress. It was a motivating initiative that went through all of the schools districtwide and our department of communications put it together and made it into a small display so that we can view and have a glimpse of all of the wonderful activities that went on during the month throughout the school and in the community. They took the time to study and to prepare and to represent the diversity in our schools, in our community, and in our world. In today's world, it's important to lift the traditions of culture, of narratives, of stories, and of voices of the Latin communities and countries, and recognize their accomplishments, their struggles, and what they have added to our community. Sit back and enjoy this brief little display of Hispanic Heritage Month through the eyes of our school and our children.

### ***Video Presentation***

Ms. Peron: I hope that you all enjoyed it. That was a virtual platform culmination of projects, research, and personal artifacts of our students who strive to unite the heritage and the pride of the Latin people. They brought pictures, dances, projects, and research about the diversities of countries like Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Cuba, Uruguay, Paraguay, Peru, Mexico, and represented all of them as best they could in 10 minutes. If you would like to revisit this video and their projects, you can find it on our district website. At your leisure, you can go to our district website and take another view of the wonderful work that our students put together. Thank you.

### **Fund Balance Review**

Ms. Shafer: Thank you, Ms. Peron. At this time, I'm going to ask our Business Administrator, Mr. Richard Matthews, to go over our Fund Balance Review.

Mr. Richard Matthews: Basically, I have to present a Fund Balance Review to the Board, to the administration, and to the community to say where we think we are going to land in the year in terms of being able to not only just do a balanced budget, but end the year so that we are not in a deficit. I'm going to give this presentation three times a year and I'm going to go through this presentation and answer any questions at the end. As I said, three times a year we're giving these projections and these projections are just based on what's in our current budget and how we see our revenues coming in, looking at our expenditures year to date and projecting out on how we're going to spend the rest of the year and how I see us finishing the year out. Basically, it's snapshot of district fund balance projection that projects our position and we provide the oversight to ensure that the district achieves a balanced budget for the current year. Also, finish the year with a surplus and also a fund balance that allows us to move forward. If you look at 2019-2020 at the top it says pre-audit. Basically, that means the auditors are still going through our 2019-2020 year and they should be done within the next week or two. When we did the last projection last year you heard of us probably going to end in a deficit, not for me, but in general. For the 2019-2020 year, you see we are going to end the year with a 2% fund balance. Also, what's really important is that we have an excess surplus of \$7,284,057. In the prior year, we had an excess surplus of \$1.7

million so our excess surplus for 2019-2020 is going to jump to \$7.2 million. An excess surplus is everything over and above your 2% which is at the bottom at \$10,538,005. For 2019-2020, unofficially, we are going to end the year with a 2% fund balance and also \$7 million in excess surplus which allows us to use that money for future year's budget. Getting to 2019-2020, you see the revenues for 2019-2020 are \$527 million. That's \$54 million which is tax levy and \$451 million is the state aid, for a total number of \$527 million. That number in state aid is also inclusive of the deduction that we got of the \$16.3 million that we lost in state aid. These numbers are based on what's actually in our 2020-2021 budget. We are projecting that this year revenues are going to come in as they normally do with no problem. We are expecting to spend \$523 million this year which will give us \$4.4 million of additional revenue which will take our fund balance for the year 2020-2021 to \$29 million. We are projecting from years 2019-2020 to 2020-2021 that we are going to increase our fund balance by almost \$5 million. Going down to the expenses at the bottom, you see the fund balance is \$29.1 million and your unassigned is \$10.4 million. We are looking at \$12 million for fund balance and \$5.4 in excess surplus. Again, excess surplus is money over and above the 2%. Last year when we did this current year's budget, we actually went below 2% to balance out the budget which is a risky move, but we felt we were going to end the year in a good spot so we took that chance. We don't want to ever have to do that again. We're moving into more solid ground in terms of our finances and our budgeting. This is more of a positive note than it has been in years past. We just have to maintain what we are doing right now and try to keep our expenses down and continue to drive our revenues year over year. Again, the state is going to give us what they're going to give us, but there are some things that we've done in the last couple of years to help our revenues out a lot. We'll continue to make those investments in our kids so we can provide them with a thorough and efficient education. Some of the things that impact the budget came up the other day in one of our meetings. Uses of unreserved fund balance. Last year, we did that in our current year's budget. We used some money in our fund balance to balance the budget. We hope not to do that again. I think we are going to be in a good spot so that doesn't happen again. Charter school midyear adjustment – the state gives us the charter school allocation every year but sometimes enrollment changes midyear and we usually get an increase in that number. Last year, we budgeted \$75 million but the numbers changed. That number does go up. On a more positive note, last year what was really keeping me up all night was the health benefits and the runout that came from the prior year. All of that runout is now gone, it's exhausted. We're now paying based on events that happen in the current year so we're not being hit with that runout cost anymore. Something that is very hard to budget and we will work with the legal department on it this year is the judgements against the school district. Sometimes, these are settled during the course of the year and they take us above our budget. We are probably going to have to put more of a cushion into that account. Special education is what it is. It's so variable. We have a lot of changes over the course of the year. Something that's new to us this year in terms of things that might impact our budget, we're probably going to be spending almost double in perfect attendance because of the environment that we are in. Staff is not calling out sick. We are going to have more people that are going to get perfect attendance and that's going to be a big number that we didn't budget for in the current budget year. We are looking at it now for next year, but last year when the budget was done this is something that we didn't really foresee or forecast. It's going to be something that's going to impact us during the course of the current fiscal year, for sure. As a matter of fact, it impacted us last year because we had more people having perfect attendance in the past fiscal year that took us over our budgeted amount. In closing again, there are assumptions that we have to make, but it's also based on what's actually being spent and what's our trend. We're not just making up numbers and pulling them out of a hat. We're seeing what's happening with our spend. We have historical data that tells us where we are going to

be and there's a lot that's in our budget that moves into a certain trend. Salaries and benefits are pretty much constant in terms of how they get spent year over year. Vacancy is money that when we lose staff through retirements or through resignations we are trying to hire them at much lower numbers. That's also a moving target that helps us at the end of the year. We constantly monitor that through our monthly reporting that we give to the Board and the County. As we continue to go through the year, we'll update this report and tell you what we're seeing and make the report reflective of what we see in terms of our projections. Year to year you go into a year in terms of spending between 96% and 98% pretty much constant. Those numbers are 2% but 1% either way is a \$5 million swing. We're falling within that 1% to 2% swing every year, but you want to make sure that you drive the number to the lower number but not at the expense of the education of the kids. This is where we are. We feel better this year than we did this time last year and we've already started the budgeting process to be able to look at how the new world is looking. We feel we're moving in a better direction to have that fund balance go up and have our unreserved monies go up so that we can start investing more into facilities and stuff like that. That concludes my report. Do you guys have any questions? I'll entertain them.

Comm. Teague: Mr. Matthews, in general, do you think your job is going to become a lot easier come January 20 with the new administration coming?

Mr. Matthews: Based on what I said to you last night, I feel like the education world is going to be in a better spot moving forward in terms of being able to provide us with the resources that we need to give these kids the proper education. I feel confident without having any knowledge of what's going to happen. I just feel better that things are going to be better for us. Making my job easier, I don't know if there's anything that can really do that, but having more resources that we can provide for the kids would make me feel better. That's important. But I have to say, and you heard me say it before, I really have a dynamic team around me that helps me with putting together the information, compiling the data, and being able to provide you with really accurate information in terms of what our situation is financially. I have to say last year we were hearing people say that we are going to go into a deficit and I assured Ms. Shafer that was not going to happen. You'll see in our audit report that comes out to you guys next month that the numbers we are projecting here are going to be pretty tight to what the auditors are going to give to you guys next month. We feel better about where we are. We're not doing cartwheels right now, but we just feel better because we were in a very dark scary spot.

Comm. Arrington: Thank you for the presentation and for the work you and your team are doing. What are some of the divers? Is revenue increasing? Or are our expenses decreasing?

Mr. Matthews: I'm going to go back to one key slide. If you look over the last two years on tax levy, we raised our taxes. We picked up \$13 million in taxes. That's been a very key instrument. I hate to use the word tax levy. You'll hear me say investment into our kids. But that's been a critical piece of us being in the spot that we are in right now.

Comm. Simmons: Mr. Matthews, with the investment into our kids, I know in the past we haven't done it which put us in a place for the last two years where we've had to do it in double digits. Are we looking at that this year?

Mr. Matthews: I'm going to say this to you. We are probably going to come in at a number that's less than a dollar a day of an increase to the taxpayer of Paterson.

Comm. Simmons: We'll have further discussion in fiscal?

Mr. Matthews: Yes, sir.

Comm. Simmons: Any other questions, Mr. Matthews?

