

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

August 4, 2015
Elizabeth, New Jersey

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called on August 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m., in the Multi Purpose Room, Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Ana Maria Amin presented the following statement at 6:25 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. 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 Worrall Community Newspapers, The Star Ledger, and Cablevision of Elizabeth on Thursday, July 30 2015. 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 4, 2015 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 evening 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 one hour prior to the advertised 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: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 8

Absent: Mr. Rodriguez – 1

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Schools Linda Seniszyn, Interim Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer Ceden, Assistant Board Secretary Donald Goncalves, Comptroller William Greene, Supervising General Counsel/Board Attorney Marvin Lehman, and members of the public were in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Ethics

Core Beliefs and Commitments Video

Board President Amin 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.”

Mrs. Amin called upon the first public participant, Patricia Gallante, to address the Board.

Patricia Gallante, 750 Grier Avenue, spoke about the high schools.

Mrs. Amin thanked her for her comments. Mrs. Amin called upon the next public participant, Maria Lorenz, to address the Board.

Maria Lorenz, 103 Murray Street, spoke about special services.

Mrs. Amin thanked her for her comments. Mrs. Amin called upon the next public participant, Giovanna LaRosa, to address the Board.

Giovanna LaRosa, 532 Second Avenue, spoke about the schools and transportation for high school students.

Mrs. Amin thanked her for her comments. Mrs. Amin called upon the next public participant, Christina Moreira, to address the Board.

Christina Moreira, 805 Gebhardt Avenue, spoke about field trips, residency, and laptops.

Mrs. Amin thanked her for her comments. Mrs. Amin called upon the next public participant, Donald Goncalves, to address the Board.

Donald Goncalves, 815 Magie Avenue, spoke about the circus atmosphere by some members of the public at the meetings, vile social media attacks, and cyber-bullying of his family.

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

Mr. Monteiro stated that he has known our Assistant Board Secretary Donald Goncalves a long time and a good part of his life. Mr. Monteiro stated that he hopes everyone understands what this Board of Education has faced since our January 7, 2015 reorganization meeting when it was clear that day that politics were injected clearly into this Board of Education. Mr. Monteiro stated that unjustly and unfairly on that particular night began with certain members of this Board going ahead and firing an entire Legal Department and it wasn't going to end there. Mr. Monteiro stated that night was just the beginning of what was to come and it was our understanding that there was a list that many others were going to be removed from the Board of Education, not because they did anything wrong or because of the division of the Board but only because people saw fit to bring that vile political based hatred here to the Board of Education. Mr. Monteiro stated that what Donald Goncalves is experiencing now many of us have been experiencing for the past several months. Mr. Monteiro stated that all of this has taken place and most of it on social media and something that those of you who are familiar with FaceBook and

Twitter. Mr. Monteiro stated that certain members come here to every single one of our meetings and sit here and pontificate of all the bad things that are going on here at the Board of Education and that's one thing. Mr. Monteiro stated that all of us are elected and all of us understand the politics, the ugliness, and we are big boys and girls and we can take that but then they start to attack your family, and they attack Donald Goncalves' daughter. Mr. Monteiro stated that just this past Monday he was supposed to attend a court hearing with our legal counsel and he couldn't make that meeting because the night before his wife fell and broke her arm which required her to have surgery the next day. Mr. Monteiro stated that she couldn't drive herself to that surgery but yet he has to read on Twitter from Mrs. Maria Lorenz her vile Twitter attacks and quoted Maria Lorenz, "Tony Monteiro couldn't make a meeting, why was his wife giving labor, what's so bad about a broken wrist?" Mr. Monteiro stated that this is the kind of people that come to our meetings and these are the kind of people that are now trying to support candidates for the Board of Education that have no place up here. Mr. Monteiro stated that he wants the people at home to understand this once and for all that they are running candidates for the Board of Education who have no children in the school system. Mr. Monteiro stated that he doesn't and he has always professed his reason for being up here because for years his public service and his love for this City speaks for itself. Mr. Monteiro stated that eight years as a City Councilmember, multiple years as a committee member, and many years as a Board of Education member. Mr. Monteiro stated that he fights and he has no children in the school system but he fights to keep the politicians' hands off of our Board of Education. Mr. Monteiro stated that he fights that the Mayor stops trying to take over this Board of Education and putting in members that he chooses that have no business and no care in the world to see that this Board of Education continues all the progress that it has had for the past twelve years. Mr. Monteiro stated that worst of all is to see the vile attacks on our family and there is no place for that here on anyone of us and not for anyone of us to go on social media and see these attacks. Mr. Monteiro stated that they are here tonight, Mrs. Lorenz, and Miss Cunha who just filed an ethics complaint against him. Mr. Monteiro stated that they filed an ethics complaint against him to the State which is ok because somewhere in the past couple of months, Mrs. Moreira, Mrs. Lorenz sent him a personal email. Mr. Monteiro stated that they sent an email to his personal email, Tmonteiro1@aol.com and all of you can have it and send him an email. Mr. Monteiro stated that they sent him a personal email. Mr. Monteiro stated that on Mother's Day, he, in kind, responded to all those he has on his email directory and all those who ever sent him a personal email, not to his Board of Education email, not to a private account but to his personal email (at which time he was interrupted).

