

APPROVED
Bd. Mtg. 6-5-12

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

May 10, 2012
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called on May 10, 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 Friday, May 4, 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 May 10, 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: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Absent: Messrs. DaSilva, Trujillo – 2

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 Family and Community Outreach Jerome Dunn, 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.

Pastor Renato Castro from El Shaddai Ministries gave the invocation.

Mrs. Munn commented that it is with great sadness that we mourn the passing of Zenaida Gonzalez Manfugas and called for a moment of silence.

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 Raquel Coello, eighth grade student at Elmora School No. 12.

The *Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key was performed by Aamandah Cleopha, fifth grade student from Elmora School No. 12.

The Pledge of Ethics was led by Samantha Bernard, eighth grade student at Elmora School No. 12.

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

Mrs. Munn introduced kindergarten and eighth grade students from Elmora School No. 12 who performed *Rapunzel* by Afro-Brazilian Funk Fusion Group. Mrs. Munn thanked the students for a wonderful performance.

Mrs. Munn recognized fourth grade students at Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 as Stars of Excellence for being selected as Book Arts Project winners including Vanessa Baiza, Sharon Lojano, and Phillip Requinho, writing teacher Dimi Luethold and art teacher Michelle Greene. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the students and teachers and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized students who participated in the 2012 Special Olympics New Jersey Track and Field as Stars of Excellence including Justin Almanzar, Diogo Cunha, Mireya Hidalgo, Roosevelt Hidalgo, Madelin Martinez, Edwin Valasquez, Vanessa Vallejo, Alexis Ventura, and Shantel Wilkins and coaches Wendy Lopez-Silva, Anthony Mendes and Sylvia Muniz. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the students and coaches and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized students who participated in the N.J. Skills USA as Stars of Excellence including Gold Medal winners Daijah Johnson, Customer Service; Deivy Polanco, Automotive Refinishing Technology; Javier Ortega and Reynaldo Vasquez, Custom Automotive Painting; Juan Duran, Dayling Giraldo and Estefany Hernandez, Career Pathway Showcase-Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics cluster; Silver Medal winners including Christopher Umana, Promotional Bulletin Board, Francesco Joseph and Eduardo Rodriguez, Robotics and Automation Technology, Michelle Arias, Laura Ruiz, Claudia Sanchez, Career Pathways Showcase Education and Training Services Cluster; Mackenzie Barthelus, Juan Duran, Dayling Giraldo, Caterine Hernandez and Andrew Martinez, Career Pathways Showcase Education and Architecture and Construction Cluster; Peter Aleman, Elizabeth Edouard, and Paula Enrique, American Spirit Award; Bronze Medal winners including Lesley Magana, Welding Art/Sculpture; Ezekial Villafana, Collision Repair Technology; Valeria Perez, Food and Beverage Service; Yefferson Sierra, Employment Application Process; Charlie Vaca, Extemporaneous Speaking; Stephanie Ortiz and Monique Juene, Nail Care Team; Kerruine Barthelus and Rocio Coppi, Mobile Robotics Technology; Ivan Mendez and Michale Zeferino, Robotics and Automation Technology; Gabriela Gutierrez and Wendy Pesantes, Job Skills Demonstration; Natalie Gomez, Jonathan Yakubov, and Bryanna Zamora, Customer Service; and advisors Lilia Chaika, Paul Conte, Penelope Hudeen, Patrick McGee, Roger Osgood, and Ronald Ussher. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the students and advisors and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized student Jorge Rodriguez Del Ray from Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy as a Star of Excellence for winning the Union County Tennis Tournament. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated Jorge Rodriguez Del Ray and presented him with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized Renee Drummond, Elizabeth High School Forensics Coach, as a Star of Excellence for being awarded the Ruby Coach Award by the National Forensics League. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated Mrs. Renee Drummond and presented her with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn recognized community members who contributed to the success of the Excellence Parade including Ulpiano Rodriguez, Michael Calixto, Cesar Vega, and George Vega. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the community members and presented each with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn stated that pianist Zenaida Gonzalez Manfugas contributed greatly to the arts in the community. Mrs. Munn introduced former Board member, former State Board of Education member, Professor of Spanish and Chairman of Department of Foreign Languages, Literature and Culture at Kean University, and namesake of School No. 26, Dr. Orlando Edreira to speak about Zenaida Gonzalez Manfugas and her many contributions to the arts and to accept a plaque of commemoration on behalf of Zenaida Gonzalez Manfugas.

