

APPROVED
Bd. Mtg. 8-16-23

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

July 19th, 2023
Elizabeth, New Jersey

Prior to the start of the regular agenda/business meeting of the Board of Education, which was held on July 19th, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at Donald Stewart Early Childhood Center School No. 51, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth NJ., the following performances were enjoyed by the Board, administrators and members of the public.

“Plena Criolla”

Mrs. Diosa Alvelaez, Arianna Haydee Severino Reyes, Vanyelis Natalia Vega Diaz, Maria Paola Henao and Carol Natalia Romero Lopez

Columbian Intro

Valerie Del Pilar Mateus, Oscarsantiago Mateus and Rodrigo Tello

“San Juanero”

Mrs. Ximena Andrea Vanegas, Jhosue Sabastian Mina Sanchez, Maria Paula Hernandez Martinez,
Eilyn Nicolle Sanchez Cardona, Jacob Vasco Sanchez

“La Pollera”

Mrs. Monica Gabriela Luzardo, Sebastian Alfonso Castellanos Mata,
Sherlyn Valeria Arboleda Hidalgo, Emmanuel Tamayo Arenas and Sharik Johana Rengifo Martinez

“Cali Pachanguero”

Mrs. Evelyn S. Hernandez,

Board President Iliana Chevres welcomed everyone to the July 19th, 2023, regular agenda/business meeting of the Elizabeth Board of Education.

Mrs. Chevres called the meeting to order and read the following statement at 6:55 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a combined regular agenda and 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 July 13th, 2023. 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 at Donald Stewart Early Childhood Center School No. 51 and to our television viewers to the July 19th, 2023, 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: Mmes. Barbosa (arrived at 7:00 p.m.) Carvalho, Dorgely (arrived at 7:50 p.m.), Messrs. Jacobs, Neron, Mmes. Moreno-Ortega, Goncalves Pestana (via on-line platform), Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Chevres-9
Absent: None

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Schools, Judy Finch Johnson, Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta, Comptroller Rajeev Malhotra, Deputy Counsel Heather Ford, and Co-General Counsel Edward Kologi of Kologi Simitz Law Office, Esq., and members of the community were present.

A Moment of Silence was held in memory of Joseph C. Dering, General Worker at Alexander Hamilton Preparatory School.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Stan Neron.

The Star-Spangled Banner was played.

The Colombian National Anthem – “Himno Nacional de la Republica de Colombia by Rafael Nunez was played.

The Pledge of Ethics was led by Mrs. Moreno-Ortega

Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy read the following public participation statement:

Citizens may address the Board.

“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 microphone 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 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:

1. Time limits will be strictly enforced.
2. No personal attacks on individuals.
3. No vulgar or indecent language.
4. A person may address the Board no more than once during a single meeting.
5. Speakers should refrain from naming individuals.
6. Comments or questions posed during public participation will not be debated.

The presiding officer may:

1. Interrupt, warn or terminate a participant’s statement when the statement is too lengthy, personally directed, abusive, obscene, or irrelevant.
2. Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum.
3. 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.
4. 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.”

Mrs. Chevres called upon the first public participant, Maria Medeiros, to address the Board.

Mrs. Medeiros spoke about the Opening of School in the Fall.
Mrs. Chevres thanked her for her comments.

Mrs. Chevres called upon the next public participant, Hwayda Hemaïd, to address the Board.

Ms. Hemaïd spoke about the District Holiday Calendar.
Mrs. Chevres thanked her for her comments.

Since there were no other public participants signed up to address the Board, Mrs. Chevres closed this portion of the meeting.

Board President Iliana Chevres then asked Superintendent Hugelmeyer to present her report to the community.

Mrs. Goncalves Pestana left the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer announced that eight (8) Elizabeth Public Schools received Gold Awards from Safe Routes to School. This program is sponsored by the NJ. Department of Transportation with funding provided by the Federal Highway Administration, encourages pedestrian, bicycle, and bus safety in and around schools. The following Schools were recipients of this prestigious award.

- School # 2 Winfield Scott
- School # 4 Joseph Battin
- School # 22 William F. Halloran
- School # 25 Sonia Sotomayor
- School # 28 Juan Pablo Duarte-Jose Julian Marti
- John E. Dwyer Technology Academy
- Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy
- Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy

The Superintendent presented a series of slides highlighting the end dates of the 2023 World of Summer Programs:

- July 21st -Marine Corps JROTC (Review and Refresher) 9-12
- July 27th – Summer Arts Institute K-11/ESL Enrichment K-11/SPELL Transition Program for ELLs K-1/ Mathematics Virtual Tutoring 4-12/The World of Languages 9-12
- July 31st – Marine Corps JROTC (New Join Orientation) 9-12
- August 1st – Extended School Year PK-12/ Summer School Remediation 9-12/ Summer School Advanced Credit 9-11 / APEX Learning 9-12
- August 3rd – Rising Kindergarten Literacy Program K/ Promotion/Retention K-8/Youth Athletic Program 1-8
- August 4th – Sports Camps 9-12
- August 11th – Special Needs Recreation 1-8

Mrs. Hugelmeyer announced that the Summer High School Graduation Ceremony will be held on August 2nd at the Thomas G. Dunn Sports Center. Invitations will be sent out next week to the families of the graduates.

Welcome Back letters will be sent out by each school principal the week of August 21st to each of their respective families with important information for the start of the 2023-2024 School Year.

