

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
(Official)

December 15, 2022  
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular agenda/business meeting of the Board of Education was called to order on December 15, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Dunn Sports Center, 151 Pearl Street, Elizabeth, NJ, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Rosa Moreno-Ortega welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega called for School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr. to read the following statement at 6:44 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a combined regular agenda/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 December 8, 2022. 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 here and to our television viewers to this December 15, 2022, 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. The presiding officer may interrupt, warn or terminate speaking when talking becomes personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant; request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum; request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person’s conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting; call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action.

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 this evening 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 must personally sign-in prior to the 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: Nathalie Alcaide-Hernandez, Diane Barbosa (arr. 7:45 p.m.), Maria Carvalho, Iliana Chevres (arr. 6:48 p.m.), Charlene Bathelus Dorgely (arr. 7:15 p.m.), Jerry Jacobs, Stanley Neron, Stephanie Goncalves Pestana, Rosa Moreno-Ortega – 9

Absent: None

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 Judy Finch Johnson, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes, Comptroller Rajeev Malhotra, Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta, Co-General Counsel Jonathan Williams, Esq. of DeCotiis, Fitzpatrick & Cole, LLP, and members of the community were present.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega called for a moment of silence for the passing of Rosemary Grillo, teacher at Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25, Christine Lucia DaSilva, teacher at Christopher Columbus School No. 15, and Kathryn Huber, retired secretary at John E. Dwyer Technology Academy.

Colors were presented during the Flag Ceremony by members of the Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy Marine Corps Junior R.O.T.C.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bryanne Rubio-Retana, senior at Elizabeth High School Frank J. Cicarell Academy.

The Elizabeth High School Frank J. Cicarell Academy Choir performed the *Star Spangled Banner* by Francis Scott Key.

The Pledge of Ethics was led by Daniela Acosta, senior at Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy.

Mr. Jacobs read a resolution in memory of retired secretary Kathryn Huber.

Mrs. Goncalves Pestana read a resolution in memory of Teacher, Rosemary Grillo.

Mrs. Carvalho read a resolution in memory of teacher, Christine Lucia DaSilva,

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer introduced Frank J. Cicarell Academy principal Michael Cummings to present the student representative to the Board.

Principal Michael Cummings of Frank J. Cicarell Academy introduced senior Jessica K. Verma to serve as the student representative to the Board of Education tonight. Mr. Cummings stated that Jessica Verma is the president of the senior class, an officer in the National Honor Society and a member of the Key Club. He further stated that Jessica is the rare combination of true academic brilliance, true hard work and true humility.

Mrs. Moreno Ortega and Board members congratulated Jessica Verma for being selected as a student representative to the Board and presented her with a pin and a certificate of commemoration.

Mrs. Moreno Ortega then asked that she be able to present her Year End remarks. She wanted to thank her family as well as her Board family for their help and support in during her terms as president. It was both an honor and a privilege to serve both the parents and families of the Elizabeth School system as Board President this past year. One of her two priorities this past year was to maintain a safe and healthy instructional and learning environment. We were able to push through the pandemic thanks to the tireless effort of Central and School administration, teachers, and support staff as well as her colleagues on the Board. We have maintained academic achievement, athletics had championship level success and the district had outstanding artistic performances during this past year. Many of these achievements would be celebrated later in the tonight's meeting. In addition, the Board has put together a new Five (5) year strategic plan which will be implemented in the Fall of this year. Part of this plan will address her second priority which was closing the Achievement gap for all students. We have an exceptional team that constantly finds new and innovative ways to provide and encourage high quality achievement. In addition, we have been able to expand the JVJ Stem Academy as well as add the old St Anthony's School as an annex to Dwyer Academy and the former Benedictine Academy now serves as a K-1 annex for the Joseph Battin School. This was done under the leadership of the soon retiring Luis Couto who has served as the District's Director of Plant, Property and Equipment for the last 27 years.

Mrs. Moreno Ortega also stated that this has also been a year of personal success and achievement. She was extremely fortunate to receive a Fulbright U.S. Distinguished Teaching award, where she went to Columbia to work on a model Spanish/English school. Moreover, she was one of fourteen (14) U.S. citizens that traveled to six (6) countries as part of the Fulbright team. Mrs. Moreno Ortega was also fortunate enough to have participated with the New Jersey School Board Association where she earned Board Member and Master Board Member certification. This will allow her to be the best Board member she can be and serve the students, families and all citizens of the City of Elizabeth. She then thanked her individual family members and the Administrators, Teachers, Support team staff and her fellow Board members for their help. In closing Mrs. Moreno Ortega wanted to highlight the diversity of the district and the fact that we celebrate many Holidays and customs which show a respect for all cultures. She was proud that she communicated to the Spanish speaking community so that they could understand and appreciate all that was going on in our schools. Mrs. Moreno Ortega repeated her Year-end remarks in Spanish.