Dr. Orlando Edreira commented that it is with his deepest sorrow that he speaks about the death of a great pianist, Cuban born Zenaida Gonzalez Manfugas. Dr. Edreira stated that she was born in Guantanamo, Cuba in 1932 and at the age of seven played in great concerts, at the age of seventeen she played in a Havana concert and later she was awarded a scholarship to study in the music conservatory in Madrid, Spain. Dr. Edreira stated that she was considered a great pianist around the whole world and in 1974 Zenaida came to Elizabeth where she lived until her death last week. Dr. Edreira commented that we have lost one of the greatest values of our City of Elizabeth.

Mrs. Munn thanked Dr. Orlando Edreira. Mrs. Munn and Board members presented a plaque of commemoration of the many contributions to the arts of Zenaida Gonzalez Manfugas to Dr. Orlando Edreira.

Mrs. Munn stated that the Cuban Parade has been a longstanding tradition in Elizabeth and is a testament to the Cuban people and their heritage. Mrs. Munn recognized the tremendous efforts of the organization of the Cuban Parade in Elizabeth and Cuban Club President Yvette Maseda. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated Yvette Maseda and presented her with a plaque of commemoration.

Mrs. Munn stated that the Portugal Day Parade is an annual celebration of the customs and proud heritage of the Portuguese people in the City of Elizabeth since 1978. Mrs. Munn recognized the tremendous efforts of the Portugal Day Organizing Committee for making this parade so successful every year. Mrs. Munn stated that representative Maria Carvalho was not present to accept the plaque of commemoration. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated the Portugal Day Organizing Committee.

Mrs. Munn recognized Jorge DaCosta for his contribution to the Portuguese community through many hours dedicated to preserving the customs of the Portuguese people and for serving as the Grand Marshall of the Portugal Day Parade. Mrs. Munn and Board members congratulated him and presented him with a plaque of commemoration.

A motion was made by Mr. González, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the minutes of the meetings of April 18 and 19, 2012 be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Secretary and Treasurer's Report for the Month of March 2012

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Personnel Report – Leaves of Absences, 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: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Perreira (abstain- S.G.), Mrs. Munn – 6

Abstain: Mr. Nazco – 1

Negative: None

Tuition Report

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. Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 6

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 6

Abstain: Mrs. Aristote – 1

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. Nazco, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the request from the City of Elizabeth, Department of Health and Human Services for the S.O.A.R. Summer Program be approved as recommended with a waiver of facility fees and the remaining requests be approved with a waiver of fees.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

A motion was made by Mr. Nazco, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the requests be approved as recommended.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Muñoz highlighted the excellent activities and experiences that have occurred in our schools since our last Board meeting including the Elizabeth Public Schools First Excellence Parade held on April 21 with over 4,000 students and team members representing each one of the district's thirty-three schools showing pride in their respective schools and the students' many and varied accomplishments, 5th Annual Healthy Leap Expo held on May 1 at Dunn Sports Center, nine athletes from Elizabeth Public Schools competed at the Special Olympics held at Carteret High School, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 PTO President Sima Farid received the prestigious Alan M. Pedersen Humanitarian Award, Jump Rope for Heart at Madison-Monroe School No. 16, Women's History Month Celebration at Madison-Monroe School No. 16, first grade students using iPads to learn math at Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27, Learning is Erupting at George Washington School No. 1, Mentors for Acceptance at Robert Morris School No. 18, students from Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 attended the performance by Cuban Orchestra at NJ Performing Arts Center, students in the Mandarin class at Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 spoke to students in a classroom in China through the use of the internet, Autism Awareness at George Washington School No. 1, students in AP Spanish Literature class at William F. Halsey, Jr., Leadership Academy visited New York City to see "Don Quijote de la Mancha" by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra, Puerto Rican Carnival at Victor Mravlag School No. 21 @ 31 and William F. Halloran School No. 22 @ 31, 2012 Math Bee at George Washington School No. 1, students from Benjamin Franklin School No. 13 attended the Jersey Moves Festival of Dance at the NJ Performing Arts Center, artwork by Leydy Ramirez, senior at John E. Dwyer Technology Academy was selected by the Union County Teen Arts Festival that will be circulated throughout the State of New Jersey for one year, Positive Behavior Program at Toussaint L'Ouverture-Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6, Going Green at Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28, Joseph Battin School No. 4 students Luis Batista, Irena Riano Carbajal and Amber Lugo were chosen to have their art work displayed at Youth Art Month at Elizabethtown Gas Co. and Irena Carbajal was selected as one of only six students from Union County as a State Winner with her artwork exhibited at the State House in Trenton, students from Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29 joined students from Dr. Orlando Edreira School No. 26 in an Outdoor Musical Festival, Kite Day at Christopher Columbus School

