

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

August 25, 2017
Elizabeth, New Jersey

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called on August 25, 2017 at 11:30 a.m., in the Mitchell Building, 500 North Broad Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Stanley Neron presented the following statement at 11:40 a.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning. This is a special 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 The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth on Monday, August 21, 2017. 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 to this August 25, 2017 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 morning 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 prior to the commencement of public participation 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. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Carvalho, Messrs. Rodriguez, Neron – 5
Absent: Mrs. Amin, Miss Goncalves, Messrs. Nina, Perreira – 4

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP, and members of the public were in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Neron 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.”

Mr. Neron called twice upon the first public participant, Roger Gasca, to address the Board. Since Roger Gasca did not come forward, Mr. Neron called upon the next public participant, Maria Echavarria, to address the Board.

Maria Echavarria, 321 Westfield Avenue, spoke about a problem with her child.

Mr. Neron thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Salaam Ismial, to address the Board.

Salaam Ismial, 513 Richmond Street, United Youth Council, spoke about a gun violence forum.

Mr. Neron thanked him for his comments. Since there were no other citizens to address the Board, Mr. Neron declared this portion of the public meeting closed.

The President requests a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for personnel, specifically, the Superintendent’s evaluation. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, to go into private session at 11:55 a.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Carvalho, Messrs. Rodriguez, Neron – 5

Negative: None

Ms. Bathelus and Mr. Neron excused themselves from the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Mrs. Barbosa excused herself from the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, to reconvene in public session at 1:44 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Mr. Rodriguez – 2

Negative: None

On a motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Mrs. Carvalho, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Carvalho, Mr. Rodriguez – 2

Negative: None

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