Mrs. Moreno Ortega invited the Mayor of Elizabeth, Chris Bollwage, to speak. Mr. Bollwage thanked Mrs. Moreno Ortega for her leadership during a very difficult year. He also expressed gratitude to Mrs. Hugelmeier for keeping students safe during the past year, The Mayor congratulated the Elizabeth High School Band for the outstanding year they had. In addition, Mr. Bollwage congratulated and thanked Mr. Couto for his service and that his management of buildings whether it be new construction or repair of older facilities was second to none. With his retirement, Elizabeth's loss would be Mr. Couto's family gain! The mayor further congratulated the Fall Athletic teams that would be honored later in the evening and thanked them for coming to

the Meeting. On behalf of himself, his wife and daughter he wished everyone both in English and Spanish, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Further greetings were sent to those communities celebrating either Kwanza or Hanukkah.

Mrs. Moreno Ortega announced that the Board and audience would be treated to a performance by the award-winning Elizabeth High School Band. Under the direction of Miquel A. Bolivar the band performed both in music and dance, Arachnidium Part 1 Lacrimosa/Danse Macarbe.

The Board President, Mrs. Moreno Ortega recognized Councilman Carlos Torres. She then asked that her fellow Board Members join her as they recognized Academic and Athletic achievements.

Achieved Perfect Score on the 2022 New Jersey Student Learning Assessments (NJSLA) Aniyah Abrams, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Abigail Sofia Almanzar, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Jaya M. Alvarez, Terence C. Reilly School No.7 currently Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Asata Al'Janae Baldon, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Charlotte Marie Banic, Victor Mravlag School No. 21 Andrew Cardenas, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Justin L. Casco Castro, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Brianna Isabella Concepcion, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Nataly Sofia Coronel, Toussaint L'ouverture-Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6 Sofia Correa, Joseph Battin School No. 4 Alexa Corte, Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 currently Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Fausto Ransel Del Carmen Mercedes, TerenceC. Reilly School No.7 currently Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy (Annex) Maria Hany Demian, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Jacob Dussan, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Kenji Estrella-Hiromitsu, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Lillian Marie Garcia, Robert Morris School No.18 Xavier Lorenzo Garcia, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Keyra Garcia Suarez, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Luna Valentina Mejicano Gomez, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Samantha Gonzalez Marcelo, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Sommer M. Guerra De Leon, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Micky-Ryan Patrick Haganey, Madison-Monroe School No. 16 Gari Rasiel Hernandez, Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25 Michelle Hernandez, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Brendon Lazarre, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Alexander Martins, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Alexandra Matos, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Izabela Matos, William F. Halloran School No.22 currently Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Yusairi Medina-Hiromitsu, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Tara Hope Michuki, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Aileen Marlene Montilla, Elmora School No. 12 Wendell D. Munoz, Terence C. Reilly School No.7 currently Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Leandro Zuriel Orellana Torres, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Camila Ospina, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Andrew Mathias Palacios, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7Max Alexander Pereira, Victor Mravlag School No. 21 Anabel Perez, Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3 currently Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Jeffrey Alexander Pineda, Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No.29 Abril Ramiro, Abraham Lincoln School No.14 currently Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Edelle Rapada, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Isabella Azeredo Rossi, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Isabella Rueda, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy David Silva, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Kenny Fabricio Sinchi, Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9 Cesar Sotelo, Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 currently Elizabeth High

School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Camila Suarez, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 Dante Costa Vella, William F. Halloran School No. 22 Melanie Vitorino-Pinto, William F. Halloran School No. 2, Kaitlyn Rocio Wilches, Terence C. Reilly School No. 7