No. 15, and fourth grade students Vanessa Baiza, Sharon Lojano, and Phillip Reguinho from Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 received awards for their Medieval and Renaissance inspired illuminated manuscript books at the Morgan Library in New York City. Mr. Muñoz stated that the Elizabeth Board of Education has empowered you to achieve excellence, you can read more about the excellent news from the Elizabeth Public Schools on our website www.epsnj.org, and you can follow us on YouTube, Flickr, Facebook, and EPStv.

Mrs. Munn thanked Superintendent Muñoz for his report.

Mr. Nazco commented that we recognized individuals for helping us procure certain items for the parade which was an overwhelming success. Mr. Nazco stated that he personally and publicly wanted to thank Assistant Board Secretary Donald Gonçalves who was the coordinator and most responsible for having the event run smoothly. Mr. Nazco congratulated Mr. Gonçalves for doing a fantastic job. Mr. Nazco thanked Mr. Gonçalves and his team for their efforts, that it set the bar high and next year will be an even bigger and better parade.

Mr. Nazco commented that he was impressed with the Superintendent's report especially the article about the students in the Mandarin class of Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 who spoke in Mandarin to students in China and they spoke in English to our students. Mr. Nazco read the article and stated that is an amazing exercise to do in class and that we have the technology and capability to communicate with another classroom on the other side of the world. Mr. Nazco stated that is something that is unique to our district and we really are trailblazers when it comes to technology and infusing it into the classroom. Mr. Nazco stated that he is proud to be part of this team that is so technology forward and bringing the latest applications to our children. Mr. Nazco congratulated everyone that was involved with the project.

Mr. Muñoz commented that he has to add to his report and stated that this week we received more exciting news that the Elizabeth Public Schools was recognized by U.S. News and World Report, a national magazine, for having two high schools recognized as two of the best high schools in the United States. Mr. Muñoz stated that U.S. News and World Report ranked high schools by state as well as nationally and out of over 380 high schools in New Jersey Elizabeth High School ranked # 6 in New Jersey and Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy ranked #46 in New Jersey and in addition to being ranked in New Jersey they are ranked nationally. Mr. Muñoz stated that U.S. News and World Report reviewed data on over 21,000 public high schools in America, then ranked 2,000 high schools and gave Gold, Silver and Bronze medals to 4,800 high schools in the nation. Mr. Muñoz stated that he is proud to announce that both of those high schools ranked in the top in America and that Elizabeth High School received a Gold medal and Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy received a Silver medal.

Mr. Muñoz stated that what is impressive is that not too long ago we had only one high school and we recently restructured our high schools and created six and Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy has only been around a very short while and is already being recognized as one of the best schools in America. Mr. Muñoz stated that he is very proud of the work that is being done at those two high schools, that he is very proud of the work being done in all six high schools and the other high schools are going to start making progress toward these national lists as well in the near future.

Board member Francisco González asked the principals and their staff from Elizabeth High School and Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy to stand and be recognized and thanked the principals for their leadership.

Board member Elcy Castillo-Ospina asked the vice principals from Elizabeth High School and Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy to stand and be recognized.

