

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

April 10, 2017 – 5:32 p.m.
Administrative Offices

Presiding: Comm. Chrystal Cleaves, Vice President
Comm. Christopher Irving, President (Telephone Conference)

Present:
Dr. Donnie Evans, State District Superintendent
Robert Murray, Esq., General Counsel

Comm. Emanuel Capers
Comm. Jonathan Hodges
Comm. Manuel Martinez

Comm. Lilisa Mimms
Comm. Nakima Redmon
Comm. Flavio Rivera

Absent:
Comm. Oshin Castillo

The Salute to the Flag was led by Comm. Cleaves.

Comm. Martinez 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:

**Special Meeting
April 10, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.
Administrative Offices
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.

Comm. Cleaves: Can I get a motion to go into public comments?

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

(No speakers)

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

MOTION TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS AS IT PERTAINS TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION AS A RESULT OF AN OUTSIDE COUNSEL INVESTIGATION

It was moved by Comm. Martinez, seconded by Comm. Redmon that the Board goes into closed session to discuss personnel matters as it pertains to disciplinary action as a result of an outside counsel investigation. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The Board went into executive session at 5:35 p.m.

It was moved by Comm. Martinez, seconded by Comm. Redmon that the Board reconvenes the meeting. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The Board reconvened the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Comm. Cleaves: I want to just double back for a quick second to see if anyone came while we were in executive session who missed the public comment section and wanted to speak to us.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

Comm. Cleaves: Peace and blessings. I beat you to the punch.

Ms. Marcella Simadiris: Peace and blessings. I just wanted to make sure everybody was aware I sent an email over the weekend. I'm just looking for support in getting the questions answered. Also, I'm doing some data collection and when I'm looking on the

New Jersey Department of Education's enrollment numbers, School 28 is reported as a pre-k through eighth grade school and it's a pre-k through first grade school. It's my understanding that gifted and talented is a separate school. So, I'm just wondering why they're listed as one school as opposed to two separate schools. Also, when I disaggregated the data and I broke it down from pre-k to one and then 2-8, my numbers for gifted and talented were 284. However, in their presentation they reported only 223 students. That's a difference of 60 kids. I wasn't aware of that when I sent my email so I just wanted to bring that forward. If there's anything you can do to make sure the conversation takes place, I would appreciate it and it would show that there's intent in a resolution. I think it's called for. I think the children of Paterson, especially the children that are possibly overlooked, deserve it. Also, I'm going to start looking into criteria into the different schools, like School 1, Alexander Hamilton and Norman S. Weir. When you look at the data on the demographics it's clear that there's segregation along class lines and a number of things going on. I'm looking to start that conversation as well. Thank you.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Comm. Hodges: Before you adjourn, I sent Cheryl a copy of a video aimed at Dr. Evans, Ms. Peron and the science department. I think it's Japanese and they have found a way to grow a chick embryo in a plastic enclosure so that you can visualize the entire process. I think it would be a wonderful opportunity for our students and it doesn't involve a whole lot of... It's apparently very inexpensive from what I can see from the video and you can go online and find it. You can study the embryology and the development. Something like that was done in this country more than 55 years ago, but we actually killed the chicks in various stages of their development. Here you don't have to kill it at all. You just have to watch the whole process unfold and I think it would be something that we should look into doing. I'm going to send it to the whole Board. I managed to finally get it online and I'll send it to the whole Board so you can see the actual video. It's rather impressive and it's cheap, or relatively inexpensive. It's something that we need to start to look at to help excite students about science.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.