Fall Athletics Postseason Honors Fall 2022 1st Team All-Conference Boys Cross Country Maximus Alexander Bonilla, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Christian Huilotl, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Sabastian Lopez, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Lucas Costa Reguinho, Union County Vocational-Technical High School Fall 2022 1st Team All-Conference Girls Cross Country Gabriela Cardona, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Joselyn Carranza, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Isabella Lopez, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Daphne Moya Manuel, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Fall 2022 1st Team All-Conference Boys Soccer Justin M. Cedeno, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Frank Lozano, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Brandon Quishpi-Aquiles, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Fall 2022 1st Team All-Conference Girls Soccer Giovanna Marie Echavarria, J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy Melissa Pires, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Fall 2022 1st Team All-Conference Girls Volleyball Aries Elyse Fontaine, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Fall 2022 1st Team All-Conference Football Dai'von Ahmier Davis, John E. Dwyer Technology Academy Thian Gerard Grimaud, J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy Fall 2022 2nd Team All-Conference Football Gerald K. Baker III, Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy Fall 2022 1st Team All-Union County Boys Cross Country Lucas Costa Reguinho, Union County Vocational-Technical High School Fall 2022 1st Team All-Union County Boys Soccer Justin M. Cedeno, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Brandon Quishpi-Aquiles, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Fall 2022 1st Team All-Union County Girls Volleyball Aries Elyse Fontaine, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Fall 2022 1st Team All-Union County Girls Soccer Melissa Pires, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Fall 2022 2nd Team All-Union County Boys Soccer Andy Alvarez, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Frank Lozano, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy

Fall 2022 2nd Team All-Union County Girls Volleyball Cayley E. Morrison, Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy Fall 2022 2nd Team All-Union County Boys Cross Country Maximus Alexander Bonilla, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Fall 2022 3rd Team All-Union County Girls Volleyball Jady Negrón, Union County Academy for Allied Health Sciences Fall 2022 2nd Team All State Boys Cross Country Lucas Costa Reguinho, Union County Vocational-Technical High School Fall 2022 3rd Team All State Boys Soccer Brandon Quishpi-Aquiles, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Fall 2022 1st team All-Group 4 Lucas Costa Reguinho, Union County Vocational-Technical High School Fall 2022 2nd Team All-Group 4 Boys Soccer Justin M. Cedeno, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Brandon Quishpi-Aquiles, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy 2022 All Union County Runner of the Year Lucas Costa Reguinho, Union County Vocational-Technical High School 2022 Union County Coach of the Year Boys Cross Country Jose Julio Dias 2022 Fall Mountain Division Champions EHS Boys Cross Country Maximus Alexander Bonilla, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Christian Huilotl, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Giuseppe Quaglia, Thomas A. Edison Career & Technical 9th Grade @ Charles Harris Academy Sabastian Lopez, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Lucas Costa Reguinho, Union

County Vocational-Technical High School Anthony Alexander Reyes, J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy Ahmad Faisal Afzali, John E. Dwyer Technology Academy David Duarte Antunes, Assistant Coach Boys Cross Country 2022 Fall Valley Division Champions EHS Girls Cross Country Gabriela Cardona, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Joselyn Carranza, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Zaraie Nylah Castillo, Union County Vocational-Technical High School Rosario Chavez, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Kayla Fernandez, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Isabella Lopez, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Daphne Moya Manuel, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Alexa Ramirez, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Sofia Belen Velez, Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Tiffany M. Vigil Centeno, Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy Michael R. Penta, Assistant Coach Girls Cross Country

Elizabeth High School Marching Band Daniela Acosta\* Angie N. Aleman\* Mia D. Alvarez Giancarlo Arcieri Dasha N. Arenas Jeremy Atencia Josue Aviles Ariel Eliseo Benitez Gabriel Ivan Caraballo Shilna Sarah Cassy Yaritza Castillo\* Ivelisse Jimena Chacach\* Izabella Nicole Chacach\* Joshua Chavarria Chaves Elena Corniel Mia Iriana Cortes\* Joseph Anthony Corticada Alexis Cruz Matthew Isaac Cueva Vera Nicholas Mauricio DaCunha Hannah Kayoung DeSousa Jasleen Diaz\* Steven Echeverria\* Jashley Espinal\* Javier Antonio Felix Matthew Nicolas Flechas Marisa Anais Fuentes Steven Gaitan Moises Miguel Garcia Stephanie Alexandra Garcia Kevin Gergely Jacqueline Gonzales\* Daniella Lizbeth Guevara Henry Guillen Jr. Franklin Guzman Jr. Alexa G. Herrera-Chavez\* Jaylin Hinestroza\* Daniela Ray Jimenez\* Nicole Latorre\* Andy J. Lebron Pedro Lefebre\* Kateri Jessel Mainato Faith S. Melendez Bryan Alexander Mesa Manuel Mesa Gabriela S. Meza\* Jonathan Andres Moncayo Brandon S. Mora Judith Morales Sabrina Moreira Ariana Moreno Francesca Elise Negron\* David Andres Ochoa Gabriel Alessandre Oliveira De Jesus Isabel Ortiz Gonzalez\* Joshua Alejandro Pagan Joshi Josue Pizha Anthony Ridel Pupo Angela Quaglia\* Jadalyn Starr Quinonez Fabrizio Luis Ramos Steve Ramos\* Sheleese LaQueen Reed\* Mia Valery Rios Rose Nellie Robles Valerie Rodriguez Julissa Romero\* Hector Rosa III Angel Manuel Rubio Bryanne Rubio-Retana Ashley Dayana Santos Dalia Henriques Sebastiao David Silva Anyeli Merry Soriano Cielo\* Luna M. Suarez\* Zaory Sumaria\* Eduardo Miguel Sumaria Cisneros Alejandra Tasso\* Jane Teran Alexandra Theresa Thomas Aaliyah Samantha Torres Aleshka Brigitte Urco Jonathan M. Valentin Chrissie R. Valverde\* Joyce R. Velasquez Angeline Alicia Wagner \* Members of EHS Color Guard.