Mr. Nazco commented that this shows how far we have come as a district especially over the past five years. Mr. Nazco stated that over the past few meetings and at a couple of the town hall meetings we have been hearing the issue of the drop-out rate and graduation rate. Mr. Nazco stated that one thing we keep reminding the parents and viewers at home is that education is not a sprint, it is a marathon, and when you set the bar high like we have at all of our high schools you start to see the effects and successes at Elizabeth High School and Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy and as the Superintendent says the other high schools are working their way to be nationally recognized as well. Mr. Nazco stated that we are working very hard to make sure that every student is given the best education possible so that not only will all our high schools be the top schools in the State of New Jersey but all of our schools will be the top schools in the State of New Jersey and in the country.

Authorizations Report – Authorization to Make Application, etc.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Supplemental Authorizations Report – Authorization to Accept Funds, etc.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report – Award of Contracts, etc.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Supplemental Award of Contracts Report – Award of Contracts, etc.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Miscellaneous Communication

None.

Claims List

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Nazco (abstain- O.F.), Perreira (abstain- Candelario Trujillo), Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Portugal Day

Mr. Donoso read the resolution.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Haitian Heritage Month

Mrs. Aristote read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Aristote, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – National Teacher Appreciation Week

Mr. Perreira read the resolution.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Mr. González thanked all the teachers throughout the district who take their time every day to shape the minds of our children and thanked them for their hard work and dedication they give to our children.

Resolution – Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month

Mr. González read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. González, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Cuban American Day

Mr. Nazco read the resolution.

A motion was made by Mr. Nazco, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Special Education Week

Mrs. Castillo-Ospina read the resolution.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Mrs. Castillo-Ospina thanked all the staff members in this district involved in Special Education and stated that it takes very special people to work in Special Education.

Resolution – Union County Educational Services Commission Coordinated Transportation Services for the 2012-2013 School Year

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

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

Resolution – Revised Board Workshop Calendar Regulation File Code No. 9351

A motion was made by Mr. González, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Energy Savings Investment Program Contract

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 6

Abstain: Mr. Donoso – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Renewal for Prescription Insurance

A motion was made by Mr. González, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Auditor

A motion was made by Mr. González, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Chief Medical Inspector

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Medical Inspectors

A motion was made by Mr. González, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Insurance Consultant

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Special Counsels

A motion was made by Mr. González, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Treasurer of School Moneys

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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

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, Iris Flores, to address the Board.

Iris Flores, 45 Mravlag Manor, stated that she is a parent of two students at School No. 5 and one child has a problem with HIB and asked the Board members for help.

Mrs. Munn thanked her for her comments. Mrs. Munn called upon the next participant, A. E. to come forward.

A.E. stated that she is a student at School No. 5 and has a problem with HIB.

Mrs. Munn thanked her for her comments. Mrs. Munn called upon the next participant, Maria Echavarria, to come forward.

Maria Echavarria, 321 Westfield Avenue, stated that she is the parent of two students and is a member of the Elizabeth Education Organizing Committee which is a chapter of the Statewide Education Organizing Committee and stated that they presently have given petitions with 202 signatures and tonight she has a petition with an additional 35 and will have more next month. Mrs. Echavarria stated that her daughter attends Elmora School No. 12 and she has a parental concern. Mrs. Echavarria stated that her son attends an autistic school in Fairfield and asked for schools for autism in Elizabeth.

Mrs. Munn thanked her for her comments.

Superintendent Muñoz requested Mrs. Echavarria speak with Assistant Superintendent for Schools Jennifer Barrett to help her child at Elmora School No. 12. Superintendent Muñoz requested Mrs. Flores and A.E. speak with Mrs. Barrett and the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Coordinator tonight and get the information to continue or begin an investigation around their claims.

Mrs. Munn called upon the next participant, Jose Rodriguez, to come forward.

