

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

October 18, 2018
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular business meeting of the Board of Education was called to immediately follow the agenda meeting on October 18, 2018 in the MultiPurpose Room, Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Maria Carvalho presented the following statement at 9:42 p.m. since the agenda meeting was held prior to the business meeting.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a regular business 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 October 5, 2018. 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, New Jersey.

“We want to welcome everyone present and our television viewers to this 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. We also ask that you silence the sound on your electronic devices. Since it is legally mandated that these proceedings be accurately recorded, we may have to ask for order periodically should noise begin to interfere with our recording capabilities. We are pleased that you have taken time to join us here for our Board of Education meeting. 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 may sign in up to the start of the public speaking 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: Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Neron, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 7

Absent: Mrs. Barbosa, Mr. Nina – 2

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

Mrs. Carvalho introduced Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC/Affirmative Action/Guidance Peter Vosseler who presented the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results.

Mr. Vosseler presented the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results. Mr. Vosseler stated that according to Board Policy 5131.1 Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) and New Jersey Statute 18A:37 the results of each investigation shall be reported to the Board of Education no later than the date of the next Board meeting following completion of each

investigation and include any services provided, training established, discipline imposed, or other action that was taken or recommended. Mr. Vosseler stated that at the next regularly scheduled meeting after Board members receive the report of HIB investigations, the statute requires that the Board issue a decision in writing to affirm, reject, or modify the Superintendent's decision pertaining to the cases that were reported to the Board members at the last meeting.

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

There were none.

Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC/Affirmative Action/Guidance Peter Vosseler stated that we are required by state law to present the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying self-assessment two times per year. Mr. Vosseler stated that tonight he is presenting a report, *Assessing Our Performance Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights*.

Mr. Vosseler stated that a No Bully Zone is important and in Elizabeth, we believe that every child has the right to go to school and to get an education no matter what size, shape, color, race, disability, or financial background he/she has. Mr. Vosseler stated that that no child should ever be made to feel that school is a place where he or she will be degraded, demoralized, singled out, hounded, discriminated against or taken advantage of in a vulnerable situation.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the schools complete the self-assessment at the end of each school year and tonight he is presenting the results. Mr. Vosseler stated that a rubric was developed by the State to aide districts in assessing the school's efforts and improving their Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights programs. Mr. Vosseler stated that the rubric was designed to be a growth model and to be used to enhance programs at schools and districts and consists of eight core elements and twenty-six indicators with each indicator having a score of zero to three points. Mr. Vosseler explained that the first core element deals with programs, approaches, and initiatives and whether they are designed to create a better school climate. Mr. Vosseler stated that the second core element is training on our policy and includes looking at who we have to train, making sure our policy includes the protected classes under the law, and that we discuss the policy with students in an age appropriate manner. Mr. Vosseler stated that the third core element is about staff instruction and training programs and there is a requirement in the law that in every five-year cycle certified staff have to get two hours of HIB training and suicide training. Mr. Vosseler stated that the Anti-Bullying Specialists have to be able to meet with the Anti-Bullying Coordinator during school time and to be able to receive training during that time. Mr. Vosseler stated that we have to be able to provide professional development to the school safety and climate team, which is a group that oversees the process at each school, and that school leaders have also received the appropriate information. Mr. Vosseler stated that the fourth core element is curriculum and instruction and although it does not have a lot of indicators within this core element it is important because it is assessing how the school is providing appropriate instruction within the curriculum and whether the school and district are observing the Week of Respect which is the first full week in October. Mr. Vosseler stated that the fifth core element is regarding HIB required personnel and whether there is an Anti-Bullying Specialist and that we go beyond the requirement by also appointing an Alternate Anti-Bullying Specialist in each school. Mr. Vosseler stated that it assesses whether we met the minimum requirement of meetings which we do and surpass and that the school safety and climate team met in the appropriate manner. Mr. Vosseler stated that the sixth core element is whether we have implemented the district's procedure for reporting HIB and all the required elements that go along with it and whether we have the procedure to put in new information into older cases. Mr. Vosseler stated that the seventh core element is our actual procedure and this deals a lot with timelines and did we meet all the timelines including doing investigations within ten school days and sending the results to the superintendent within the two days of the completed investigation. Mr. Vosseler stated that the last core element is HIB reporting and is there a system for our staff to report things. Mr. Vosseler stated that our HIB assessment scores are on the main website and each individual school website.

Mr. Vosseler explained the scoring and that zero is for not meeting the requirements, 1 is for partially meeting the requirements, 2 is for meeting all the requirements, and 3 is for exceeding the requirements. Mr. Vosseler stated that to meet and exceed the requirement there are a lot of