Mr. Neron stated that with all due respect he thinks Mr. Monteiro has principals here that need to be appointed. Mr. Neron stated that Mr. Monteiro is making it very clear that this is personal.

Mr. Monteiro stated that it is very personal to him. Mr. Monteiro stated that he doesn't take a salary to be here and he gives up his time to be here away from his family and his wife who is home with a broken wrist. Mr. Monteiro stated that this is personal to him and when Christina Moreira comes up to a meeting and it is offensive what they do. Mr. Monteiro stated that they come as hypocrites and complain that the Elizabeth Board of Education will spend thousands of dollars on legal fees and they will say that we spend money on legal fees. Mr. Monteiro stated that they will file an ethics charge with the State of New Jersey that Board member Tony Monteiro sent you a Happy Mother's Day email and then you send it to the State. Mr. Monteiro stated that the Board of Education legal counsel has to defend that and more money is spent on legal fees. Mr. Monteiro stated that they know that and yet they want to keep calling us out on that. Mr. Monteiro stated that they want to file false, frivolous, baseless accusations against the Board of Education. Mr. Monteiro stated that they, as well as many members on this Board, have yet to propose any solutions, any ideas that will move this district forward. Mr. Monteiro stated that this district has been at a standstill.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if he was talking about her.

Mr. Monteiro responded no he is talking about anyone. Mr. Monteiro stated that this district has been at a standstill for the past eight months and for eight months this district has been boxed in and where we don't want to be. Mr. Monteiro stated that for the past eight months all this district does is have to fend off OPRA requests, frivolous, baseless accusations of ethics charges filed by certain parents and they know they are frivolous and they know they are baseless. Mr. Monteiro stated that then they want to take to Twitter, FaceBook, and social media bashing the Board. Mr. Monteiro asked if you have ever heard of them ever putting up any positive ideas, any solutions, anything. Mr. Monteiro stated that when Board member Mr. Rodriguez ran for office he said it was about high school dropouts and he was going to door to door and find out why they dropped out. Mr. Monteiro stated that he hasn't gone and hasn't proposed one solution. Mr. Monteiro stated that no one has and it is unfortunate. Mr. Monteiro stated that we have incredible staff members, principals, vice principals, and supervisors who do an incredible job for this district and it is unfortunate that they have to hear the bashing of the Board rather than all the great attributes and all the great accolades that are taking place here in the City of Elizabeth. Mr. Monteiro stated that he is tired of it and he wasn't even planning to run and then he saw how vile and how much hatred that the Mayor and these so-called community activists are coming up here attacking the Board think they have. Mr. Monteiro stated that the election is November 3rd. Mr. Monteiro stated that all of you could have run for office and not one of you did, not Ms. Gallante, Mrs. Lorenz, not Ms. Paloma, and not Mrs. Moreira and not one of you did. Mr. Monteiro stated that he has stood up here and he is going to run again and he is doing it for the children and he is doing it for this district. Mr. Monteiro stated that he is not going to stop and we are going to continue to make a difference. Mr. Monteiro stated that if anyone wants to come up here and continue to attack, continue to make false and faceless accusations and an attack on a good friend's daughter and you will get me irritated and upset and he will defend them.