EHS Marching Band Staff Miguel A. Bolivar, Band Director Mateo Acosta Jim Bogert Joe Brown Sharon Calixto Dave Caravella Israel Delgado Tyler V. Deverman Edward Doscher Bruna Esteves Tylor Furman Louis Hellinger Nicholas A. Ingeri Rebecca A. Ingeri Ryan A. Jaccoi Alex Xavier Moreno Melissa Jo Rowe Daquan Sessoms EHS Marching Band Parents Monica Acosta Paola Aleman Claudia Almeida Janice Arcieri Gisuppe Arcieri Kiisha Brown Velasquez Wilswick Cassy Ana Cisneros Erika Correa Gomez Alexandra Corticada & Family Rosana de Oliveira & Family Doris P. DeSousa Jason Diosa Elsa Feinglass Julissa Fernandez Keisha LaQueen Coleman Angela Moreno Milton Moreno Yamileth Osorio Claudia Patricia Perez Teresa Pupo Susan Incoronata Quaglia Nancy Retana Xiomara J. Robles Hector Rosa Jr. Ana Paula Sebastiao Rebeca Tasso Katherine Torres

Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy MCJROTC Drill Team  
Lolita Abreu Victoria Maria Alvarado Amanda Camargo Alves Caroli Crismel Patrocino Aybar  
Barthelemy Bozieux Maria Alejandra Garcia Cabana Jazlyn Capellan Ashley N. Carranza  
Kimberly Lucia Castro Guillermo Enrique Chavez Jason Steve Delcid Brian Luis Delgado Jayleen  
Arias Fernandez Brandon L. Figueroa Yeimi Flores Ivana Guerrero Samantha Hernandez Nelson  
Josue Hernandez Vasquez Gael Jean Marie Alondra Abigail Laines-Canales Jose L. Maldonado  
Sebastian Mateo I Jonathan Matos Aniyah Monet Murrell-Sanders Ingrid Osorio Pamela Sujeidy  
Pereyra Lilliana Pertuz Jordan Steve Sevilla Kaiden Amelia Valentin-Sloan Jetzan J. Vicens

Superintendent of Schools, Olga Hugelmeyer began a tribute and recognition ceremony for Mr. Luis Couto. Mrs. Hugelmeyer referenced an article from Forbes Magazine from 2019 which spoke about Legacy – How do you wish to be remembered after you have left a job? How do you want to be remembered as a leader? The true measure of a Leader is what impact, what difference did you make and what lives did you touch of the people you worked with? A true leader makes it a better place to work by your everyday actions and the decisions you make. A leader reflects on core values, beliefs, standards and expectations. Leaders act as a compass that anchor you in the moment but guides and propels you forward. Mr. Couto has created a work environment that is positive and built on trust. He set the tone for a culture whereby positivity and trust were the norms. The Forbes Article states that a culture shift is set one person at a time. Therefore, every interaction with every person builds trust and positivity or diminishes it. Mr. Couto built that trust and positivity. A sum of these interactions adds up to a work environment and culture that allows people to thrive. Mr. Couto uses gifts and talents that makes the difference in the lives of others. A person's legacy begins on Day One (1) and built one day at a time, one month at a time and one year at a time. Mr. Couto your legacy has twenty-seven chapters, and we are so grateful for those years.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer played a condensed video of tribute and thanks from multiple teachers, staff and administrators from across the district. A copy of the full video would be presented to Mr. Couto and his family.