indicators on the rubric that the school has to meet. Mr. Vosseler stated that the highest possible score is 78, which means that every indicator was scored a 3 and they have exceeded every indicator. Mr. Vosseler stated that a score of 52 means all of the indicators were met. Mr. Vosseler stated that our schools this year ranged from 48 to 68, and twenty-six of our schools scored 52 or more which is meeting the requirements. Mr. Vosseler stated that the average score across all the schools becomes the district score which is 55.5 and is up from 51.32 last year.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the self-assessment process is that all of the school safety and climate teams complete the self-assessment in May of each year. Mr. Vosseler stated that they input the information on the NJ DOE website and the results are then presented to the public. Mr. Vosseler stated that then we receive approval from the Board of Education as well as assurances from the Superintendent. Mr. Vosseler stated that after that is completed we submit all of our self-assessments to the NJ DOE for the school year and after it is approved, then the results are uploaded to our websites. Mr. Vosseler stated that at the next Board meeting a second presentation is required by state law to present the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying self-assessment. Mr. Vosseler stated that tonight he is presenting the HIB self-assessment for the school year on how well our district is implementing the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the highlights of our work to date include an annual Week of Respect, district training for our team members, state training for the Anti-Bullying Coordinator, and guest speakers who address different aspects of anti-bullying at the schools. Mr. Vosseler stated that we have contracted with the community program called Breaking the Cycle and also contracted for cyber-bullying and internet safety training to all of our students from the Union County Prosecutor's Office. Mr. Vosseler stated that we also have HIB character education programs, Positive Behavior Supports in School (PBSIS), Generation Text Online, Peekapak, and Bully-Busting Curriculum in various schools. Mr. Vosseler stated that we are using the HIBster reporting system which is a streamlined way to process the incidents in a most efficient manner.

Mr. Vosseler stated that the work ahead of us is to analyze self-assessments by school, determine areas which need improvement, focus on working with the School Safety Teams in improving school climate at all schools, and implementing HIB character education programming for all schools.

Mr. Vosseler asked if there were any questions and if there was anyone who would like to comment on tonight's report. There were no questions or comments.

Board President Maria Carvalho presented the following public participation statement.

"At this time, the microphones are open for public comment to those who have signed in. 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. Carvalho called twice upon the first public participant, Freddie Torres, to address the Board. Since he did not come forward, Mrs. Carvalho called upon the next public participant, Maria Lorenz, to address the Board.

Maria Lorenz, 103 Murray Street, spoke about SEPAC and the special education lawyer. Mrs. Lorenz stated that this board is fiscally irresponsible. Mrs. Lorenz stated that there is a resolution tonight for parent involvement and there is no parent involvement.

Mrs. Carvalho thanked her for her comments and called upon the next public participant, Don Lorenz, to address the Board.

Don Lorenz, 103 Murray Street, stated that he was speaking on behalf of Freddie Torres who was not able to stay. Mr. Lorenz stated that Freddie Torres' child was bullied and he has an IEP for autism. Mr. Lorenz stated that Freddie Torres is asking the Board for help in this matter.

Mrs. Carvalho thanked him for his comments. Since there were no other public participants signed in to address the Board, Mrs. Carvalho closed this portion of the meeting.

Mrs. Carvalho asked for a motion to accept the following:

Minutes of the September 20, 2018 Agenda and Business Meetings
Secretary/Treasurer's Report for the Month of August 2018
Personnel Report
Supplemental Personnel Report
2nd Supplemental Personnel Report
Tuition Report
Supplemental Tuition Report
Superintendent's Report – Considerations
Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities - waiver of fees
Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities with fees
Superintendent's Report – Field Trips
Authorizations Report
Supplemental Authorizations Report
Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers
Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds
Award of Contracts Report
Supplemental Award of Contracts Report
Miscellaneous Communication - None
Claims List
Resolution – Union County Educational Services Commission 2018-2019 Title I Non-Public
Teacher Instructed Services
Resolution – National Parental Involvement Day
Resolution – Puerto Rican Heritage Month
Resolution – Veteran's Day
Resolution – National French Week
Resolution – Anti-Littering Campaign
Resolution – Union County Educational Services Commission 2018-2019 Professional Services
Resolution – Union County Educational Services Commission Amended Tuition Agreement –
Alternative High School
Resolution – Approving Winter Sports Companies – BSN Sports, LLC; Metuchen Center, Inc.;
MFAC, LLC; and Pyramid School Products
Resolution – Payment for Unused Sick Days
Resolution – Payment for Unused Vacation Days
Resolution – South Bergen Jointure Commission – Coordinated Transportation Services
Resolution – Renewal of Contract with Peters Chemical Company – Ice Melt Pellets
Resolution – Member Participation in a Cooperative Pricing System
National Intergovernmental Purchasing Alliance (National IPA OMNIA Partners)
Resolution – Designation of School Safety Specialist – Matthew Glackin
Resolution – Appointing W.B. Mason Co., Inc. for Provision of Toilet Paper Products
Resolution – Revised Appointment of Investigators – Part Time
Resolution – Submission of Pre-Development Application for an Additional Solar Panel
Resolution – National Principals Month
Resolution – Acceptance of Residency Investigation Results
Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim (2014-12643) – J.B.
Resolution – Reorganization – Job Description

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Miss Goncalves, that the above be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus (abstain- Authorizations Report- Renewal of TCUs, Union County STEM Scholars Grant, Seal of Biliteracy, FAFSA Night, C.D.), Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Neron (abstain- Personnel Report- E.R.; Authorizations Report- City of Elizabeth Recreation Department), Rodriguez (abstain- Finance and Accounting Report - Pay Vouchers – Kologi Simitz; Claims List – Kologi Simitz), Mrs. Carvalho (abstain- City of Elizabeth Recreation Department) - 7

Negative: None

The first reading of the following revised policy and new exhibit were done:

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| 5141.21 | Policy | Administering Medication |
| 5141.21(X) | Exhibit | Emergency Administration of Naloxone for Drug Overdose |

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there was any new business.

On a motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Miss Goncalves, the meeting was adjourned at 10:13 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Neron, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho - 7

Negative: None

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