Mr. Trujillo thanked everyone who took the time to come here tonight and take an interest in our district. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has known Mr. Goncalves for several years now and has had the pleasure of working with him and he knows he has a wonderful family. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has always supported the fact that he continues to live here in the town that you work in and raise your family here. Mr. Trujillo stated that he is sure that Mr. Goncalves has had more than one opportunity to move and has decided to stay here and he commends him. Mr. Trujillo stated that he doesn't think he should be attacked personally, quite frankly, he is just another employee of this district as so many are. Mr. Trujillo stated that he could understand the criticism of himself because he decided to become an elected official and serve his community and he guesses it is fair game not that he appreciates the personal attacks on him or his family but he is sure that too will pass. Mr. Trujillo stated that his concern is the perception that there is this issue that really doesn't exist and for the last year or so he continues to hear the concerns of a small group of people who are hell-bent on coming here and disrupting the meetings. Mr. Trujillo stated that he appreciates and even supports their right to have an opinion and to come here. Mr. Trujillo stated that he has constantly and always said that since he has been here on day one and that he wants the public participation and this room should always be filled because what we do is that important. Mr. Trujillo stated that we are developing the lives of children and what we do here impacts so many lives that it is important. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is a shame that more people don't come. Mr. Trujillo stated that although he disagrees with a lot of what they are saying because he doesn't believe it is true he does support their right to come here. Mr. Trujillo stated that he doesn't appreciate the personal attacks but that is within their character and within their rights. Mr. Trujillo stated that this is America and you have a right to do that and he accepts that as an elected official. Mr. Trujillo stated that his concern is the perception when accusations are made that we are not doing enough for a certain group of children he thinks that sends the wrong message. Mr. Trujillo stated that anyone can come up here, prepare a statement, and make accusations and not back it up. Mr. Trujillo stated that he prides himself on being one of the most accessible elected officials in this City and he wants to communicate with his community constantly and he wants to hear the feedback. Mr. Trujillo stated that his best is probably social media and that's the one that works for him but he is constantly giving out his personal cell phone