Mr. Matthews: No, I'm good.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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

Mr. Zaydel: We have five speakers and one message that was sent to us electronically that I'll read aloud. The first speaker is Vince LaForgia. Mr. LaFogia, I will unmute your microphone and you will have two minutes to speak. Please keep your remarks within that time.

Mr. Vince LaForgia: Good evening, Board members. My name is Vince LaForgia. I'm the President of E-Rate Consulting. I've reluctantly decided to speak today and request the entire Paterson Board of Education to review my firms challenge regarding RPF416-21. My firm has served as the district's E-Rate consultant from 2017 to very recently. During that time, we've helped the district obtain millions of dollars in federal funding and enabled upgrades to your network technology. We also drove down the costs on your internet bandwidth and really helped your team exceed comparable to other districts. Despite having an excellent working relationship with your team and a great track record as your E-Rate consultant, the district recently made an award for a three-year contract to a firm with much less experience as a consultant and at a rate of 50% more expensive than we bid. Some of you men and women may know that I sent a letter to the district's Board Secretary and General Counsel notifying the district that the evaluation process should be revisited. We heard last night that several Board members disagree with the position. Without getting into specifics, I simply want to use the opportunity to respectfully urge each of you to read the substance of the letter and take a look at the flaws in the bid evaluation process. If it is the district's intention to stand by the award, my firm needs to pursue any and all remedies that are available under state law. Lastly, I want to note that the district has yet to complete the E-Rate process for fiscal year 2019-2020. It is currently owed more than \$900,000 in funding support. Also, it hasn't responded to several requests from USAC for funding that we requested for \$400,000 in equipment funding. We've sent reminders to your team. You've had this information and your current consultant that you awarded this to at the workshop meeting last month has had over a month to respond or acquire this money and they have yet to do it either. We're hoping that we can talk soon and work things out. That's it. Thank you very much for your time.

Mr. Zaydel: Our next signed up speaker is Ms. Rosie Grant. Ms. Grant, I'm going to unmute your microphone for the next two minutes. Go ahead.

Ms. Rosie Grant: Thank you, Boris. Good evening, Board members, Ms. Shafer, members of the staff, and members of the community. Thank you for this opportunity to speak as always. I would like to start by congratulating the student who won the Rising Scholar award from the New Jersey State Amistad Commission. Kudos to her and to her adult teachers and advisors! I had raised the Amistad question about whether or not we're compliant about a month ago. I am in conversation with the director that

Paterson is implementing, but there are a few boxes that need to be checked and I don't know. We're in continuing collaboration and I will introduce this conversation to the Superintendent shortly. Great presentation on Hispanic Heritage Month! Thank you to Ms. Peron and to our kids and teachers and administrators. I would like to highlight that PEF is a part of the Our Children/Our School Statewide Network. It's a network of education civil rights and children's rights organizations and we've put out a statement protecting the health and safety of New Jersey's children and the adults who teach them in light of the continuing pandemic. It's focused on protecting our kids who are most vulnerable, those who are least able to take advantage of online learning and those who are most at risk of falling behind their peers. There is an outline available that I can send to you. It's about prioritizing social/emotional learning, speeding up Governor Murphy's digital divide request process, treating broadband as a universal service such as other utilities, and so on. I will share that later on. It sounds as if my time is up. It does look like Paterson is compliant with things that we are requesting. Thank you.

Mr. Zaydel: The next speaker is Darlenis Rodriguez. Darlenis, I am going to unmute your microphone. You will have two minutes to speak.

Ms. Darlenis Rodriguez: I actually have a note for Ms. Rodriguez. I am a district employee and I received the email about her retirement. Should I move forward and read the note for her?

Mr. Zaydel: Go ahead.

Ms. Rodriguez: Good evening all, Board members, and Ms. Shafer. My name is Darlenis Rodriguez and I am the assistant accountant at the food services department for our district. I am also one of Ms. Rodriguez's prior students. Ms. Rodriguez, my family and I are eternally grateful for you. In 1997, I entered kindergarten at Roberto Clemente. I didn't know any English and I had just immigrated from the Dominican Republic and was afraid of my own shadow. So, I cried a lot. Within the walls of Roberto Clemente, I learned to speak English and I thrived. You took the time to provide extra help when any student needed it and you pushed us to be our best. In the 4<sup>th</sup> grade, I remember you coming in earlier than anyone else to help a group of students that were part of a math club. I was one of those students. I was also in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade during September 11. I remember the fear in everyone's eyes, but within those walls under your leadership I felt very safe. You have taught and guided a long line of Chavez family members, which is my maiden last name, from my dad to my uncle to my siblings and all of our cousins. As a leader, you set the bar incredibly high. Please know that the young girl that walked into your school more than 20 years ago is now a mom and also a district employee. As a mom, I wouldn't hesitate to send a child of mine to you given the chance. As an adult, I can only say thank you. When the world was too big and scary for me, you made me feel safe, you encouraged learning, and your loyalty to the families did not go unnoticed. Ms. Rodriguez, you're leaving a tremendous legacy. I hope your retirement treats you well. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Mr. Zaydel: The next speaker is Iris Velez. Ms. Velez, I'm going to unmute your microphone. You'll have two minutes starting now.

Ms. Iris Velez: This is also for Ms. Rodriguez. 28 years ago, I met what I can only describe as a stern optimist. She held high expectations for all she shared a piece of herself with. Walking into Roberto Clemente as a student meant you didn't want to go to Ms. Rodriguez's office. But if you were in real trouble, you wanted to go to Ms. Rodriguez's office. Ms. Rodriguez had a way of making you step up to accountability

and responsibility when that may be what you were avoiding. The time I've known this woman, I've never heard her staff say an ill word about her. That speaks volumes because we know students win when their teachers are happy in their work environment. This woman was so impactful that 28 years after I met her she still manages to stir within me the drive for better. I was to emcee an assembly in the 1<sup>st</sup> grade. My mom had taken the ribbons off my socks simply because they did not match the dress. This made me self-conscious and anxious over talking in front of people and in the audience. I was fixated that there was no flower on the back of my ankle. Ms. Rodriguez knelt beside me and made me realize that no one would notice the missing bow because all they would focus on was my smile and how well I was speaking. Today, a product of the Paterson School System, 13 years into my career as a police officer, I'm a detective soon to be sergeant. I emcee most of the promotional ceremonies and swearing in for my department. I've spearheaded the reestablishment of the Explorers and the Lead program in Paterson and I wholeheartedly believe that an educator plays an essential role in the formulation of good human beings that give back. 28 years ago, I met an elementary school principal who opened her heart and accepted a school and the community around it into her heart. Ms. Rodriguez, on behalf of all those whom you have touched, inspired, and lit a fire under, we thank you. We will carry on your message and legacy. Enjoy your retirement. Thank you for allowing me to give this message.

Mr. Zaydel: We have a letter that came in. I will put it up on the screen briefly. It was sent in by Marybel Echevarria, an employee of the Paterson Public Schools from the Department of Federal Programs. She writes: "Dear Principal Rodriguez, congratulations on your retirement. On behalf of the Department of Federal Programs, we would like to express our gratitude for your continued dedication to our students, parents, and community for the past 49 years. You will always be remembered as you have made an imprint in our hearts as a kind, respectful, and educated individual. You will truly be missed. Keep in touch." Signed, Marguerite Sullivan, Irene DelRosso, Devon Troxler, Sherri Brackett, Joyce Everett, and Marybel Echevarria.

**It was moved by Comm. Martinez, 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.**

## **REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Ms. Shafer: Thank you, Mr. President. Let me just respond to public comments. To the E-Rate consultant, the attorneys received your recent letter and will address it accordingly. Rosie Grant, thank you for your comments and we'll get together to talk about the implementation of the Amistad as quickly as possible. We've tried to reach Dr. Harris but to no avail. To the past students who spoke about Principal Rodriguez, thank you for your kind words. They were truly from your heart. Let me move into my report. I sent the Board my written report for the month, but I just want to briefly go over a couple things. The P-Tech students spent a day designing mobile apps with mentors from IBM and ADP, and some of the apps that they developed were about time management for students and how to increase users' financial literacy through educational apps. It was a great experience for our students that are at P-Tech. I also want to congratulate, and I spoke to this student over the weekend, a student from the Academy of Architecture and Construction Trades at the Kennedy complex. She received the State Amistad Commission Rising Scholar award. She's a senior. Her name is Patricia Mendoza. She has a GPA of 4.0. She works 40 hours a week to help support her family. She is a member of the Student Government Association and the National Honor Society. Congratulations to Patricia Mendoza. I had the honor to attend

