

APPROVED  
Bd. Mtg. 5-10-12

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
(Official)

April 19, 2012  
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called on April 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m., in the Multi Purpose Room, Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Marie Munn presented the following statement at 7:40 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education. Pursuant to New Jersey Statutes and the rules adopted by the Board of Education, notice of this meeting was sent to Worrall Community Newspapers, The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth on Monday, April 16, 2012. In addition, this notice is posted on the Bulletin Board in the lobby of 500 North Broad Street, and pursuant to this act, a copy has been filed with the City Clerk of Elizabeth.”

“I wish to extend a warm welcome to everyone present and to our television viewers to this April 19, 2012 meeting of the Board of Education. We are here to govern, provide management oversight, and make policy for the district. The Superintendent manages the district. This is a meeting of the Board in public, not a meeting of the public.”

“This meeting is being recorded and will become part of the Elizabeth Board of Education permanent record. In order that the recording will adequately reflect the proceedings, please refrain from talking while others are speaking. I also ask that you silence the sound on your electronic devices. Since it is legally mandated that these proceedings be accurately recorded, I may have to ask for order periodically should noise begin to interfere with our recording capabilities. I am pleased that you have taken time this evening to join us. Thank you for your interest in the Elizabeth Public Schools.”

“There will be a public portion for citizens to address the Board. Participants for the public portion must sign in one hour prior to the advertised start of the meeting so that they may have the opportunity to speak. The sign-in sheet states the name, address, telephone number and reason that the person wants to comment, whether it is an agenda item or a general education comment.”

Present: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Absent: None

Superintendent of Schools Pablo Muñoz, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Board Attorney Kirk Nelson, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Jennifer Barrett, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Olga Hugelmeyer, Executive Director of Human Resources/Labor Attorney Karen Murray, Assistant Board Secretary Donald Gonçalves, Comptroller William Greene and members of the public were in attendance.

Father Martin from St. Mary of the Assumption Church and Pastor Feder St. Juste from Bethany Haitian Baptist Church each gave a blessing.

Colors were presented during the Flag Ceremony by members of the Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Leadership Academy Marine Corps Junior R.O.T.C., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Valeria Llanos, eighth grade student at Robert Morris School No. 18.

The *Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key was performed by Alejandro Pasco, Cristof Garcia, John Choueiri, Gloria Morales and Bryan Quintero, band students from Robert Morris School No. 18.

The Pledge of Ethics was led by Jessica Roman, eighth grade student at Robert Morris School No. 18.

Mrs. Munn introduced a video presentation of the Core Beliefs and Commitments.

Mrs. Munn introduced students from Robert Morris Middle School Chorus who performed *I Want You Back* by Berry Gordy, Alphonzo Mizell, Freddie Perren and Deke Richards with soloists Bright Boakye and Christopher Borja and *Someone Like You* by Adele Adkins and Dan Wilson with soloists Jason Wells and Ashley Dulorie. Mrs. Munn thanked the students for a wonderful performance.

Mrs. Munn stated that our athletic teams have made us proud this year in both county and state competitions and many of our athletes have also received individual recognitions for their outstanding athletic performance throughout the season.