As of August 21st, parents/guardians will have access to their children's class schedule for the upcoming School Year through Power School. Tutorials on the use of Power School will be made available online.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer also announced that it is imperative per New Jersey Department of Health regulations, students born after January 1, 1997, and enrolled in sixth grade have their TDAP and Menactra vaccines for the 2023/2024 School Year. Students may use their own personal physician or avail themselves of Clinics in the Elizabeth area. The School Nurse at each building can provide information on Clinics and answer questions related to these vaccines.

The Superintendent also announced that the City of Elizabeth through its Department of Health and Human Services/Public Health Nursing will be holding a Free Immunization Clinic at the Peterstown Community Center 418 Palmer St. It is by appointment only, for children ages 2 months – 18 years and is only for Elizabeth residents who qualify. To make an appointment and/or to see if you qualify, please visit elizabethnjvaccine.org.

Mrs. Chevres thanked the Superintendent for the updates. She then asked for a motion to go into private session.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho and seconded by Mr. Jacobs to go into private session at 7:25 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Messrs. Jacobs, Neron, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Chevres -7

Negative: none

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho and seconded by Mr. Rivera to return to public session at 11:15 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Dorgely, Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Neron, Rivera, Mrs. Chevres -7

Negative: none

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The following items were added to the agenda:

Settlement Agreement A.S. and R.S o/b/o G.S.

Resolution - Appointment of Acting Director of Plant & Property - Luis Milanés

Resolution - Appointment of Acting Principal School #50 – Linda Trebino

Resolution - Reorganization and Job Descriptions

Resolution – Settlement of Workers Compensation G.L.

Second Reading of Policies:

- 3327 Policy Relations with Vendors
- 3542.31 Policy Free or Reduced -Price Lunches/Milk
- 5131.5 Policy Vandalism/Violence
- 6145.3 Policy Publications

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. Chevres asked for a motion and second to adopt the following agenda.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho and seconded by Mr. Jacobs to approve the agenda.

Opening Calendar

Official and Private Minutes (May 31, 2023, June 10, 14, 2023)

Treasurer/Secretary’s Report (May 31, 2023)

Personnel Report

Supplemental Personnel Report

Tuitions Report

Superintendent's Reports

Authorizations Report

Finance and Accounting Report

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report

Award of Contracts Report

Supplemental Award of Contracts Report

Claims List

Resolutions:

Custodian of Records – Harold E. Kennedy, Jr.

Deferred Compensation Plan Administrator - Harold E. Kennedy, Jr.

Public Agency Compliance Officer 2023-2024 - Harold E. Kennedy, Jr.

Section 504 Officer – Anthony DiDonato

Affirmative Action Officer 2023-2024 – Samuel Etienne
India’s Independence Day
Appointment of Homeless Liaison – Vito Mazza
Adoption of Revised Policies
Insurance Coverage 2023-2024 (Liability-Property-Excess Workers’ Comp)
Appointing D&H – Third Party Administrator 2023-2024
Appointing First MCO – Managed Care 2023-2024
Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Capital Reserve
Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Maintenance Reserve
Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Emergency Reserve
Adoption of Superintendent’s Goals 2023-2024
Adopt Board Goals 2023-2024
Qualifying and Appointing Professional Consultants in Connection with Board Self Evaluation
Settlement Agreement – D.C.
Requisition for Taxes
U.C.E.S.C. 2023-2024 Special Education Tuition Agreement
Appointing Stepping Stones Group LLC – Speech Therapy
Appointing Trinitas Children’s Therapy Services/RWJ Barnabas Health – Therapy Services
Appointing Starlight Home Care Agency, Inc. – Individual Nursing Services
Appointing Homecare Therapies, LLC - Individual Nursing Services
Appointing Compu-Vision Consulting, Inc. – School Trip Substitute Nursing Services
Appointing Homecare Therapies, LLC - School Trip Substitute Nursing Services
Appointing United Sales USA Corporate – Chemical Cleaning Supply Items
Payment for Unused Vacation Days
Payment for Unused Sick Days
Appointing Atlas Search Health Solutions, LLC - School Trip Substitute Nursing Services
Renewal of Royal Printing Services – District Printing & Mailing Services
Renewal of Royal Printing Services – District Print Publications
Renewal of School Bus Contracts
Transfer of Capital Reserve Funds
Transfer of Maintenance Reserve Funds
Workers’ Comp Settlement – G.L.
Appointment of Acting Director of Plant, Property & Equipment – Luis Milanes
Appointment of Acting Principal of ECC School No. 50 – Linda M. Trebino
Reorganization – Personnel Action
Settlement Agreement – A.S. and R.S. o/b/o G.S.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Barbosa, Mrs. Carvalho (Abstain from Resolution appointing Vito Mazza), Mrs. Dorgely, Mr. Jacobs, Mr. Neron (Abstain from Resolution appointing Vito Mazza), Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Chevres (abstain Tab 4B – Puerto Rico Alliance and Resolution appointing Luis Milanes) -8

Negative: none

Mrs. Chevres asked if any Board members have questions or comments. Being none, she asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion made by Mrs. Carvalho seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, the meeting was adjourned at 11:27 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Barbosa, Carvalho, Dorgely, Messrs. Jacobs, Neron, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Rivera, Mrs. Chevres -8

Negative: none

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