

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

August 23, 2018
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular business meeting of the Board of Education was called to immediately follow the agenda meeting on August 23, 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 10:21 p.m. on August 23, 2018 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 August 7, 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, Mr. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Absent: Mrs. Barbosa – 1

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer Cedeno, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Judy Finch Johnson, Deputy Counsel Heather Ford, Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP and members of the public were in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Hugelmeyer asked Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment Amy Gil to speak about the 2018 State Assessment Results.

Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment Amy Gil stated that tonight’s presentation is the State Assessment Results. Mrs. Gil stated that the first area is the PARCC

performance results for the Elizabeth Public Schools compared to the results for the State of New Jersey. Mrs. Gil stated that the PowerPoint slides show the percentage of growth for our district and for the state so we can see that although our performance may be slightly lagging behind the state's performance, we are consistently outgrowing the state with just a few exceptions of grades in particular. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the percentage of growth increase of 2015 through 2018 mathematics scores for grade 3 students of 21.8% compared to 18.0% growth for the State of New Jersey for the same period. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade four mathematics from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 35.4% compared to 21.7% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade five mathematics from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 14.1% compared to 19.0% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade six mathematics from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of -7.5% compared to 6.9% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade seven mathematics from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 6.2% compared to 17.9% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing Algebra I from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 44.8% compared to 27.2% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing geometry from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 37.0% compared to 31.7% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing Algebra II from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 93.0% compared to 19.7% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the combined grades 3-7 and Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II disaggregated with female, male, Hispanic, Black, white ED, Non-ED, SE, Non-SE, ELL, and Non-ELL for the years from 2015 through 2018.

Mrs. Gil stated that the English language arts/literacy is the next area. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the percentage of growth increase of 2015 through 2018 English language arts/literacy scores for grade 3 students of 39.8% compared to 19.1% growth for the State of New Jersey for the same period. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade four English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 38.3% compared to 13.5% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade five English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 50.0% compared to 12.6% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade six English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 33.0% compared to 15.2% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade seven English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 48.2% compared to 21.5% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade eight English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 40.0% compared to 17.1% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade nine English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 46.1% compared to 37.0% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade ten English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 72.3% compared to 38.6% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing grade eleven English language arts/literacy from 2015 through 2018 with a growth of 3.0% compared to -5.9% growth for the state. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the combined grades 3-11 disaggregated with female, male, Hispanic, Black, white ED, Non-ED, SE, Non-SE, ELL, and Non-ELL for the years from 2015 through 2018.

Mrs. Gil stated that New Jersey began the transition from the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJ ASK) Science Assessment in grades 4 and 8 and the New Jersey Biology Competency Test in high school. Mrs. Gil stated that the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment for Science was administered for the first time in May 2018. Mrs. Gil stated that federal regulations require science to be assessed at three points in a student's education beginning in elementary school grade 5, middle school grade 8, and high school grade 11.

Mrs. Gil stated that other statewide assessments include Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) and Access for ELLs. Mrs. Gil stated that all students in identified grade levels and subject areas are required to participate in statewide assessments. Mrs. Gil stated that Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) assessments are designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities for whom general state assessments are not appropriate, even with accommodations. Mrs. Gil stated that DLM assessments offer these students a way to show what they know and can do in mathematics and English language arts/literacy and are administered in grades 3-8 and 11 instead

of PARCC assessments. Mrs. Gil stated that 1% of students in Elizabeth meet the guidelines to take the DLM. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing DLM scores for grades 3-11 for English language arts and mathematics, and science for grades 5, 8, and 11.

Mrs. Gil stated that Access for ELLs is administered to all English Language Learners (ELLs) in grades K-12 to determine the level of English language that each student has acquired and the best placement for each student moving forward. Mrs. Gil stated that the ACCESS for ELLs assesses four language domains including listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Mrs. Gil stated that the ACCESS for ELLs reports performance in all four domains and a composite score combining all four. Mrs. Gil stated that there is a paper assessment for kindergarten students; for students in grades 1-3 there is a paper assessment for writing and an online assessment for listening speaking and reading; and for grades 4-12 there is an online assessment. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the scores for the listening assessment for grades K-12. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the scores for the speaking assessment for grades K-12. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the scores for the reading assessment for grades K-12. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the scores for the writing assessment for grades K-12. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the composite scores for grades K-12.