Mrs. Munn stated that the Varsity Boys Basketball Team advanced to the State Group 4 Championship game and won the North II Group IV Sectional Championship, is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Union County, 3<sup>rd</sup> in Group IV, and 13<sup>th</sup> in the State. Mrs. Munn recognized Head Coach Christopher Balent who was named Union County Coach of the Year and Assistant Coaches Martin Ferreiro and Anthony Ziobro. Mrs. Munn recognized student athletes including Hakeem Rogers, First Team All Union County, All Watchung Division, First Team All Junior Team; Isaiah Davis, Second Team All Union County, All Watchung Division, Second Team All Junior Team; Jermaine West, Desmond Haynes, Kason Campbell, Aaron Dunham, Phillip Walker, Jahaad Thomas, Curtis Powers, Damon Miraud, Hakeem Rogers, Miguel Byrd, Tyrone Jenkins, Jalen Jenkins, and Isiah Johnson. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the student athletes and coaches and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn stated that the Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Team won the Union County Championship and recognized Head Coach Thomas Fischer and student athletes including Sajeed Garner, Kamil Brown, Rich Milicent, Jacques Eliscat, Malcom Little, Angel Hierrzuelo, Taahir Pretlow, Christopher Markowitz, Ken Kinyanjui, and Derrick Thomas. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the student athletes and coach and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized the Varsity Wrestling Team and wrestlers who were recognized for individual accomplishments including D'Ondre Floyd, First Team All Union County, All Watchung Division; James Thevenin, Third Team All Union County, All Watchung Division; Mateo Perez, Third Team All Union County, All Watchung Division; Ralph Stadtler, All Watchung Division; Willy Silva, All Watchung Division; Mosa Diab, All Watchung Division; Head Coach Robert Linch and Assistant Coach John Zecchino who was selected as Outstanding Assistant Coach of the District Wrestling Championship. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the student athletes and coaches and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized Varsity Track and Field student athlete Elijah Hughes who was named Third Team All Union County 55 Meters and Head Coach Austin Holman. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated Elijah Hughes and Head Coach Austin Holman and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized the Varsity Cheerleading Team which attended the Universal Cheerleaders Association training camp last summer at Monmouth University and earned first place in the Home Dance category, first place for Most Improved, fourth place for Overall Camp Champions and the Leadership Award for inspiring leadership on and off the field. Mrs. Munn stated that Debbie Pierre and Diamond Manns were selected as UCA All American Cheerleaders. Mrs. Munn recognized cheerleaders Jaqai Brooks, Shantise Byron, Chantise Colon, Dineth Correia, Doshanay Currie, B'rianay Dempsey, Brianna Hamilton, Makaila Harris, Shawannah Hurd, Destiny Jacobs, Aniyah Lewis, Briana Mack, Diamond Manns, Tanz-janeyha Manns, Imani Miller, Leasia Miller, Samyah Myers, Kimmisha Pettis, Debbie Pierre, Quylayzha Simms, Kai'lah Small, Coyyona Smallwood, Aaminah Thomas, Karlicia Thomas, Princess Woodard and Head Coach Sandra Evaristo. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the cheerleaders and coach and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized 44 of our Art Teachers who contributed in drawing and painting on a large canvas of monochromatic blue puzzle pieces which form the Elizabeth Public Schools' LEAP Mural including Samuel Stone, Keith Salamunia, George Washington School No. 1; Dominic DeAnthony, Winfield Scott School No. 2; Paul Moran, Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3; Tara Santilli, Barri Rifkin, Joseph Battin School No. 4; Tracey Gale, Judith Gomez, Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5; Elizabeth D'Alessandro, Toussaint L'Ouverture-Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6; Jessica Erazo, Brianna Kolodny, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7; Marcelo DosSantos, Michelle Greene, Steven Marotta, Elmora School No. 12; Christina Rios, Benjamin Franklin School No. 13; Ellen Glynn, Abraham Lincoln School No. 14; William Oliwa, Chris Chmara, Christopher Columbus School No. 15; Jessica Priolo, Madison-Monroe School No. 16; Jeannette Martinez, Robert Morris School No. 18; Jana Ortiz, Woodrow Wilson School No. 19; William Downey, Jill Crisci, John Marshall School No. 20; Ruth Hosford, Victor Mravlag School No. 21 @ 31; Anna DiGeronimo, William F. Halloran School No. 22 @ 31; Donna Wyrwa, Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23; Alyson Hershkowitz, Charles J. Hudson School No. 25; Chrysoula Campbell, Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26; Fernando Fajardo, Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27; Keith Salamunia, Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28; William Glynn, Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29; Susan Rodriguez, Timothy Dunn, Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30; Christine Kwiatek, Anna Pineiro, Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy; Jennifer Feliciano, Kerrie Messineo, Mary Reilly, Lauren Yeats, Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy; Kathleen Wolfe, Beth Barber, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy; Felice Fabiano, John E. Dwyer Technology Academy; and Braulio Batista, Marco Munoz, Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Leadership Academy. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the teachers and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn stated that Pastor Raul Burgos resigned from the Board effective yesterday and read the statement made by Pastor Burgos at the Board meeting last night.

“For the past ten years I have had the honor to serve as a member of the Elizabeth Board of Education. After my last election in 2009, I made the decision that it would be my last term. Through the action of the Legislature, incumbent's terms were extended an additional half year to conform to the general election calendar. This has not changed my personal calendar where my term would have expired this month. Therefore tonight I submit my resignation effective immediately.

I feel gratified and greatly satisfied with the significant strides made by this Board in close collaboration with the administration. Of particular note is the progress since we installed our Superintendent Pablo Muñoz and embarked in a clear pursuit of strong vision, purpose and strategic planning, that were surely lacking in the past.