the School No. 13 basketball court named after Robert "Tootie" Harrell and it was great to see so many individuals outside. If you haven't seen the court yet, please stop by. The court looks great as well as the plaque in the honor of Tootie Harrell. There were many individuals who came out, including officials, Board President Simmons, certainly Comm. Arrington, Assemblyman Wimberly, individuals from the clergy, and the friends of Tootie Harrell who have now been named the "Legends of the School No. 13 Court." It was great to see everyone there. The district continues to receive free vision screenings for our students. As of last February, 3,000 students had completed the vision screening with Vision to Learn, and not even the pandemic is stopping us. In September, the students at School No. 28 received exams and Dr. Frank Napier School, Public School No. 28, and during the next few months, School No. 5, School No. 8, and Senator Lautenberg School will also have vision screenings. Approximately 400 students will receive new prescription glasses at no cost. We also received a grant from an engineering firm called POWER Engineers, Inc. It's in Oradell. They donated \$3,750 for the purchase of Chromebooks for our students and it was one of 40 grants that came through to Paterson. On November 12, I participated in the New Jersey School Boards Association podcast interview and it was about how we were able to close the digital divide. It was really great for us to be able to highlight all of the work that everyone participated in. As you know, we did not receive the devices until Labor Day weekend and we had many folks volunteer, including principals, teachers, secretaries, instructional assistants, and administrators in the district to make sure that our students received a device by the start of school. We were able to be highlighted with New Jersey School Boards. I also had the privilege last week to meet with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center project director. As you know, the Paterson Education Fund received the 21<sup>st</sup> century grant. That grant will be implemented at School No. 15 and Frank Lautenberg School. At the beginning of this week, I participated in a virtual session with Reverend Boyer around the Paterson cost of incarceration. Stay tuned. It has a lot to do with social justice and what is happening in the state as it relates to the legalization of marijuana and expunging records of individuals who are jailed for marijuana and some other things. It's an ongoing committee. I have just a couple of announcements. Eastside High School varsity football team will be playing Montclair High School Saturday at 1:00. It's a home game at Bauerle Field. Kennedy High School varsity soccer has moved on to the state semi-final game which will be held tomorrow at 2:00 at Clifton High School. On Sunday, I will be participating with the sheriff's department in the turkey giveaway starting at 12:00 noon at the Paterson Public Library. In addition to the turkey giveaway, I also want to mention that we do have a new schedule. We'll be getting this communication out to parents. Starting on November 30, our schools will be open one day a week. We will be advertising the phone number that parents can call and they will be able to schedule an appointment with the principal and the principal would be able to address the needs that they have. We want to make sure that we get that information out. It will also be on the front door of every building so parents know how they can get in touch with their principal. Unfortunately, there is an uptick of positive cases in the City of Paterson. We want to make sure that everyone remains safe. It is my honor to talk about one of the greatest principals in the City of Paterson as she concludes her career here in Paterson. As you know, normally there are retirement dinners that we can all go to and celebrate with anyone who is retiring. But due to the pandemic, that's not possible and I thought it was only appropriate that we honor principals who are retiring going forward at a Board meeting since retirement dinners are just not possible at this time.

*Remarks in Recognition of the Retirement of Lourdes Rodriguez  
Paterson Public Schools  
Superintendent Eileen Shafer  
November 18, 2020*



*This is one of those occasions that can truly be described as bittersweet.*

*It's bitter because the district says goodbye to one of its greatest educators...a woman who began her career here at Paterson Public Schools nearly 50 years ago and made great contributions to making it a much better public school district. But this is a moment that can also be described as sweet because we have this chance to say thank you...to reflect on a tremendous woman who gave so much to the young people of Paterson...and that woman is our friend, Lourdes Rodriguez, Principal of Roberto Clemente School.*

*Lourdes came to the United States from Cuba when she was 13 years old. By that time, she had already shown signs that she would later become an educator, in the way she interacted with younger children in her hometown of Havana. Overcoming language and socioeconomic barriers, she earned her degree at Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1971. Straight out of college, Lourdes was hired as a bilingual teacher of second and third-graders at Public School No. 15. In 1972, she earned her Master's Degree in education from Montclair State University. In 1975, she was one of the teachers chosen to be part of the faculty of the district's new elementary school, Roberto Clemente. There, she became a bilingual resource teacher, assisting bilingual teachers through professional development and providing classroom teaching support.*

*Lourdes was later chosen for a unique opportunity through a federal Title VII grant. As Assistant Director of the Elizabeth-Paterson Consortium, Lourdes was responsible for establishing bilingual (English and Spanish) programs at the district's high schools. In this role, she was also instrumental in establishing Arabic bilingual programs at Public School Nos. 9 and 25. Based on the success of these efforts, Lourdes was appointed as the district's Assistant Supervisor of Bilingual Programs and remained in that post until 1983. At this time, Lourdes furthered her educational learning by obtaining a Master's in educational leadership from Columbia University.*

*I want to emphasize the significance of Lourdes' work in establishing the district's bilingual program. Today, Paterson Public Schools' bilingual program is held by the NJ Department of Education as one of northern New Jersey's top ten model bilingual programs. This distinction, which is granted by the state only once every two years, would not have been achieved without the groundbreaking efforts of Lourdes Rodriguez. And as much as we appreciate the state's recognition, we know that the greatest good this district is achieving is the education of thousands upon thousands of bilingual students who have been educated thanks to the work of Lourdes Rodriguez.*

*In 1983, Lourdes was appointed Vice Principal of Public School No. 15 and remained in that position until 1991 when she was named Principal of Roberto Clemente Elementary School. Her nearly 30 years as Principal would be a career in and of itself for most people. Under Lourdes' leadership, Roberto Clemente received various state and national recognitions, such as a New Jersey Star School, New Jersey Benchmark School, and was recognized as a Title I Distinguished School*

*I am very glad to be able to say that I have had the opportunity to work with Lourdes over the years. I've had the privilege to see firsthand her intrinsic motivation to make a difference and help those around her. Her leadership and influence is one that will remain in the district for years to come as she mentored many of the district's current administrators.*

*Lourdes, you have made a tremendous impact on the students and families of Paterson in your half a century of dedicated service to Paterson Public Schools. Even*

*though, Lourdes, you don't look a day over 21, you've inspired numerous students and colleagues to achieve their best. If that isn't leaving on a high note, I don't know what is.*

*Lourdes Rodrigues...you're leaving the district better than it was when you found it. Congratulations on a tremendous career at Paterson Public Schools. Enjoy every second of your retirement...best of health to you. Know that we will miss you, we love you, and please keep in touch with us. Congratulations, Lourdes Rodriguez.*

Comm. Martinez: Thank you, Superintendent. I would just like to take a quick opportunity on behalf of our President, Kenny Simmons, and all of the Commissioners on the Board who are currently with us today and in the past, who have worked in this district for the amount of time that Ms. Rodriguez has. Just a heartfelt thank you to you, Ms. Rodriguez, for numerous and thousands of families and young people in the City of Paterson. We tip our hat to you. We salute you. We thank you for all that you've done and wish you nothing but health and happiness in your future endeavors. May God bless you in all that you do, and your family. Stay safe and we hope to see you soon. Hopefully, perhaps one day when this pandemic is a thing of the past and is behind us, Ms. Shafer, maybe we can do something proper, not only for Ms. Rodriguez but for those who we haven't had the opportunity to celebrate properly because of these circumstances. Maybe that's something we can revisit in the near future. Ms. Rodriguez, thank you.

Ms. Shafer: Before we move on, I would just ask Joanna Tsimpedes, who is Lourdes' Assistant Superintendent, to please say a few words.

Ms. Joanna Tsimpedes: Thank you, Ms. Shafer. It is my great honor and pleasure to speak about Ms. Lourdes Rodriguez, Principal of Roberto Clemente. 45 years of service - what a great accomplishment and what a great feeling to be leaving after having such an admirable tenure in the district! This is a woman who takes pride in all that she does. Her heart is that of a teacher, a principal, a friend, a caretaker, a mother, and a mentor. Ms. Rodriguez is a staple in the community of Roberto Clemente. The neighborhood all knows her and respects her for the work that she does and for their students. She is valued and respected by all of her parents and staff. She advocates for her students and their wellbeing at all costs. I had the pleasure of working with Ms. Rodriguez for the last several years. Spending time with her at Roberto Clemente has allowed me to see the type of administrator that Ms. Rodriguez is. She leads by conviction. She is passionate in the work that she does. Walking through the classroom, she's able to identify each and every one of her students. She takes the time to get to know her students and their families. She encourages them to do their best and to be the best that they can be, even when they don't believe in themselves. When students do not make the right choices, she takes the time to talk to them and help them to correct their behaviors. She has made the staff at Roberto Clemente feel more of a family than anything else. She is their support system. She inquires about them and truly cares for their wellbeing and their families. She created an environment where students and staff enjoy coming to work every day and to school. What a wonderful feeling for a principal to know that her staff supports her and believes in the work she does each and every day. I want to take the time to say thank you to Ms. Rodriguez's family for sharing her with us for all of these years. I know that her daughter and grandchildren will embrace the newly found time they will have with her. All of your hard work, Ms. Rodriguez, and years of service have finally paid off. You are starting a new journey and an unexpected and exceptional chapter of your life. May retirement bring you happiness and most of all good health. We will miss you.