At the conclusion of the video, Mrs. Hugelmeyer asked Board Member Mr. Stanley Neron, to read the Resolution honoring Mr. Couto, for his twenty-seven (27) years of service, to the Elizabeth Public Schools. This resolution would be incorporated into the official record of tonight's meeting.

Board Member, Maria Carvalho presented Mr. Couto with a plaque commemorating his time with the Elizabeth Public Schools.

Mr. Frank Cuesta, Chief of Operations, had the honor of giving Mr. Couto the Key to the City of Elizabeth Public Schools.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega then asked Student Representative Miss Verma to give a community update. Miss Verma stated that at Frank J Cicarell Academy hosted a Lip Sync Battle in November with the Senior Class taking home the win. They will also be hosting a Talent and Multi-Cultural Fashion Show to highlight the diversity within the school. Halsey Academy will be hosting a Polar Express Movie night on December 17<sup>th</sup> that will be open to the public. Dwyer and Halsey

Academies will also be having their own Gingerbread House making competitions. Dwyer Academy will be hosting a college fair for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). Students from both Dwyer and Halsey Academies are pleased with the installation of the new lockers. Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy had an Enchanted Garden Dance the prior week. They will be hosting an Annie Movie Night with proceeds going to Charity. Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy hosted a Painting night where students and faculty members worked together on Holiday paintings. In addition, they will be holding an Alumni/Student Volleyball game. Miss Verma thanked the Board for allowing her to give this Community Update report.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega then asked Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely to present a resolution. Mrs. Bathelus Dorgerly then read a resolution honoring Janet Forte for her twenty-six, (26) years of dedicated service, especially the last seventeen (17), where she served as the Confidential Administrative Secretary to the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary. This resolution was to be made part of the official minutes of this meeting. She thanked Janet for her efficiency, but most of all for her kindness and generosity. The cards and notes she sent over the years marking milestones in Mrs. Dorgerly's life were always so much appreciated. She wished Miss Forte a very happy retirement.

Mrs. Moreno Ortega thanked Board Co-Counsel, Jonathan Williams for all his hard work and dedication to the Board. She was especially grateful for the help he had given her during her term as president. He will be missed! Commissioner Jerry Jacobs added his thanks to Mr. Williams. He was happy that he was able to both develop a business and personal relationship with Mr. Williams. Mr. Jacobs thanked him for his guidance and help navigating the perils that the Board faces as they do their job. Mr. Williams was very helpful during Covid and was only a phone call away and never failed to answer and/or return a call. Mr. Jacobs was sorry to see him go but he believes everyone needs a break and needs to enjoy their retirement.

Mr. Neron also congratulated all the retirees and thanked Mr. Couto and Ms. Forte for all they had done for the Elizabeth Schools. Further he stated that working with Mr. Williams was a privilege and that he had served as a counselor, a mentor and a friend. He encouraged Mr. Williams to enjoy life and live each day to the fullest.

Mrs. Moreno Ortega then invited Board Member, Nathalie Alcaide Hernandez, to make some remarks. Mrs. Alcaide Hernandez added her thanks and gratitude to our retirees. With a grateful heart she announced that this was her last meeting as her term had ended. She had joined the board not for rewards, recognition or accolades, but rather she wanted to be part of something bigger than herself. By joining the Board, she wanted to bring positive change and be a "Role Model" for the students of Elizabeth. Mrs. Alcaide Hernandez thanked the Teachers, Staff members, Custodians, Security Guards, parents and students for your unwavering support during her term on the Board. Lastly to the students, the most important people in the school district, I remind you that tomorrow is not promised to anyone. Always wake up with both feet firmly on the ground, humble, strong and confident that you can overcome any obstacle that gets in the way of your dreams!

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega called for Mr. Kennedy to read the following public participation statement:

"At this time, the microphones are open for public comment to those who have personally signed in prior to this session. I shall call individuals to the microphone based on the order of the

sign-in. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes in duration. The time limit will be strictly enforced, and audio transmission will be terminated at the end of three minutes. The total time of public comment shall be limited to 60 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 participation 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. The presiding officer may: interrupt, warn or terminate a participant's statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant; request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum; request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting; call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action. As a reminder this is a meeting of the Board in public, not a meeting of the public."

Mr. Kennedy called upon the first public participant, Elisa Gonzalez, to address the Board.

Elisa Gonzalez, Elizabeth, spoke about a classroom problem at school.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega thanked her for her comments.