Mrs. Gil stated that the New Jersey ESSA Plan long-term target for our English language learners (ELLs) is that by 2023, 86% of English language learners in each school will make expected annual progress toward attaining English language proficiency. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the expected English language proficiency (ELP) and the level by years in a district. Mrs. Gil stated that the student characteristics include the student's initial level of English language proficiency (ELP) based on ACCESS for ELLs, the number of years the student has been enrolled in a district, and each school's targets will be based on 2017-2018 baseline growth data. Mrs. Gil stated that they do not have the data at this time but she will be sharing the data as soon as they have it.

Mrs. Gil stated that the district also monitors our students and our measures of success on our promise goals including that 100% of EPS graduates will meet the requirements to enter a 2 or 4 year college, a technical school, or service to our nation and/or will hold a license or certificate enabling them to enter the workforce, 90% of EPS graduates will enroll in at least one Advanced Placement course before graduating and maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher throughout high school, and 90% of EPS students will graduate on time. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the percent of high school students earning a GPA of 3.0 or better by the end of high school for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the percent of high school students by demographics taking Advanced Placement classes for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the percent of high school students by demographics earning 3.0 or better on Advanced Placement exams for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. Mrs. Gil stated that in all of our subgroups we have seen significant growth from one year to the next in the percentage of students earning a 3.0 or better on the Advanced Placement exams. Mrs. Gil explained a PowerPoint slide showing the percent of students attending school 95% and more for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 with demographics.

Mrs. Gil stated that this Fall there will be the Class of 2018 Profile, graduation rate, dropout rate, and college enrollment for the Class of 2017. Mrs. Gil presented a PowerPoint slide showing the scorecard information and the dates for the marking period data reports and the dates for the benchmark data reports. Mrs. Gil asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked about -7.5% growth for mathematics for grade 6 and 6.9% for the state. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that her concern is if the curriculum prepares our students for sixth grade because fifth grade shows a growth of 14.1% for the district and 19.0% for the state. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that there is a transition between elementary and middle school and the growth goes down -7.5%. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked, based on her experience, how we can make that transition easier for our students. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that fifth grade is the last grade in elementary school and then the first year in middle school the score goes down.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that one of the areas that the mathematics department is examining is the Everyday Math program. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have already replaced the eighth grade math curriculum as was reported earlier this evening. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that CMP3 was brought in for seventh grade and right now we are looking toward a different approach at the lower elementary which would carry us up to the sixth grade in order to bridge that gap. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that clearly the area of concern is at the lower elementary because it is impacting sixth grade at this present time. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the program that we currently have in place, CMP3, for sixth and seventh grade is incredibly rigorous. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that bridging that gap from fifth to sixth is our focus for the upcoming school year. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have specific supplements that we put in place but the feedback that we are receiving is that we really need to examine the series that we have in elementary.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that we need to develop a different kind of approach.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that middle school was updated to CMP3 and our newest math curriculum for the eighth grade is being implemented this year. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have to address the fourth and fifth grade in order to see better results in sixth grade.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked if the math department is working in specific areas because this is just an overview of information. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she knows that after we receive data from the state we can see details on specific areas we need to improve in order for the school to be successful. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that when we check there is something in middle school now. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that her personal opinion is that we need to grow in middle school. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega thanked Mrs. Gil for her presentation.

Mr. Jacobs thanked Mrs. Gil for the presentation. Mr. Jacobs asked if they can receive this electronically. Mr. Jacobs stated that the percentage change is already on the report and asked if it is possible to include the change in basis points.

Mrs. Gil responded yes and she can provide that.

Mrs. Carvalho introduced Peter Vosseler, Supervisor of Anti-Bullying/EEOC/Affirmative Action/Guidance who 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

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Nina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

Board President 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, Maria DaRassi Medeiros, to address the Board. Maria DaRassi Medeiros did not come forward to address the Board. Mrs. Carvalho called upon the next public participant, Kason Little, to address the Board.

Kason Little, student, stated that respect is important. Mr. Little stated that he is here for a cause and is supported by his peers.