Congratulations and thank you for all you've done for the Paterson Public School System, Ms. Rodriguez.

Ms. Shafer: Before I introduce Ms. Rodriguez, are there any other Board members that would like to speak?

Comm. Teague: I just want to congratulate Ms. Rodriguez on her retirement. I have had some contact with her over the years I was on the Board and she is truly a stand-up person. She fought for the community and for all students. I definitely want to wish her well on her future endeavors and don't forget us in Paterson. Feel free to come back anytime.

Comm. Martinez: If there are any other Board members who would like to share a comment, please feel free to do so now before we continue with Ms. Rodriguez.

Comm. Arrington: I just want to congratulate Principal Rodriguez. We will miss her and we wish her well in the next chapter of her life.

Comm. Ramirez: Thank you, Mr. Vice President. Ms. Rodriguez, many, many years ago I had the opportunity of walking into Roberto Clemente for Read Across America and let me tell you that you created such a positive impact on me when I wasn't really civically involved in the city. The care you displayed for the staff and for the children that were walking into your office as we walked down the hall and you walked me towards the classroom where I was to read just left such a wonderful impression on me. I know everything that has been said here tonight is very small to the actual huge impact that you truly have had in the lives of so many, including someone at the New Jersey Department of Motor Vehicles that over a year ago I met while I was having my car inspected. He saw the decal on my car and asked if I'm from Paterson. I said yes. He said he grew up in Paterson. To make a long story short, he said he went to New Roberto Clemente and if I ever see Ms. Rodriguez tell her Paul Newman said hello. He said you used to call him Paul Newman. I'm sure you'll remember him, Ms. Rodriguez. He's doing well. He's got a career with the State of New Jersey and he expressed that you helped form him into the person he is today. Thank you for a job well done.

Comm. Martinez: Thank you. Ms. Shafer, I'll turn it over to you now to present Ms. Rodriguez.

Ms. Shafer: Thank you, Mr. Vice President. It's a great honor for me to introduce a great Principal in the City of Paterson who gave close to 50 years of her life to the children who walked through the doors of Roberto Clemente as well as School No. 15. Lourdes, I can't say enough about you. Congratulations. The floor is yours.

Ms. Lourdes Rodriguez: Thank you, Ms. Shafer and Board members for this recognition. I am deeply touched. I have been blessed to work in this district with outstanding teachers and staff, wonderful students, a supportive and loving community, and excellent administrators. I will miss everyone. As I wrote in my retirement letter to you, it has been an amazing ride. I have been so blessed, Ms. Shafer. Thank you and may God bless all of you.

Ms. Shafer: Thank you, Lourdes, and God bless you. That concludes my report, Mr. Vice President.

## REPORT OF BOARD PRESIDENT

Comm. Martinez: Thank you, Madam Superintendent. Boris, can you pull up the agenda to the screen for me, please? I'm going to give a very brief rundown. I believe next up on the agenda is the President's report. I've been asked just to report out very quickly that this Monday we will be conducting a special meeting based around the next steps to Hinchcliffe Stadium and the project surrounding Hinchcliffe Stadium. For any of the respective Board members who were not privy to the information that was shared yesterday, Cheryl, if you can send them that information. This way, they can get caught up. We also want to make the general public aware of Monday's meeting. This way, if anybody has any questions or would like to just learn about the next steps and the process as it pertains to the advancement of the Hinchcliffe Stadium project, we will be doing so Monday. I believe the special meeting is scheduled for 6:00. Don't hold me to that. I think it is 6:00.

Ms. Shafer: 5:30.

Comm. Martinez: This Monday coming up at 5:30. It is open virtually for folks to join us so they can learn a little bit more about next steps and the proceedings as they pertain to the Hinchcliffe Stadium project. Are there any questions from the Commissioners before I move on about Monday's meeting or anything perhaps that we touched on at yesterday's proceedings?

## GENERAL BUSINESS

### Items Requiring a Vote

## PRESENTATION OF MINUTES

Comm. Martinez presented the minutes of the following meetings and asked if there were any questions or comments on the minutes:

- a. October 1, 2020 (Retreat)
- b. October 2, 2020 (Retreat)
- c. October 3, 2020 (Retreat)
- d. October 14, 2020 (Workshop)
- e. October 14, 2020 (Executive Session)
- f. October 21, 2020 (Regular)

**It was moved by Comm. Ramirez, seconded by Comm. Arrington that the minutes be accepted with any necessary corrections. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative, except Comm. Hodges who abstained. The motion carried.**

## RESOLUTION ITEMS (1-37)

### **Resolution No. 1**

WHEREAS, the Strategic Plan for Paterson Public Schools, Paterson — A Promising Tomorrow, supports the Full Service Community Schools and the community-based partnerships under Goal Area #1 Teaching & Learning: To create a student-centered learning environment to prepare students for career, college readiness and lifelong learning and under Goal Area #3 Communications & Connections: 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; and

WHEREAS, the Full Service Community Schools Program is authorized by sections 4621-4623 and 4625 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESEA), supports the planning, implementation, and operation of full-service community schools that improve the coordination, integration, accessibility, and effectiveness of services for children and families, particularly for children attending high-poverty schools; and

WHEREAS, the Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) program, which is funded under FIE, encourages coordination of academic, social, and health services through partnerships between (1) Public elementary and secondary schools (2) the schools' local educational agencies (LEAs); and (3) community-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, and other public or private entities; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this funding opportunity is to provide comprehensive academic, social, and health services for students, students' family members, and community members that will result in improved educational outcomes for children; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools applied for and was awarded by the Department of Education to receive the 2018 Full Service Community Schools Program Grant within which NJCDC was identified as the community partner for JFK and Oasis was identified as the community partner for School 2. Health n Wellness, Inc. was selected to provide student health, wellness, and counseling services; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the acceptance for a continuation award in the amount of \$499,668.00 to be used toward Public School 2 and John F. Kennedy Educational Complex Full Service Community Schools for the period beginning October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, and authorize a contribution of matching and in-kind services as required.

## **Resolution No. 2**

WHEREAS, the Strategic Plan for Paterson Public Schools, Paterson – A Promising Tomorrow supports the community-based after school programs under Goal Area #1 Teaching & Learning: To create a student-centered learning environment to prepare students for career, college readiness and lifelong learning; and under Goal Area #3 Communications & Connections: 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; and

WHEREAS, external organizations have applied for and received funding from the New Jersey Department of Education (NJ DOE) under the Nita M. Lowry 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC) to provide after school and summer programming for the students of Paterson Public Schools and Paterson community that focus on college and career readiness. Programming may be provided in-person or virtually; and

WHEREAS, Paterson Education Fund will provide after school and summer programming at Schools 15 and SFLS, funded by 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC. Approximately 151 students in grades 3 – 8 will participate in College and Career Readiness activities under the theme of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) at the

schools (pending impact of social distancing guidelines) and participate in NJ DOE approved field trips/student experiences to Paterson Public Schools approved locations (pending COVID-19 field trip restrictions). The program will begin November 2020 and run through August 31, 2021. Programming during the school year will occur Monday – Friday during the hours of 3PM – 6PM. Shared services of security, custodian, and participation in the Hot Meals Dinner Program will be requested when the program is provided in-person, pending; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the District approves of the Community-Based After School Programs at Schools 15 and SFLS facilitated by Paterson Education Fund from November 2020 – August 2021 at no cost to the District.

### **Resolution No. 3**

Whereas, increasing student achievement through effective academic program is Goal 1 of Priority 1 of the Strategic Plan for Paterson Public Schools. The Pre-IB Accelerated Cohort serves the purpose of providing instruction that challenges high end learners and meets each student leaning needs. The required 1.13 Category 2 and Category 3 Workshops for teachers will facilitate the implementation of the IB Diploma Programme and serves the purpose of providing rigorous instruction that challenges students of all ability levels, and

Whereas, The New Jersey Department of Education stipulates that teachers receive high quality, relevant and timely professional learning experiences, both individualized and collaborative, that is integral to the educator life cycle and necessary for continued professional growth. Educators engage in sustained professional learning to refine and expand their practice in order to help students perform at higher levels, and

Whereas, New Jersey teachers must earn at least 20 hours of professional development annually, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:9C-3.4. The 20 hours include formal courses (regular or online) and conferences. These experiences include, but are not limited to, workshops, seminars, institutes, and/or other such programs, and

Whereas, the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) requires that all designated IB subject area teachers and administrators are required to attend an 1B Sponsored Category 2 Workshop to teach IB courses and maintain 1B authorization, and

THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED that the Paterson Board of Education approves the online International Baccalaureate Category 3 Approaches to Teaching and Learning for DP & CP Classroom Teachers for (24) teachers, and one administrator: CP Leading and Learning (coordination) for (1) Teacher and (1) Administrator, Guidance Counselling for CP & DP for (1) Guidance Counselor, CP Reflective Project Cat 1 and 2 for (2) teachers, French ab initio Cat 2 for (1) teacher, Mandarin ab initio for (2) teachers, and Service Learning in CP Cat 1 and 2 for (2) teachers, as part of the IB Diploma Programme and IB Career Related Program Candidacy not to exceed \$17,100 the for the school year 2020-2021.