Mr. Kennedy called upon the next public participant, Maria Lorenz, to address the Board.

Maria Lorenz, Elizabeth, spoke about special education.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega thanked her for her comments.

Mr. Kennedy called upon the next public participant, Justin Pines, to address the Board.

Justin Pines, Garfield, spoke about an incident.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega thanked him for his comments.

Since there were no other public participants signed in to address the Board, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega closed this portion of the meeting.

Mrs. Bathelus Dorgery inquired of Mr. Kennedy how many other speakers were left to speak. Mr. Kennedy responded that two speakers had signed up after the start of the meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely, seconded by Mrs. Alcaide-Hernandez, to allow two additional public participants to speak.

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Affirmative: Mmes. Alcaide-Hernandez, Bathelus Dorgely – 2

Negative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Chevres, Messrs. Jacobs, Neron, Mmes. Goncalves Pestana, Moreno-Ortega – 7

Having not received the required number of votes, the motion did not pass:

Board President Rosa Moreno-Ortega requested a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for discussion of personnel matters, specifically, interviews and reorganization, terminations M.P., A.C.; workers' compensation matters, specifically S.F. The Board will reconvene in public and may add to the agenda.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, to go into private session at 9:26 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Alcaide-Hernandez, Barbosa, Carvalho, Chevres, Bathelus Dorgely, Messrs. Jacobs, Neron, Mmes. Goncalves Pestana, Moreno-Ortega – 9

Negative: None

Mrs. Alcaide-Hernandez excused herself from the meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Mrs. Goncalves Pestana excused herself from the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely and Mr. Jacobs excused themselves from the meeting at 12:05 a.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, to reconvene in public session at 12:10 a.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Chevres, Mr. Neron, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega – 5

Negative: None

Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely and Mr. Jacobs returned to the meeting at 12:12 a.m.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega called for School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr. to add additional items to the agenda.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the following items need to be added to the agenda:

Resolution – Appointment of School Safety Coordinators Herbert Louis Hayward, Jr. and

Christopher Lawrence Lawand

Resolution – Termination of Employment M.A.P.

Resolution- Termination of Employment A.A.P.C.

Resolution- Reorganizational/Personnel Action

Resolution- Appointment of Interim Principal – John A. Markowitz

Mrs. Hugelmeyer 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.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer 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.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked for a motion and second to adopt the following agenda:

Minutes of the Meeting of November 22, 2022

Secretary/Treasurer's Report for the Month of October 2022

Personnel Report

Supplemental Personnel Report

Tuition Report

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

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

Authorization Report

Supplemental Authorization Report

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers

Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

Award of Contracts Report

Supplemental Award of Contracts Report

Miscellaneous Communication - None

Claims List

Resolution – School Board Recognition Month

Resolution – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Resolution – Requisition for Taxes

Resolution - Appointing BSN Sports and George 1 Heider, Inc. t/a Sportsman for Sports Equipment.

Resolution- Accepting Purchase Order for 5 Out of Service School Buses through Public Sale

Resolution – Transfer of Capital Reserve Funds

Resolution – Transfer of Maintenance Reserve Funds

Resolution – Renewing Contract with Max Plumbing for Snow Plowing/Removal Services

Resolution –Appointing TEQUIPMENT Inc., to Furnish & Deliver Smartboards to Technology Dept.

Resolution – Remembrance -Rosemary Grillo

Resolution – Remembrance -Christine Lucia

Resolution - Remembrance – Kathryn Huber

Resolution- Remembrance – Nancy Simon

Resolution- Honoring Luis R. Couto

Resolution- Honoring Janet Forte

Resolution-Appointment of School Safety Coordinators Herbert Louis Hayward, Jr. & Christopher Lawrence Lawand  
Resolution – Termination of Employment M.A.P.  
Resolution- Termination of Employment A.A.P.C.  
Resolution- Reorganizational/Personnel Action  
Resolution- Appointment of Interim Principal – John A. Markowitz

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, to adopt the above agenda.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Chevres, Bathelus Dorgely, Messrs. Jacobs, Neron (abstain- Supplemental Personnel Report –George Mikros), Mrs. Moreno-Ortega – 7  
Negative: None

Mrs. Bathelus Dorgely stated she wanted to vote affirmative on the entire agenda. The vote is duly recorded.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked if any Board members have questions or comments.

On a motion made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 a.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Chevres, Bathelus Dorgely, Messrs. Jacobs, Neron, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega – 7  
Negative: None

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