number and encourages people to call him and some do but many don't. Mr. Trujillo stated that it is not a bad thing because what is happening is we don't have the complaints we used to have. Mr. Trujillo stated that our problems now are good problems and he explained why. Mr. Trujillo stated that when he was first elected the first meeting he attended was a Properties Committee Meeting and he remembers the superintendent discussing how much of a success the lower and upper academies were and how the children in the high school who excelled at higher levels were pulled out and were successful in a smaller community. Mr. Trujillo stated that he asked the obvious question why we don't do that somewhere else. Mr. Trujillo stated that at the time we were redistricting and we were getting away from the middle school model because our middle schools were atrocious and we were failing at the middle school horribly and parents were afraid after fifth grade to send their children to middle schools like Roosevelt, Cleveland, Battin, and Hamilton. Mr. Trujillo stated that they were horrible with constant fighting and a bad situation and we were in the process of redistricting. Mr. Trujillo stated that the superintendent said to him that if we did that and we set the standard at 3.0 as a GPA to get into the upper academy we don't have enough children excelling at that level to fill a high school. Mr. Trujillo stated that in turn we had to lower the standard because we at the Board of Education understood if we took kids out of the main complex that at the time was 6,000 students, and we all know what a terrible situation it was with the fights after school, that it was a good idea to continue to expand the smaller high school method and break it up. Mr. Trujillo stated that Hamilton was created and originally it was supposed to be the old Mabel G. Holmes building at the time but because of the way the lines and the way the population was drawn in Elizabeth we couldn't do it there so it became Hamilton. Mr. Trujillo stated that the problem that we have today is that Hamilton has become such a success that now the grammar schools in the neighborhood model with the extended day have succeeded and are pushing out so many kids that are excelling at higher levels that now we have too many children at a 3.0 GPA or better. Mr. Trujillo stated that we can't accommodate them at another school and the demand and the wait is a long time. Mr. Trujillo stated that he understands the frustration of parents who want nothing but the best for children because he is a father of two children and he wants nothing but the best for them. Mr. Trujillo stated that when we are not able to accommodate them it is just as frustrating to hear the phone call of a parent who applied to the lower academy or Hamilton and not be able to have a spot and it's tough to hear. Mr. Trujillo stated that doesn't mean the children are going to stop excelling and we have enough children now to fill another school and we are going to get another school. Mr. Trujillo stated that we are building another high school on East Jersey Street and when that school is open we will be able to accommodate another 700+ children. Mr. Trujillo stated that we are in the right direction. Mr. Trujillo stated that although he appreciates the fact that they come and participate and they want to voice their opinion and even want to try to organize a group he has to disagree because we are heading in the right direction. Mr. Trujillo stated that the proof is in itself. Mr. Trujillo stated that he remembers when they told us we couldn't put all the children in uniforms and now we have 26,000 students in uniforms and other districts are doing that now. Mr. Trujillo stated that when we broke up the high school they told us that wouldn't work either and it's just not true because now they are being nationally recognized. Mr. Trujillo stated that when we changed the graduation standards they told us no because more kids would fail and now we are graduating more children than ever. Mr. Trujillo stated that sure kids drop out and asked do they all make it and are we perfect and stated that no we are not. Mr. Trujillo stated that if we were perfect we wouldn't need to be here and the fact that we continue to work and we continue to find talented people, true leaders and put them in leadership roles and empower them to move the district forward and that takes time. Mr. Trujillo stated that we didn't turn this district around one day to another but he can tell you one thing that can happen. Mr. Trujillo stated that we could destroy it if we don't continue to buy into the vision that we are going to be one day not just the number one in the State but the number one in the country. Mr. Trujillo stated that we have to really buy into that and that is a lot of hard work and dedication and he believes that over the years we have supported enough people within this district and found these people who are true professionals who really believe in education, love what they do, love our children and who are capable to do that and reach that goal. Mr. Trujillo stated that many are here tonight and to belittle them and to say that they are not doing enough is unfair. Mr. Trujillo stated that it

wouldn't be fair for him to just sit here and just let them try to destroy something. Mr. Trujillo stated that we live here and raise our families here and we don't come from another town to criticize Elizabeth. Mr. Trujillo stated that we stay here, we are from Elizabeth, and we love Elizabeth and that is why we do what we do. Mr. Trujillo stated that none of these Board members get paid and they sacrifice their time away from their families and they do it out of passion and love for their City. Mr. Trujillo stated that although we can disagree the work has to continue. Mr. Trujillo stated that what he is trying to tell them is don't expect to come here and just challenge the Board and its work and just arbitrarily make up things and not expect to be challenged back because quite frankly he has been here long enough to know where we have come and we've turned this district around and we are in the right direction.

Mrs. Carvalho apologized to Mr. Monteiro for interrupting when he was speaking. Mrs. Carvalho responded to Mr. Goncalves and stated that she has spoken to him about this and his family does not deserve to be attacked on any social media site. Mrs. Carvalho stated that she knows it very well because everyone in her family has been attacked but she signed up for this. Mrs. Carvalho stated that Mr. Goncalves did not and for that she does apologize. Mrs. Carvalho stated that everything else that is going on up here tonight is about politics and we are here to do the business of the people.

Personnel Report – Leaves of Absence, etc.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

Ms. Bathelus stated that someone is resigning on September 21 and school is supposed to be starting based on the calendar September 1. Ms. Bathelus stated that the person is only going to be working for ten days and asked why we are hiring someone to work the first ten days of the month and then transfer someone else to begin a new class.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained that the individual is resigning and the effective date is September 21.

Ms. Bathelus asked why we are not allowing her to resign prior to the beginning of the school year.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that is the date in which she indicated and it is a personnel matter she cannot discuss it in public.