### **Resolution No. 4**

Approval of donation of services from Montclair State University, STEM+Computing Assimilating Computational and Mathematical Thinking into Earth and Environmental Science.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District; Paterson-A Promising Tomorrow Strategic Plan Goal 1: Effective academic programs are aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards for Science, and

WHEREAS, the National Science Foundation has awarded a grant for Montclair State University to provide professional development to Grades 5-7 Math and Science teachers to assist with increasing access to Computer Science curricula and applications, and

WHEREAS, the proposed training opportunities and curriculum modules are aligned to the pacing and students learning objectives determined by the New Jersey Department of Education,

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools Board of Education approves the donation of services from Montclair State University for implementation in the Paterson Public Schools.

### **Resolution No. 5**

WHEREAS, the District's Strategic Plan, Paterson – A Promising Tomorrow, Goal # 1 is to create a student-centered learning environment to prepare students for career, college readiness and lifelong learning; and

Whereas, the District's Strategic Plan, Paterson - A Promising Tomorrow, Goal # 3 is 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; and

Whereas, Goal # 3 - Objective # 1 of the District's Strategic Plan is to establish peer to peer mentoring that will support and assist elementary students transitioning into secondary schools as well as assisting in establishing new community partnerships with adult mentoring for students in grades 6-12 that will promote character building, improve student achievement and reduce chronic absenteeism; and

Whereas, the mission of Elevate New Jersey is to build long-term, life-changing relationships with urban youth, equipping them to thrive and contribute to their community; and

Whereas, Elevate New Jersey will appointment three full time teacher-mentors to mentor Eastside High School – School of Government, Policy and Administration students both remotely via Google Meet and in-person utilizing the social-distancing protocol at no cost to the district; and

Whereas, Eastside High School Elevate Students, will be able to mentor students at Senator Frank Lautenberg School through the partnership with New Destiny Family Success Center via the Full Service Community Schools Programming both remotely through Google Meet and in-person utilizing the social-distancing protocols; and

Whereas, Elevate New Jersey promotes and provides Social Emotional Support, Character Development, College and Career Readiness and Community Engagement; and

Whereas, 98% of Elevate USA students are on track to graduate;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the partnership between Elevate New Jersey, New Destiny Family & Success Center, Eastside High School – School of Government, Policy and Administration and Senator Frank Lautenberg School at no cost to the district.

#### **Resolution No. 6**

WHEREAS, Northern New Jersey Alumni from MIT in partnership with Paterson Public Schools will arrange tutoring sessions for high school students from Paterson Public Schools.

WHEREAS, Northern New Jersey Alumni from MIT will have the opportunity to virtually tutor high school students in order to support student success and learning externally during the pandemic and into the future.

WHEREAS, the Northern New Jersey Alumni from MIT will provide Paterson Families an additional source of individualized instructional support in the online learning environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approve the partnership with Northern New Jersey Alumni from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Paterson Public Schools to launch a Virtual Tutoring Initiative during the 2020-21 school year at no cost to the district.

#### **Resolution No. 7**

WHEREAS, the Real Men Read Initiative in partnership with William Paterson University was launched last school year during the Read Across America Week with such positive feedback and great enthusiasm it is our goal to incorporate it throughout the 2020-21 school year.

WHEREAS, men from the William Paterson University community will volunteer to read a book to students in Paterson Public Schools remotely and/or in person during hybrid.

WHEREAS, the Real Men Read Initiative will encourage and improve literacy skills among Paterson students

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approve the partnership with William Paterson University and Paterson Public Schools to launch the Real Men Read Initiative during the 2020-21 school year at no cost to the district.

#### **Resolution No. 8**

WHEREAS, the Literacy Content Tutoring (LCT) Initiative Pilot in partnership with William Paterson University will be the first of its kind in the New Jersey University System.

WHEREAS, William Paterson University Education students participating in Literacy Content Tutoring (LCT) Initiative Pilot will have the opportunity to virtually tutor students in Grades 6-8 and support student success and learning externally in the Paterson Public Schools during the pandemic and into the future.

WHEREAS, the Literacy Content Tutoring (LCT) Initiative Pilot will provide Paterson Families an additional source of individualized instructional support in the online learning



environment and Paterson students in Grades 6-8 will be afforded supplemental academic virtual instruction to support and advance learning in English Language Arts.

WHEREAS, William Paterson University Education students will use teaching resources, curriculum aids, district curriculum guides and educational resources that support Grades 6-8 learning available through the Curriculum Materials Center at the David and Lorraine Cheng Library.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the partnership with William Paterson University and Paterson Public Schools to launch the Literacy Content Tutoring (LCT) Initiative PILOT during the 2020-21 school year at no cost to the district.

### **Resolution No. 9**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is committed to providing educational opportunities and resources that expose students, parents, and staff to enriching college and career readiness experiences; and

WHEREAS, at the Board of Education meeting on July 27, 2020, item #5 was approved by the Board, awarding a contract for College and Career web-based platform to Naviance for the 2020-2021 school year not to exceed amount of \$51,006.06; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District Strategic Plan Priority I, Goal I – Increase Student Achievement, Naviance will be expanded to for use by students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade to increase their self-awareness, career exploration the world of work;

WHEREAS, the district may increase the contract within the allowable 20%, according to N.J.A.C. 5:30-11.3(a) 9: and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public School District approves the increase of the contract for Naviance Succeed program for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$10,073.63; to include professional development sessions/courses and Naviance College/Career/Success planning modules.

### **Resolution No. 10**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is in favor of supporting quality community services for its students, and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District received a request to participate in an after-school basketball program in collaboration with the Taub Foundation and the City of Paterson, Division of Recreation for the 2020–2021 school year with a total cost for operation of \$137,607.00:

Taub Foundation	\$ 33,600.00
Paterson Public Schools	\$ 74,150.00
Paterson Recreation	\$ 29,857.00

WHEREAS, the Paterson School District costs are stipends for staff, transportation, and busses to transport students to basketball games for the Taub Doby Foundation Basketball League is as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Responsibilities</u>
Coordinator	\$4,000 (1)	Coordinate League
Site Director	\$2,500 (3)	Supervise Sites
Official Assignor	\$1,000 (1)	Assign Officials
Basketball Coaches	\$1,000 (22)	Team Coach
Cheerleading Coaches	\$1,000 (22)	Squad Coach
Van Drivers	\$14 per hour-(2) \$7,600	Transportation
Buses	\$2,450	Transportation
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$74,150.00</b>	

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools as an active partner with the Taub Foundation and the City of Paterson, Division of Recreation would like all students who wish to participate in the Taub/Doby Basketball League to meet the following criteria:

1. All students unless his/her IEP states otherwise, should have at least a "C" average.
2. All students must be in good standing in his/her school, i.e.: any student who is placed on suspension will not be able to participate in the league while on suspension.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District will administer the funds for staff stipends, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves entering into an agreement with the Taub Foundation and the City of Paterson Division of Recreation to participate in an after school basketball program during the 2020-2021 school year, at an amount not to exceed \$137,607.00, with the district's share for the program being \$74,150.00.

#### **Resolution No. 11**

WHEREAS, the District's Strategic Plan Goal Area #3 is Connecting and Communication, Objective 4: Utilize all available media platforms to promote the Paterson Public school brands; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public Schools DECE has a Board Approved Three-Year Preschool Plan Updated for 2019-2022 (approved on November 26, 2019 Resolution A-3) states: pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:13A-2.3(a) school districts offering "universal" and "targeted" preschool programs must serve at least 90% of the universe of eligible preschool children;

WHEREAS, Lamar Advertising of Penn, LLC. will align with DECE outreach objectives by increasing the awareness of the State Mandated Preschool Program to Paterson residents; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the use of Lamar Advertising of Penn, LLC. to provide outreach to Paterson families about the state mandated preschool program. This advertising will run from 1/4/2021-1/31-2021 for the amount not to exceed \$12,600.