Certainly, our great success has come at significant price. Our detractors have mounted a formidable political assault on the Board including false and distorted reporting of our progress. I feel we have finally been vindicated with the report by former Justice Stein, whose stellar moral standing speaks clearly and has reassured our City of Elizabeth residents as to the quality of our district.

In the last few years I have also added numerous personal responsibilities, in addition to my community work. As pastor of Comunidad Cristiana we have opened a magnificent community center called the Liberty Center that requires my focused attention.

Also, I've been doing increased international leadership training and consulting work, which keeps me busy overseas.

Most important, I believe there is a capable team on this Board that along with the administration will continue to excel and make Elizabeth the best urban school district in the State.

Mind you, I will not disappear. But rather will continue to cheer your progress. The best days for this district are still ahead! Thanks!"

Mrs. Munn commented that Pastor Burgos is a veteran Board member who will be truly missed.

Mr. Nazco commented that although Pastor Burgos is not here this evening he regrets not being able to tender his resignation at a regular Board meeting. Mr. Nazco thanked Pastor Burgos for his service and years of dedication, that he has been a cornerstone of this organization along with Mr. DaSilva, and that the improvements that Pastor Burgos helped implement will leave a long legacy for those students of Elizabeth and those students who are coming through the system not only now but in the future. Mr. Nazco thanked him as a parent for the hard work that he put in and his dedication and as a colleague for his leadership, guidance, and mentorship and that he will truly be missed.

Mr. DaSilva commented that he had the pleasure of serving with Pastor Burgos for ten years and on many ventures that we worked together at times we had our disagreements, that every good structured home has a disagreement here or there and now and then but at the end of the day Pastor Burgos was an important component because he helped this Board move forward in many of our missions and a lot of things we wanted to accomplish in this district was made possible because of a collective Board with a common goal to educate our children and to make sure that we put our children and their livelihood and their careers first. Mr. DaSilva stated that he will be missed, that we will have to fill that void and to make sure that we continue the work that was started many years ago and continue to move the district forward.

A motion was made by Mr. Nazco, seconded by Mr. Donoso, to appoint Michaele Aristote as a Board member.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Negative: None

Michaele Aristote took the oath of office administered by Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. Mrs. Aristote stated that she is honored to have this nomination and acceptance by the Board.

Mrs. Munn congratulated and welcomed Mrs. Aristote and commented that she is the first Haitian Board member.

Josue Anacius stated that there is much excitement in the Haitian community and that he is very happy that history is being made tonight. Mr. Anacius thanked the Board of Education for such great thought in making this decision and congratulated Michaelle Aristote. Mr. Anacius stated that one thing that he likes most about the City of Elizabeth is its sense of diversity and if we make this a positive to work together and make change, then we can change the City of Elizabeth and accomplish great things. Mr. Anacius stated that with Michaelle Aristote being part of this great body the Haitian community hopes to work together with the Board of Education to make changes for our children of the City of Elizabeth.

Catherine Santillien, Executive Director of Jefferson Park Ministries, stated that she has been working in the City of Elizabeth for twenty years and finally she has something to show for it, that she is so proud and excited and this is a big occasion for the Haitian community to have a voice on this great body. Mrs. Santillien commented that the Haitian community is very proud of Michaelle Aristote, who is someone that they admire, that she is a team player that will team up with the rest of the Board and make great changes for the children in our community. Mrs. Santillien stated that this is just the beginning and the Haitian people come to this country looking for a better life for their children, looking for opportunities, and finally within the City of Elizabeth we are going to have that chance to show people what we can do as a people of God and that we are great partners and we can deliver. Mrs. Santillien thanked the district and the Board of Education and stated let's continue the progress in the City of Elizabeth for our children and the families.

Mrs. Munn stated that we share your excitement and we share this opportunity with you and we know how important it is in the Haitian community as well as other communities because there are children in our district and the community is growing larger every day. Mrs. Munn stated that we all have to learn how to collectively collaborate and make sure that our children get the education that they deserve. Mrs. Munn stated that now we have someone in the Haitian community Mrs. Aristote will be a great asset to what we are trying to do in this district and in the City of Elizabeth.