Ms. Bathelus stated that there are twenty-four transfers and asked why there are so many transfers in August and why didn't we do the transfers back in June when school was over. Ms. Bathelus asked why we are letting teachers leave their teaching positions and going into the teacher tutor position. Ms. Bathelus stated that there are eight teachers who are moving to a teacher tutor interventionist.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained that at the June Board meeting the Board approved the posting for a Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant (LDTC) and we posted for the position and had three candidates apply who were hired for the position in the Division of Special Services. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that in order to be able to support the Intervention and Referral Support Services in our schools we are filling those positions to ensure that we do not have a gap on the first day of school with teacher tutor positions. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that those are the eight positions that were approved by the Board as part of the budget and were initially approved as a Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that after posting we had only three applicants and we wanted to ensure that the proper training is provided and we are successful to start on the first day of school with these positions filled.

Ms. Bathelus stated that also leaves open the position they had prior.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have successfully filled those positions.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Abstain: Ms. Bathelus – 1

Negative: None

Mrs. Carvalho stated that she wants it on the record that at the last meeting she was here she voted no on this and the reason was because these things were not clear and they are clear now. Mrs. Carvalho stated that now she is voting yes so all the social media can relax tomorrow.

Mr. Monteiro stated that he has all faith and confidence in the Superintendent in all her recommendations in transfer and positions on the Personnel Report.

Mrs. Amin stated that she supports the Superintendent one hundred percent.

Authorizations Report – Authorization to Enter Into Partnership, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 8

Negative: None

Supplemental Authorizations Report – Revised 2015-2016 School Calendars, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 8

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the report be accepted.

Ms. Bathelus stated that she sees that there is over \$100,000. going to the technology department to give training on pages 1, 2, and 3 and asked if there is a reason we are going outside of New York and New Jersey to get the training that is needed for the technology department and were they the lowest bidder.

Mr. Kennedy explained that they were awarded in some cases in accordance with not the bidding rules but the exceptions to the bidding rules so in that case you can chose the vendor for training.

Ms. Bathelus stated that New York has some good and she is sure that they are able to train our workers probably better than these other states that you have reached out to, for example Texas. Ms. Bathelus stated that she doesn't know why we aren't trying to stay around the New Jersey/New York area.

Mr. Kennedy stated that they are companies that provide the training. Mr. Kennedy asked if she wants us to internalize the training.

Ms. Bathelus responded yes and asked why we are going outside of the state to receive some of this training.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer responded to the question regarding the contracted professional development and stated this reflects the instructional system we have in place. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have online learning available to all of our schools for example, Blackboard, is where all of our curriculum resides and it is also where our students post their assignments so we are required to provide continual professional development in response to any upgrades in the system. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that those are costs that were built into the initial contract when we purchased the system so every reference is tied to our commitment to our one-to-one initiative, our student information system, as well as our assessment system.

Mr. Neron asked about Pearson School Systems and asked if it is located in California.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that is the actual address of the vendor and they have regional offices so they send their trainers from their regional offices.

Mr. Neron stated that this seems to be where the headquarters of the vendors are and asked if there are any New Jersey based organizations because we didn't do bidding.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer responded that she does not know if there are any based in New Jersey.

Ms. Bathelus stated that she would like to sit with Mr. Kennedy and the Superintendent to go through this. Ms. Bathelus stated that she was under the impression that anything under the technology department had to be bid on.

Mr. Kennedy explained that not everything that you buy has to be bid on.

Ms. Bathelus responded that she understands that and would still like to go over them.

Mr. Kennedy stated that the statutes are always listed to show what it is being purchased under.

Mr. Monteiro stated that he would like to table the Pearson School Systems contract.

A motion was made by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, to table the Pearson contract.

The motion to table the Pearson contract was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Amin – 8

Negative: None

The motion for the Award of Contracts (without Pearson School Systems) was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: Ms. Bathelus – 1

The second reading was done of the revised Grading and Reporting Policy File Code 6147.1.

Resolution – Revised Grading and Reporting

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 8

Negative: None

The first reading of the following new and revised policy and exhibits: (TABLED)

5131(X)	Exhibit	Code of Student Conduct Rubric
6146	Policy	Graduation Requirements
6146(X)	Exhibit	Graduation Requirements

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested that the new and revised policy and exhibits be taken into private session.