#### **Resolution No. 12**

WHEREAS, the District's Five-Year Strategic Plan, Paterson — 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. Goal Area #3: Communications & Connections; and

WHEREAS, the District's Office of Dental Services provides preventative and restorative dental services for uninsured, school-aged children residing in the City of Paterson; and

WHEREAS, provision of these services requires use of radiographic equipment which must be registered with the State of New Jersey in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:28-3.12; and

WHEREAS, the District is required to pay annual registration renewal fees for the continued operation of such equipment; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the District approves the payment of annual registration renewal fees in the amount of \$318.00 for continued operation of dental radiography equipment during the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Resolution No. 13**

WHEREAS, the district's Five-Year Strategic Plans' Goal Area #4: Social – Emotional Learning to build the capacity of all stakeholders to address the social and emotional needs of the students and staff through professional development, instruction and support services.

WHEREAS, as per the American Educational Research Journal, book studies can be a successful method for involving educators in their professional learning and can meet educators' needs "in more powerful ways than traditional professional development"; and

WHEREAS, the district is aware of the current social justice movement around the world and takes the stand against racism, bigotry and violence that is prevalent in our society and recognizes that silence is not an option; and

WHEREAS, Equity Journey Partners (EJP) believes that creating and sustaining a culturally proficient school system requires deliberate and consistent attention in building staff capacity in cultural proficiency awareness, knowledge and skills. EJP conducts book study groups to provide educators the opportunity to deepen their knowledge around racism, power and privilege. These book studies provide participants with the opportunity to build the district's capacity to have impactful and informed conversations about race.

WHEREAS, the Superintendent would like to have Cabinet level administrators participate in four remote professional book study sessions on the book, So You Want to Talk about Race by Ijeoma Oluo facilitated by Equity Journey Partners;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the district Board of Education has reviewed and approves that Equity Journey Partners (EJP) conducts four remote professional book study sessions for a cost not to exceed \$3,200.

### **Resolution No. 14**

WHEREAS, the mission, vision, goals and objectives of the Five-Year Strategic Plan "*Paterson-A Promising Tomorrow*." Recognizing traditions and diverse community partnerships.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is to provide an academically rigorous, safe and nurturing educational environment; by increasing student achievement through effective academic program is Goal 1 and creating and sustain partnerships with community organizations, agencies and institutions is Goal 3; and,

WHEREAS, to provide the Eagle Academy Model for young men of color who are most vulnerable to the negative influences and risks of their challenged communities, educating and guiding them into future leaders committed to excellence in character, scholastic achievement and community services.

WHEREAS, the Eagle Academy Foundation will provide Two (2) full days of virtual coaching and training; Three (3) virtual coaching calls from December 2020 through June 2021 for the SY 2020-2021 academic year. Dates to be determined. Cost \$ 14,250.00

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves The Eagle Academy Foundation, Inc., 31 West 125 Street, 3' Floor, New York, NY 10027 to provide Two (2) full days of virtual coaching and training ; Three (3) virtual coaching calls from December 2020 through June 2021 for the SY 20202021 academic year. Dates TBD. Not to exceed \$ 14,250.00.

#### **Resolution No. 15**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education and the Superintendent of Schools, Eileen Shafer, support N.J.S.A 18A:37- et. Seq. by prohibiting acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (HIB) of our students grades Pre-K thru 12, and

WHEREAS, a program has been developed to grade each public school and school district's efforts to implement the *Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act* (ABR) (N.J. S.A. 18A:17-46). A guidance document has been developed to help school district staff fulfill their responsibilities under the Commissioner's program, and

WHEREAS, the ABR grade for each school will be determined primarily through a self-assessment of the school's implementation of the ABR using the attached tool titled *School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the ABR* (Self-Assessment) (Appendix A); and

WHEREAS, the Self-Assessment must be made available for public comment and approved by the district board of education, the chief school administrator will be required to certify the electronic submission of each school's Self-Assessment and *Statement of Assurances* (Appendix B). The school district's grade will be the average of the grades of each school in the district; and each school's grade must be posted on the District's and schools website.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education has reviewed the Self-Assessments for the 20192020 School year and that the public was given advance notice of the Self-Assessment and an opportunity to ask questions and provide input,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education affirms the chief school administrator's decision in accordance with the law.

### **Resolution No. 16**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District currently provides services for student transportation services for the 2020-2021 School Year for in district special needs students, and

WHEREAS, approving the addendum to deduct 1:1 aide no longer needed for route WNDP2 for student transportation safety service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal 1, increasing accountability for performance, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation recommendation to approve addendums to contracts for routes in the 2020-2021 School Year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this quote have complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this addendum is to deduct an aide to route WNDP2 for student with special needs for the 2020-2021 SY. This shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route#</u>	<u>Aide Cost</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
MORGAN	WNDP2	\$66.00	150	(\$9,900)

### **Resolution No. 17**

WHEREAS, approving the addendum to change the number of days to 174 days for route PILLS1 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 decrease to 174 days, as the route no longer needs a total of 180 days for the 2020-2021 school year; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation's recommendation in amending the amount of days the route is granted to the lowest quote that was submitted for the transportation of special needs students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this contract, has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, is to modify the days to 174 for route PILLS1, as the route no longer needs 180 days for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. This shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route#</u>	<u>Route Cost</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
JERSEY KIDS	PILLS1	\$380.00	6	(\$2,280.00)

### Resolution No. 18

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 lowest responsible bid for goods and services; and

WHEREAS, approving the following routes for student transportation services will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation, Goal 3, Increase Accountability for Performance; and

WHEREAS, formal public bids were solicited for student transportation services for the 2020-2021 School Year for special needs students and regular education students; and

WHEREAS, the solicitation was made by a public notice advertisement in the Herald News on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Sealed bids were opened and read aloud on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. during a Zoom meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation as per attached bid analysis, recommends that the bid for student transportation services for the remainder of the 2020-2021 School Year, using PPS Bid#541-21 be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder; and second and third bidders in the event that the lowest bidder cannot perform as stated in our bid specifications; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution to award contracts to the lowest responsible bidder to transport special needs and regular education students to in-district and out-of-district schools is stipulated on the attached page(s). This shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent. The approximate cost for the PPS BID#541-21 for the list below of contractors and routes is \$262,300.00 for the 2020-2021 School Year.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route #</u>	<u>Per Diem</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
4 DIAMOND	NBRD1	\$305	156	\$ 47,580.00
J. CARPIOLIN	UNSS1	\$300	155	\$ 46,500.00
K&H	BRWN	\$194	155	\$ 30,070.00
JERSEY KIDS	PCSTK	\$380	115	\$ 43,700.00
JOSHUA TOURS	CC5	\$280	118	\$ 33,040.00

JOSHUA TOURS	PCST2	\$267	115	\$ 30,705.00
JOSHUA TOURS	PCST3	\$267	115	\$ 30,705.00

### Resolution No. 19

WHEREAS, approving the following quoted routes 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 the 2020-2021 school year;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation recommendation in awarding the route to the lowest quote submitted for the transportation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this contract, has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, to provide quoted transportation to various schools in district & out of district students. This shall take effect for the 2020-2021 school year with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route #</u>	<u>Per Diem Cost</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
4 DIAMOND	SPHS1Q	\$ 310.00	54	\$ 16,740.00
4 DIAMOND	HPS1Q	\$ 255.00	51	\$ 13,005.00
CITY WIDE	360Q	\$ 230.00	44	\$ 10,120.00
JERSEY KIDS	WINDPQ	\$ 320.00	53	\$ 16,960.00
SKARLE	MA1Q	\$ 199.00	29	\$ 5,771.00
SARAH	NBHS1Q	\$ 258.00	36	\$ 9,288.00
SARAH	LMAS1Q	\$ 288.00	51	\$ 14,688.00
SARAH	PCSTSI Q	\$ 258.00	44	\$ 11,352.00
SARAH	NBHS2Q	\$ 317.00	49	\$ 15,533.00
SARAH	WNDP3Q	\$ 337.00	49	\$ 16,513.00
WE CARE	GWS1Q	\$ 283.00	30	\$ 8,490.00
4 DIAMOND	PASC1Q	\$ 205.00	33	\$ 6,765.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>\$145,225.00</b>

## **Resolution No. 20**

WHEREAS, approving the following quoted routes 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 the 2020-2021 school year; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation recommendation in awarding the route to the lowest quote submitted for the transportation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this contract, has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, to provide quoted transportation to various schools in district and out of district students. This shall take effect for the 2020-2021 school year with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route#</u>	<u>Per Diem Cost</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
F&A	DGS1Q	\$353	20	\$ 7,060.00
F&A	BCCD1Q	\$339	10	\$ 3,390.00
F&A	SPRG1Q	\$279	30	\$ 8,370.00
K&H	WPL1Q	\$190	58	\$11,020.00
4 DIAMOND	LCEC1Q	\$245	57	\$13,965.00
TASNEEM	MTLK1Q	\$207	57	\$11,799.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$55,604.00</b>