Mr. Trujillo congratulated Michaelle Aristote and stated that he looks forward to moving the children's business ahead with you. Mr. Trujillo commented that he enjoys her enthusiasm and that of her community and together we are poised to do great things. Mr. Trujillo stated that Mrs. Santillien said she waited twenty years for this and it has been twenty years too long. Mr. Trujillo stated that Elizabeth is a shining star and we can never allow it to stop shining or be overshadowed by the negativity of those who put their own personal interest before those of the community. Mr. Trujillo stated that tonight this Board took a very courageous step in adding to that shine that is Elizabeth and together we are going to move this City forward and we are not going to leave any child behind. Mr. Trujillo stated that we are going to continue the progress that is the Elizabeth Board of Education and embrace our new partners in the Haitian community who now have a voice after twenty long years. Mr. Trujillo commented they should go back to their community and tell them that great things are happening in the Elizabeth Board of Education and they are welcome here. Mr. Trujillo stated that the American Dream is real in the City of Elizabeth and their time to shine is here, to take advantage of it and don't let anyone distance them away from their star. Mr. Trujillo stated that this is their moment, unite, seize it and unite with one voice and come together with the rest of us to bring the change that Elizabeth needs today. Mr. Trujillo stated that he is excited to have Michaelle Aristote as a Board member because it means so much to so many. Mr. Trujillo stated that he knows the Haitian community to be hard-working, honest, good people and like many of us here we love our children, we are God fearing, we believe in this country and want it to be our home and the best possible and together we are going to do that.

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the minutes of the meetings of March 7, 15, 21, 22, and 29, 2012 be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

#### Secretary and Treasurer's Report for the Month of February 2012

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. DaSilva, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

#### Personnel Report – Leaves of Absences, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso (abstain- N.M.R.), González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote, Mr. Trujillo – 2

Negative: None

#### Tuition Report

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

#### Superintendent's Report – Considerations

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the requests be approved.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Mr. Trujillo excused himself from the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

#### Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the requests be approved with a waiver of fees.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

#### Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the requests be approved as recommended.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

#### Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Mr. Trujillo returned to the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

#### Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

#### Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Muñoz highlighted the excellent activities and the excellent experiences our students have had since we last met including AVID students from Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28 visited Rutgers University, New Jersey City University and Union County College and shared their AVID experiences with upcoming fifth grade students, Living Wax Museum at Abraham Lincoln School No. 14, Excellence in Athletics at Elizabeth Public Schools and the 2011-2012 Winter All Ledger selections were announced in the Star Ledger and Elizabeth's athletic programs did very well, the Varsity Boys Basketball Team advanced all the way to State Group 4 Championship Game and is now ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in the State, 3<sup>rd</sup> in Group 4, and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Union County, the Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Team also won the Union County Tournament, and accolades for Basketball: Hakeem Rogers, First Team All Union County and All Junior Team, Isaiah Davis, Second Team All Union County and All Junior Team, Philip Walker, All Football/Basketball Team, Indoor Track: Elijah Hughes, Third Team All Union County 55 meters, Catarina Rodriguez, Third Team 3200 meters, Wrestling: Ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in Union County, D'Ondre Floyd, First Team All Union County, James Thevenin, Third Team All

Union County, and Mateo Perez, Third Team All Union County and Varsity Boys Basketball Coach Christopher Balent for being selected Union County Coach of the Year. Mr. Muñoz continued with the highlights including EHS Jazz Band advanced to the NJAJE State Jazz Band Finals, school wide recycling program at George Washington School No. 1, study of space exploration at Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27, Strengthen the Mind at Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30, Little Friends Reading Program at Terence C. Reilly School No. 7, study of binary code and NASA messaging at Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Center program, Dinosaur Project at George Washington School No. 1, Elizabeth High School competed at New Jersey's Destination Imagination, Elizabeth Skills USA Club at Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy received 35 medals at the State Skills USA Championship, and Rutgers University Dance Works visited Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy. Mr. Muñoz stated that the Elizabeth community is empowered to achieve excellence and you can read more about the exciting experiences that our students and our staff are completing by visiting our website [www.epsnj.org](http://www.epsnj.org), you can follow us on YouTube, Facebook, and you can view our Board meetings and other events in the district on EPStv.

Mrs. Munn thanked Superintendent Muñoz for his report.

Authorizations Report – Authorization to Make Application, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. González, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Authorizations Report – Authorization to Make Application, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González (abstain-National Alliance on Mental Illness), Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report – Award of Contracts, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Award of Contracts Report – Change Orders

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

2<sup>nd</sup> Supplemental Award of Contracts Report – Award of Contracts, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Miscellaneous Communication

None.