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 July 19, 2018 Agenda and Business Meetings
Secretary/Treasurer’s Report for the Month of June 2018
Personnel Report
Supplemental Personnel Report
2nd Supplemental Personnel Report
Tuition Report
Superintendent’s Report – Considerations
Superintendent’s Report – Use of Facilities
Supplemental Superintendent’s Report – Use of Facilities with fees
Authorizations Report
Supplemental Authorizations Report
2nd 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 – Approval of 2018-2019 Employment Contract – Jennifer Cedeno
Resolution – Lease Amendment for Rental of Property – All Nations Church New Jersey, Inc.
Resolution – Awarding Contract to US Foods, Inc. for Produce Items
Resolution – Awarding Contract to US Foods, Inc. for Purchase of Small Equipment Items
Resolution – Assignment of Affirmative Action Officer 2018-2019 School Year – Peter Vosseler
Resolution – Approval of Participation in NJSBA Annual Workshop
Resolution – Partial Roof Replacement at Joseph Battin School No. 4
Resolution – Partial Roof Replacement and Masonry Repair at School No. 6
Resolution – Cafeteria HVAC Upgrade at School No. 6

Resolution – Awarding Contract to Apple, Inc. for Lease Purchase of Computer Equipment
 Resolution – Five Year Curriculum Plan for 2018-2023
 Resolution – Curriculum Guides for 2018-2019 School Year
 Resolution – Programs of Study for 2018-2019 School Year
 Resolution – Textbooks in Use for 2018-2019 School Year
 Resolution – Approving Addendum to Extend Agreement – ESS Northeast, LLC
 d/b/a Source4Teachers
 Resolution – Payment for Medical Health Insurance Waiver
 Resolution – Authorizing Board President and School Business Administrator/Board Secretary to
 Execute a Deed Notice and remedial Acton Permit for School No. 6
 Resolution – Appointing Care Finders Total Care, LLC to Provide One-on-One Nursing Services
 on an as needed basis
 Resolution – Payment for Unused Sick Days
 Resolution – Payment for Unused Vacation Days
 Resolution – Expansion of Scope of Services and Related Contract Modification for Suplee,
 Clooney & Company Professional Services Contract – Auditing Services
 Resolution – Consent for Transfer of Liquor License
 Resolution – Appointing Trinitas Children’s Therapy Services to Provide Physical
 and Occupational Therapy Services for 2018-2019 School Year
 Resolution – Appointing EBS Health Care Services, Inc. to Provide Speech Therapy Services
 for 2018-2019 School Year
 Resolution – Authorizing Entry into a Three Year Lease Purchase Agreement with US Bancorp
 Government Leasing & Finance, Inc. for Hewlett Packard Laptop Computers
 Resolution – Approving Annual Extension of Existing Student Transportation Contract
 Resolution – Appointing Preferred Home Health Care and Nursing Services, Inc. to
 Provide Individual Nursing Services to District Students for 2018-2019 School Year
 Resolution – Reorganization – Job Description
 Resolution – Authorize Form of Waiver for Certain Employees Pending Criminal History Review
 Resolution – 2018-2019 Increment and Salary Adjustment Restoration
 Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim (2016-26204) – W.T.
 Resolution – Settlement of Workers’ Compensation Claim (2012-30581) – J.G.
 Award of Contract - Consulting Services for Board Training

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, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Neron (abstain- Superintendent’s Report for Use of Facilities requests from City of Elizabeth Department of Health and Human Services; Supplemental Authorizations Report – O.H.; Resolution - Approval of 2018-2019 Employment Contract – J.C.), Nina (abstain- Personnel Report – M.D.; Superintendent’s Report for Considerations – D.P.; Supplemental Authorizations Report – O.H.; Finance and Accounting Report Authorization to Pay Vouchers – Kologi Simitz; Claims List – Kologi Simitz), Rodriguez (abstain- Finance and Accounting Report Authorization to Pay Vouchers – Kologi Simitz; Claims List – Kologi Simitz), Mrs. Carvalho (abstain-Supplemental Authorizations Report – O.H.; Resolution - Approval of 2018-2019 Employment Contract - J.C.) – 8

Negative: None

On a motion by Mr. Rodriguez, seconded by Ms. Bathelus, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Rodriguez, Mrs. Carvalho – 8

Negative: None

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