## **Resolution No. 21**

WHEREAS, approving the addendum to add an additional 40 days for route PASC1Q 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 add 40 days, as the route needs it for the 2020-2021 school year; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation's recommendation in amending the amount of days the route is granted to the lowest quote that was submitted for the transportation of special needs students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this contract has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, is to add an additional 40 days for route PASC1Q, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. This shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route#</u>	<u>Route Cost</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
4 DIAMOND	PASC1Q	\$205	40	\$8,200.00

#### **Resolution No. 22**

WHEREAS, approving the addendum to add an additional 27 days for route PASC4Q for student transportation service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal I , increasing accountability for performance; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has identified a need to add 27 days, as the route needs it for the 2020-2021 school year; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation's recommendation in amending the amount of days the route is granted to the lowest quote that was submitted for the transportation of special needs students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this contract, has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, is to add an additional 27 days for route PASC4Q, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. This shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route#</u>	<u>Route Cost</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
ALDIN	PASC4Q	\$285	27	\$7,695.00

#### **Resolution No. 23**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District currently provides services for student transportation services for the 2020-2021 School Year for in district special needs students, and

WHEREAS, approving the addendum to add an additional 1:1 aide to begin 10/29/20-11/13/20 for 6 days since the route runs Thursday and Friday for route CTC01Q for student transportation safety service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal 1, increasing accountability for performance, and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation recommendation to approve addendums to contracts for routes in the 2020-2021 School Year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this quote have complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this addendum is to add an aide to route for student with special needs for the 2020 - 2021 SY, This shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route#</u>	<u>Aide Cost</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
JERSEY KIDS	CTCO1Q	\$360	6	\$2,160.00

#### **Resolution No. 24**

WHEREAS, approving the addendum to pay additional mileage of 10.10 miles for 44 days to route SPHS1Q for transporting a student out of the City of Paterson the student transportation service will support Priority 4, efficient and responsive operation Goal I, increasing accountability for performance; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has identified a need to pay additional mileage of 10.10 miles, as the route needs it for the 2020-2021 school year; and

BE IT RESOLVED, the Superintendent supports the Department of Transportation's recommendation in amending the amount of days the route is granted to the lowest quote that was submitted for the transportation of special needs students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the 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 this contract, has complied with all Affirmative Action requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this resolution, is to pay an additional 10.10 miles for 44 days for route SPHS1Q, for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. This shall take effect with the approval signature of the Superintendent.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Route#</u>	<u>Additional Mileage</u>	<u># of Days</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
4 DIAMOND	SPHS1Q	10.10 miles	44	\$444.40

#### **Resolution No. 25**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the list of bills and claims dated November 18, 2020, beginning with direct deposit starting with 789 and ending with 799, and check number 224482 and ending with check number 224706, and wire in the amount of \$5,000,000.00, for a total of \$18,550,628.36; and

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.

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. 26**

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 September 2020, 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 2020-2021 school year budget, for the month of September 2020, 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. 27**

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator, pursuant to 18A:17-9, has prepared and presented the Board Secretary Report, A-148, for the month of September 2020, 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 September 2020 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 September 2020, 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. 28**

WHEREAS, the Treasurer of School Monies, pursuant to 18A:17-36, has prepared and presented the Treasurer's Report, A-149, for the month of September 2020, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Paterson Public Schools acknowledges receipt of the Treasurer's Report for September 2020 and acknowledges agreement with the September 2020 Board Secretary's Report, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools hereby incorporates the Treasurer's Report for the fiscal period ending September 2020, 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. 29**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School approves payment for the gross payroll checks and direct deposits dated 10/15/2020 for in the grand sum of \$12,052,706.02 beginning with check number 1012623 and ending with check number 1012662 and direct deposit number D003248273 and ending with D003252129.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School approves payment *for* the gross payroll checks and direct deposits dated 10/30/2020 for in the grand sum of \$12,070,838.76 beginning with check number 1012663 and ending with check number 1012691 and direct deposit number D003252130 and ending with D003256024.

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School approves payment for the gross payroll checks and direct deposits dated 10/30/2020 for in the grand sum of \$438,013.29 beginning with check number 1012692 and ending with check number 1012692 and direct deposit number D003256025 and ending with D003256435.

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. 30**

Introduction: the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan, (CMP) supports the Paterson-A Promising Tomorrow the Five-Year Strategic Plan 2019-2024, Goal Area# 2 Facilities and fulfills our mandatory reporting to the New Jersey Department of Education; and

Whereas, Goal Area # 2 states, "To enhance and maximize learning opportunities provided by first-class facilities and technological improvements that prepare students for 21st century learning. The Department of Education N.J.A.C. 6A:26-12.1 requires New Jersey Districts to submit a three-year maintenance plan documenting "required" maintenance activities for each year of the public facilities; and

Whereas, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached CMP document for various school facilities of the Paterson Public Schools are consistent with these requirements; and

Whereas, all the past and planned activities are deemed appropriate to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original conditions, and to keep their systems warranties valid; and

Whereas, the total cost for the comprehensive maintenance plan for the 2020-2021 school year shall at a minimum be equal to the value of the gross building area multiplied by the current Area Cost Allowance per Square Foot (\$F) \$143.00, which equals the building replacement value. The building replacement value is multiplied by 0.2% which is the minimum annual target expenditure and now; and

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Paterson Public School District hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the Paterson Public School District in compliance with the Department of Education requirements to the County Superintendent's Office.

#### **Resolution No. 31**

WHEREAS, Mr. Harley Breite from the Law Office of Harley D. Breite located at 562 Black Oak Ridge Road, Wayne, NJ 07470 contacted Mr. Richard Matthews, Business Administrator; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Breite wishes to donate a baby grand piano, Model 510 L so that inner city youths may derive all the wonderful benefits of learning music; and

WHEREAS, the piano is in excellent condition and worth approximately \$5,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Breite has contracted a professional moving company to deliver the piano and will take care of the expense; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Breite would also like to film the donation for an upcoming Docu-Series, which will highlight Paterson and discuss some of the issues and possible remedies in order to improve the condition and future of Paterson's youth; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education accepts the donation and delivery of a baby grand piano at no cost to the District and will allow for the filming of the donation for an upcoming Docu-Series.

#### **Resolution No. 32**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is in favor of supporting quality community services for its students, and received a request to participate in an after school basketball program in collaboration with the Taub Foundation and the City of Paterson, Division of Recreation; and

WHEREAS, Joseph and Arlene Taub from the Taub Foundation have made a donation to operate the After-School Taub/Doby Basketball League for the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District has received the donation in the amount of \$33,600.00; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education accepts the donation of thirty-three thousand six hundred dollars (\$33,600.00) to support the collaboration with the Paterson Public School District, the Taub Foundation, and the Division of Recreation in the City of Paterson, for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **Resolution No. 33**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District is required to have a detailed organizational chart for the Central Office that tie to the district's position control logs, including but not limited to, the business, human resources, and information management functions, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Eileen F. Shafer, has revised the Organizational Chart in November 2020, and

WHEREAS, the Organizational Chart is outlined in the attached chart, and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Schools discussed the Organizational Chart with the Board of Education Personnel Committee on November 2020, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves implementation of the Paterson Public School District Organizational Chart as outlined in the attached chart, in accordance with Policy 1100 District Organization.

### **Resolution No. 34**

WHEREAS, the Paterson Public School District receives IDEA-B funds on an annual basis and the Award for FY19/20 was \$7,299,325 (Basic) and \$286,488 (Pre-School), and

WHEREAS, the District is required to submit a Final Report of expenditures annually and the FY19/20 IDEA-B funds were expended as follows, and

	CATEGORIES	IDEA-B BASIC	IDEA-B PRESCHOOL
1.	Instructional salaries	0	0
2.	Instructional supplies and services	152 724	145 066
3.	Tuition	5,021 699	0
4.	Administrative support salaries	472,972	630
5.	Benefits	259 810	48
6.	Transportation	11.152	0
7.	Non-instructional supplies	138.032	56.761
8.	Equipment	0	0
9.	Other purchased services)	288 757	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,345,346</b>	<b>\$ 202,505</b>

WHEREAS, the District is allowed to carryover, through June 30, 2021, the unexpended balance of \$954,179 (IDEA-B Basic) and \$83,983 (IDEA-B Pre-School). The unexpended funds resulted from services/PD being less than anticipated due to school closures causing a reduction in contracted services, stipends, FICA and resource materials, and

WHEREAS, there are no matching funds requirement within this grant, and

WHEREAS, the Chief Special Education Officer will be responsible for the district complying with the terms and conditions of the grant and will make every effort to target grant funds for the academic advancement and achievement of the students and expend funds in the most effective and efficient manner.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Public Schools Board of Education approve the submission of the FY19/20 IDEA-B Consolidated Final Report for IDEA-B Basic and Pre-School.