Claims List

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Perreira (abstain- Candelario Trujillo), Mrs. Munn – 6

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote, Messrs. Nazco, Trujillo – 3

Negative: None

Resolution – Better Speech and Hearing Month

Mrs. Castillo-Ospina read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Bilingual/Multicultural Education Weeks

Mr. DaSilva read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Essex Regional Educational Services Commission Home Instruction Services  
2012-2013 School Year

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Mr. DaSilva excused himself from the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Resolution – Kindness Awareness Month

Mr. González read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – National School Nurses' Day

Mr. Donoso read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Negative: None

Resolution – Elizabeth Public Schools Excellence Parade

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mr. González, that the resolution be adopted.

Mr. Trujillo thanked the Superintendent and administration for all the preparations for the excellence parade, specifically Assistant Board Secretary Donald Goncalves and his team who have put in a lot of hours to make this a reality. Mr. Trujillo stated that when we thought of celebrating excellence in the form of a parade we could imagine a lot of excitement but you could never imagine the amount of work and dedication it takes from our staff to do that. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is important to keep with our mission that we celebrate our excellence and we have the opportunity to showcase our children and have the public participate in that celebration. Mr. Trujillo stated that we often do small ceremonies and the things you saw tonight where the children come here and perform and that is great but often the public itself and the multitude

doesn't have the opportunity to see the great things that are happening with our children and we are not able to showcase them. Mr. Trujillo stated that this creates buy-in from the community and showcases our children and all the excellent work that the Superintendent is doing and all the good things the team has been able to achieve over the last year. Mr. Trujillo stated that when we get elected to this position the biggest responsibility is to be an advocate for the children and in essence we are the cheerleaders and if we are not able to toot our own horn despite all the negativity and all the things that occur that we cannot control then we would not be doing our job. Mr. Trujillo congratulated Assistant Board Secretary Donald Goncalves for all his hard work and his team for doing such a great job. Mr. Trujillo invited the public to attend the Elizabeth Public Schools Excellence Parade on Saturday, April 21 at 11:00 a.m. beginning at Union Square, continuing on Elizabeth Avenue, across Bridge Street and ending in front of the high school. Mr. Trujillo stated that he is very excited to be part of this celebration and urged the public to come out and support the Elizabeth Public Schools Excellence Parade.

Mr. DaSilva returned to the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote –1

Negative: None

#### Resolution – Energy Management Procurement Services

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo – 6

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote, Mr. Donoso, Mrs. Munn – 3

Negative: None

The first reading was done of the revised Board Workshop Calendar Regulation File Code No. 9351.

Mrs. Munn presented the following public participation statement.

“At this time, the microphones are open for public comment to those who have signed in prior to this session. I shall call individuals to the microphones based on the order of the sign-in. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes in duration. The total time of public comment shall be limited to sixty minutes. No individual is able to yield their time to another individual. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually. The following rules for public participants shall apply: time limits will be strictly enforced, no personal attacks on individuals, no vulgar or indecent language, a person may address the Board no more than once during a single meeting, speakers should refrain from naming individuals, and comments or questions posed during public participation will not be debated. As a reminder, this is a meeting of the Board in public, not a meeting of the public.”

Mrs. Munn called upon the first public participant, Jeanette Gilbert, to address the Board.

Jeanette Gilbert, 225 Second Street, stated that she has grandchildren in the Elizabeth Public Schools and represents the Elizabeth Organizing Committee which is a chapter of the Statewide Education Organizing Committee, an independent group of parents, grandparents and other interested residents who seek to be effective participants in the decisions which affect the education of our children. Mrs. Gilbert stated that a petition with 76 names was presented in January of last year and again in May of last year to the new Board to have the public response time held before 8:30 p.m. and they have not received a response. Mrs. Gilbert stated that tonight she is presenting another signed petition with three requests that the public who wish to speak sign-in up to 7:00 p.m., to have the public speaking by 7:30 p.m., and to have another designated day for student performances and presentation of awards.

Mrs. Munn thanked her for her comments.

Mrs. Munn called twice upon the next participant, Larry Baisden, who did not come forward.

Mrs. Munn called upon the next participant, Pia Carbajal, to come forward.

Pia Carbajal, 19 Dehart Place, thanked the administration and the Board for helping her daughter and requested more special education teachers to help other students. Mrs. Carbajal stated that the academies are doing well but please don't forget the neighborhood schools where there are good kids who work hard.

Mrs. Munn thanked her for her comments.

Since there were no other citizens signed in to address the Board, Mrs. Munn declared this portion of the public meeting closed.