Jose Rodriguez, 618 Jackson Avenue, commented that he wanted to wish a happy teacher appreciation week to his fellow colleagues and stated that there are nice banners around the City and how in some ways some of the banners are deceiving to the community, that while Elizabeth High School is ranked No. 6 it is extremely wonderful and there is nothing bad to say, there was just a banner put up that says Elizabeth High School is No. 2 in the State. Mr. Rodriguez stated that the banner says there are three Blue Ribbon Schools, that he went to School Nos. 21 and 22 when he was much younger and right now they are in the same building at No. 31 and both have the same principal. Mr. Rodriguez stated that while we have 2 or 3 Blue Ribbon Schools which is wonderful we also have 18 failing schools in the City that you need to pay attention to, that New Jersey has 183 focus schools within their new categories and Elizabeth has 8 and five out of six of our high schools are in there including Elizabeth High School because of low graduation rates and each one of those high schools has less than 75% graduation rates. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he has been at the town hall meetings and a lot of the questions that have to do with drop-out and graduation rates has come from him and others and some of you have talked about the cream of the crop and about how good people leave Elizabeth. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he considers himself a good person and has not left Elizabeth, that the cream is great, that it is the tastiest part and is great to look at but we as a school system have to educate everyone not just the cream of the crop. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he would like them to concentrate on the most needy of students.

Mrs. Munn thanked him for his comments.

Superintendent Pablo Muñoz commented that he would like to clarify one point, that we are very excited and there might be some confusion about this, but there are two different publications that have recognized the performance of Elizabeth High School as being one of the best schools in the United States of America. Mr. Muñoz stated that one publication that came out last year was the Washington Post newspaper that did their national ranking called the Challenge Index and it rated Elizabeth High School as No. 2 in New Jersey and will be coming out again shortly. Mr. Muñoz stated that the second publication is a completely separate magazine, the U.S. News and World Report, which was published this week. Mr. Muñoz stated that both of the publications are separate and distinct and use their own methodologies and therefore in U.S. News and World Report Elizabeth High School was ranked No. 6. Mr. Muñoz stated that another distinction is that last year the Washington Post excluded from their ranking schools that do not teach the entire general population and some of the schools that are ranked in the U.S. News and World Report did not appear in the ranking in the Washington Post. Mr. Muñoz stated that is the distinction so there is no correction to be made since it is just different publications and the banners that were put up were based on last year's performance ranked by the Washington Post. Mr. Muñoz stated that this new ranking by U.S. News and World Report just came out this week.

Mrs. Munn called upon the next participant, Maria Parraguez, to come forward.

Maria Parraguez, 212 Inslee Place, stated that her niece was being bullied and her sister has been trying to get answers. Ms. Parraguez stated that the Board members say they have the

best interest for our kids, that there are nice banners but they're not doing anything for our children.

Mrs. Munn thanked her for her comments. Mrs. Munn called upon the next participant, Miriam Perez, to come forward.

Miriam Perez, 233 Murray Street, stated that she and her children are being bullied because they are Christian and that we should respect every human being.

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.

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 G.N., A.R., P.Y., Y.S., S.K., S.M., J.B., F.B., M.E., J.G., W.T., S.J., N.M., M.O., L.P., and C.V., reorganization personnel actions, supplemental personnel reports, Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying results, and workers' compensation claims, specifically, M.F., M.M., and R.D. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

A motion was made by Mr. Donoso, seconded by Mr. Nazco, to go into private session at 9:30 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

The Board reconvened in public at 11:10 p.m. to continue with the meeting and take formal action.

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Michael Ojeda

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Jelsie Basso

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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Fatimah Bey

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Melvin Endick

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Jacques Gonzales

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: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Wilnes Jilus

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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Sulisnet Jimenez

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: Mmes. Aristote, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Donoso, González, Nazco, Perreira, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Alexandra Mickens

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Linda Paterno

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Christopher Van Vliet

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Non-Renew as Supervisor of Secondary Education and transfer to Teacher Instructional Coach effective May 11, 2012 – S.K.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Administrative Leave with pay effective immediately and non-renew as Director for 2012-2013 School Year – S.M.

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 – 6

Abstain: Mrs. Munn – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement between EBOE and P.Y.

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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement between EBOE and G.N.

A motion was made by Mr. González, 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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Confidential Settlement Agreement between EBOE and A.R.

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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

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

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim File No. 2010-32765 – M.M.

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, Mrs. Munn – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim File No. 2010-10132 – M.F.

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

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

The motion was carried by the following vote:

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

Negative: None

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