A motion was made by Mrs. Carvalho, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, to table the revised policy and exhibits for Code of Student Conduct and Graduation Requirements and take them into private session.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 8

Negative: None

The President requests a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for discussion of personnel, specifically, interviews, transfers, and appointments. The Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if what we are going to discuss is on tonight's posted agenda because she is being told it wasn't.

Mr. Kennedy explained that it is personnel, interviews, transfers, and appointments.

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, to go into private session at 7:30 p.m.

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Neron, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 8

Negative: None

Mr. Neron excused himself from the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer excused herself from the meeting at 10:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. Perreira, to reconvene in public session at 10:15 p.m. to continue the meeting and take formal action.

A motion was made by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, to take the contract for Pearson School Systems off the table.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Award of Contracts Report – Pearson School Systems

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the contract for Pearson School Systems be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 6

Negative: Ms. Bathelus – 1

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, to take the first reading of the policies and exhibits off the table.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

The first reading was done of the following new and revised policy and exhibits:

5131(X)	Exhibit	Code of Student Conduct Rubric
6146	Policy	Graduation Requirements
6146(X)	Exhibit	Graduation Requirements

Personnel Report – Reappointments, etc.

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the report be accepted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Acceptance of Agreement and Personnel Action – C.L.

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 5

Negative: Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Carvalho – 2

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Maria Labrador

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Christina Silveira Francisco

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Vice Principal – Kevin McCarthy

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Chihui Seo Alfaro

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Fatimah Bey

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Nichol Comas

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mr. Trujillo, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Joia Lynn Dickenson

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mr. Perreira, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Antonio DiFonzo

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 6

Abstain: Mrs. Carvalho – 1

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Yvonne McGovern

A motion was made by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – Theodore Panagopoulos

A motion was made by Mr. Perreira, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, that the resolution be adopted.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro, Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7

Negative: None

Mrs. Carvalho congratulated all of the new principals.

Mr. Monteiro congratulated all the new appointees today and stated that we have an outstanding group of administrators that were recommended by our Superintendent who unfortunately had to leave for all those who are concerned she was not feeling well at all and was trying to stay the course but we sent her home. Mr. Monteiro stated that we have outstanding administrators and great leaders and having them serve in the Number One Urban School District in the State of New Jersey is just remarkable. Mr. Monteiro stated that we have high expectations of all of them and thanked them for everything that they have done and will continue to do.

Mr. Trujillo stated that he would also like to echo the sentiments of Mr. Monteiro and as he sees all of the administrators who are here tonight it is a great feeling as a parent of two students in the district. Mr. Trujillo stated that we have come such a long way and he had the pleasure of following many of their careers during his tenure here and to see how far they ascended in their career and stepped up and are among the leaders in our district now. Mr. Trujillo stated that the road ahead is long but rewarding and he is so proud of all of them and to be able to support so many of them. Mr. Trujillo stated that he is looking forward to seeing all the great things that they are going to bring to this district and the continued success we are going to have under their leadership. Mr. Trujillo wished them all the best of luck and vow all his support to them. Mr. Trujillo stated that anything he can do for them please always feel free to reach out to him.

Mr. Perreira echoed what everyone else was saying and stated that he knows personally that he just didn't have that passion to be a teacher or an educator and his passion has always been technology and that is what he pursued as a career. Mr. Perreira applauded all of them for taking that role because it is something very important for everyone and for our children. Mr. Perreira stated that just to know that we have a team as great as they are that exude it and it is a lifestyle that they have chosen and they definitely have the commitment and passion and have shown it. Mr. Perreira stated that the Superintendent has seen it from them and that is why she has put her confidence in them to lead their respective schools. Mr. Perreira stated that he is looking forward to working with them and alongside them and wished them the best of luck.

Mrs. Amin wished the administrators the best of luck and stated that this is a very important year. Mrs. Amin congratulated them and stated that they are the true leaders for our children.

On a motion by Mr. Trujillo, seconded by Mrs. Castillo-Ospina, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Mmes. Carvalho, Castillo-Ospina, Messrs. Monteiro,
Perreira, Trujillo, Mrs. Amin – 7
Negative: None

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