Mr. Trujillo stated that what he feels is happening is that there is a misperception of our interest in what the community has to say. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has always be an advocate of community involvement and it stymied him that last month we sat here and voted for a budget of nearly half a billion dollars and no one showed up to say anything, that we sat here, thanked the taxpayers, thanked the Superintendent, saw a presentation and not one member of the 125,000 people that call Elizabeth home showed up here to hold us accountable or ask us any questions. Mr. Trujillo stated that many nights we open public speaking early and no one signs up. Mr. Trujillo stated that he wants people to come here and he has often been critical of people not going to City Council, that he has been at City Council meetings several times and he's the only one that speaks, that no one participates. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is a sad state of affairs when people just don't care what we are doing. Mr. Trujillo stated that we have opened avenues of communication, that we have an office where people can call and he and many of his colleagues have kept office hours in the evening. Mr. Trujillo stated that Assistant Superintendent for Family and Community Outreach Jerome Dunn does a lot of community outreach. Mr. Trujillo stated that we are concerned about what the public says no matter whether they agree or not and he believes his colleagues want to know as well but you have to take the time to talk to us. Mr. Trujillo stated that he remembers when Mrs. Carbajal would come here and she was very upset because we went to the neighborhood model and she was very close to School No. 14 and the bridge on the way to school would flood and that was a legitimate concern. Mr. Trujillo stated that Mrs. Carbajal would tell you that we were very interested in knowing, that we couldn't fix the bridge and we couldn't move the school but we were interested in what she had to say because her daughter is very important to us, her education and well being are very important to us. Mr. Trujillo stated that we have come a long way and we've heard Mrs. Carbajal and she continues to express her concerns and that she has his cell phone number. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is not enough to come here and say we don't want to listen when you're not doing enough to

communicate. Mr. Trujillo stated that Mrs. Gilbert does not live far from him and that they are neighbors and he would be more than happy to visit and listen to her concerns. Mr. Trujillo stated that he encourages his colleagues to recognize what is happening here is a perception, that some people perceive that we don't care and that is dangerous, that he knows it is not true, but if a few people perceive that it's not good. Mr. Trujillo stated that he encourages his colleagues to be more aggressive and outreach more and that the Board decided to do the town hall forum meetings to go out and reach the community and he thinks that is going to help. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has a sincere concern in knowing what is going on, that he is a public servant and anyone can call him. Mr. Trujillo stated that if you are serious about getting involved in education of the children in the City of Elizabeth then he wants to work with you but if you want to come here and point fingers and you're not doing your part then good luck. Mr. Trujillo stated that if you are sincere, that he is sincere and wants to work with you and move this district forward. Mr. Trujillo stated that the community needs to know that all means all, that you can reach out and we can communicate. Mr. Trujillo stated that we will keep doing what we are doing and continue the progress.

Mrs. Munn requested a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for discussion of personnel, specifically F.K., supplemental personnel reports, district improvement plan, early childhood provider corrective action plan, Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying results, and workers' compensation claims, specifically, P.C., J.T., S.S., C.K., T.T., C.G., E.M., and M.F. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, to go into private session at 9:35 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 9

Negative: None

The Board reconvened in public at 11:05 p.m. to continue with the meeting and take formal action.

Mrs. Munn amended the private session statement to include transfer of special counsel.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Nazco, to amend the private session statement.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo – 7

Abstain: Mmes. Aristote, Munn – 2

Negative: None

Resolution - Acceptance of the Office of Compliance Investigation Corrective Action Plan for the Early Childhood Education Provider Little School House for the School Year 2009-2010

The Corrective Action Plan inclusive of comments and actions to be implemented was read and reviewed.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Nazco, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Transfer of Special Counsel – Walder, Hayden, Brogan, P.A. to Michael D’Alessio  
A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. DaSilva, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2010-7678 – P.C.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2011-21659 – C.G.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement between EBOE and F.K.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2009-12152 – C.K.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. DaSilva, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 9

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2011-20104 – E.M.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2010-28429 – S.S.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2007-27610 – T.T.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2011-1249 – J.T.

A motion was made by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim File No. 2008-8202 – P.C.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. DaSilva, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Supplemental Personnel Report – Resignations, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. DaSilva, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote, Mr. Trujillo – 2

Negative: None

2<sup>nd</sup> Supplemental Personnel Report – Appointments, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. DaSilva, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote, Mr. Trujillo – 2

Negative: None

Resolution – New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) District Improvement Plan 2010-2011

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Superintendent’s Report – Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) Investigative Results

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mr. Donoso, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 8

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

On a motion by Mr. DaSilva, seconded by Mr. Donoso, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. DaSilva, Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Munn – 9

Negative: None

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