### **Resolution No. 35**

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**

<b>STAFF MEMBER</b>	<b>CONFERENCE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
*Aylleen Acevedo	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$99.00 (registration)
Behaviorist/Schools 6 & 20	Virtual		
*Tracy Acosta	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$99.00 (registration)
Supervisor/Special Education	Virtual		
*Caitlin Byrne	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$99.00 (registration)
Behaviorist/Dale Avenue	Virtual		
*Kimberly Dilts	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$148.00 (registration)
Behaviorist/School 20	Virtual		
*Jamie Fitzgerald	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$99.00 (registration)
Behaviorist/MLK	Virtual		

*Martyne Schroder	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$148.00 (registration)
Behaviorist/School 2	Virtual		
*Janelle Sisco	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$99.00 (registration)
Supervisor/Schools 6, 20, 27 & DHA	Virtual		
*Emily Walsh	Autism New Jersey	October 15-16, 2020	\$148.00 (registration)
Behaviorist/MLK	Virtual		
*Katori Walton	NJSBA Virtual Workshop 2020	October 20-22, 2020	\$37.50 (registration)
Comptroller	Virtual		
*Hortencia Silfa	College Board Forum 2020	October 26-28, 2020	\$250.00 (registration)
Guidance Counselor/SOIT			
*Alicia Acerra	National Science Teacher Association Engage 2020 Conference	November 13-15, 2020	\$147.00 (registration)
Teacher/ATMA	Virtual		
*Daudi Angatia	National Science Teacher Association Engage 2020 Conference	November 13-15, 2020	\$147.00 (registration)
Teacher/School 24	Virtual		
*Maribel Cardona	National Science Teacher Association Engage 2020 Conference	November 13-15, 2020	\$147.00 (registration)
Teacher/School 2	Virtual		
*Lakisha Kincherlow-Warren	National Science Teacher Association Engage 2020 Conference	November 13-15, 2020	\$147.00 (registration)
Science Supervisor/Academic Services	Virtual		
*Carlos Miranda	National Science Teacher Association Engage 2020 Conference	November 13-15, 2020	\$147.00 (registration)
Teacher/School 9	Virtual		
Keya Romney	Anxiety and School Avoidance – CarePlus NJ	November 20, 2020	\$40.00 (registration)



Special Education Supervisor	Virtual		
Melissa V. De Block	Making the Most Out of G0Suite for Education	December 18, 2020	\$50.00 (registration)
Resource Teacher/School 7	Virtual		

**\*FOR RATIFICATION**

**Total Number of Conferences: 17**  
**Total Cost: \$2,051.50**

### **Resolution No. 36**

WHEREAS, the partnership with the New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund (NJPRF) supports the District's 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 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.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund will raise funds, organize, and coordinate resources to fight the medical, social, and economic impact of COVID-19 on New Jersey's most vulnerable communities.

WHEREAS, Paterson Public Schools will use the funds to purchase, or reimburse for the purchase of, the following projects: (i) two months of hotspot connectivity for approximately 20,000 devices and an additional 10 months of hotspot connectivity for approximately 25,000 devices for students in the Paterson, NJ School District; and (ii) a new K-5 mathematics curriculum. The total allocation towards the hotspot connectivity is approximately \$300,000. The total allocation towards the K-5 mathematics curriculum is \$300,000.

WHEREAS, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Paterson Board of Education approves the partnership with the New Jersey Pandemic Relief Fund from November 2020- September 2021 to accept funding not to exceed \$600,000.00.

### **Resolution No. 37**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education and the State District Superintendent support N.J.S.A. 18A:37- et. Seq. by prohibiting acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of our students grades Pre-K thru 12. A safe and caring environment in school is necessary for pupils to learn and achieve high academic standards, and

WHEREAS, Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB) means any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, as defined in N.J.S.A. 18A:37-14, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents, and

WHEREAS, the law requires a thorough and complete investigation to be conducted for each report of an alleged incident of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and

WHEREAS, the chief school administrator shall report the results of each investigation to the board of education no later than the date of the regularly scheduled board of education meeting following the completion of the investigation, and

WHEREAS, the chief school administrator's report also shall include information on any consequences imposed under the student code of conduct, intervention services provided, counseling ordered, training established or other action taken or recommended by the chief school administrator, and

WHEREAS, at the regularly scheduled board of education meeting following its receipt of the report or following a hearing in executive session, the board shall issue a decision, in writing, to affirm, reject, or modify the chief school administrator's decision,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education has reviewed the HIB investigations for the months of September 2020 in which there were a total of 2 investigations reported; 1 being confirmed, 1 being unconfirmed bullying incidents requiring consequences, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education affirms the chief school administrator's decision in accordance with the law.

**It was moved by Comm. Ramirez, seconded by Comm. Arrington that Resolution Nos. 1 through 37 be adopted. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative, except Comm. Hodges who abstained. The motion carried.**

#### **Paterson Board of Education Standing Abstentions**

Comm. Arrington

- Self
- Family

Comm. Castillo-Cruz

- Self
- City of Paterson
- Transportation
- Downtown Special Improvement District
- Celebrate Paterson

Comm. Hodges

- Self
- City of Paterson

Comm. Martinez

- Self

Comm. Ramirez

- Self
- Berkeley College
- City of Paterson

Comm. Redmon

- Self
- Historic Preservation of the City of Paterson

- County of Passaic

Comm. Simmons

- Self
- Family

Comm. Teague

- Self
- YMCA

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Comm. Teague: Mr. Vice President, I just want to reiterate to those who may be watching. Please, if you have not yet been tested yet for COVID-19, please do so. I can't encourage that enough.

Comm. Martinez: Thank you for sharing and stressing and emphasizing that point. Unfortunately, we have been seeing an uptick, not only in Paterson but across the country. With everything that's going on, I urge everyone to please remain safe. Follow the simple guidelines that have been issued since the beginning of this pandemic - keeping your social distance, wearing your mask, and washing your hands. I firmly believe that if we stay on this course and get through this tough patch of time that is winter hopefully with the favor of seasons changing in spring and perhaps the onset of a successful vaccine, knock on wood, we can start to turn the corner. But in the meantime, I urge everyone to please, please, please remain safe and as Comm. Teague alluded to, there is free testing being provided by the City of Paterson and the County of Passaic. It's readily available. Please take advantage of these opportunities. It's better to be safe and get tested. This way you can have the peace of mind of being around your loved ones in your respective bubble in knowing that you and those folks that you love so much are going to indeed be safe. Thank you, Comm. Teague for emphasizing that point.

Comm. Arrington: Mr. Vice President, I just want to remind everybody that we have our annual Thanksgiving game next week. I just want to remind everybody to come out and support our teams.

Comm. Martinez: Thank you, Comm. Arrington. We have that Thanksgiving game coming up. We have our Eastside football team playing at Bauerle Field this Saturday in Montclair. If I'm not mistaken, I also want to shout out our John F. Kennedy soccer team that is playing tomorrow in Clifton. They are advancing deeper into the playoffs and hopefully pursuing that state championship. Again, that would be an amazing accomplishment for our scholar athletes. Thank you, Vince, for bringing it to the table. With that being said, if there are no more information items, I would like to entertain a motion to adjourn.

Ms. Shafer: Thank you, Vince, for bringing that up. The Thanksgiving game is Wednesday at 6:00, but we are starting at 5:00 with the senior night as well as the king and queen of the high school. Please come out and join us.

Comm. Martinez: Correct. Also, if I'm understanding it correctly, there is a total 150-person limit to the number of guests who can be physically present to watch the football game. If you would like to be there, get there early and bundle up. I'm not sure what the weather is going to be like. But if you want to assure yourself a space, get there early. Again, Paterson Public Schools will be practicing safe social distancing thus only

allowing no more than 150 people to enter to watch that game. Again, if you want to get there to watch the game, get the early.

Comm. Arrington: Mr. Vice President, I just want to thank Assistant Superintendent Cozart and our Superintendent Shafer for bringing some normalcy back for our seniors. This is a very important thing. I just want to thank both of them. Thank you, Mr. President.

Comm. Martinez: Thank you, Comm. Arrington and thank you to all the folks you just named for everything they are doing to bring some semblance of normalcy back to our young people in these difficult times, to put it mildly. Before I make a motion to adjourn, are there any more items?

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.