

**MINUTES OF THE PATERSON BOARD OF EDUCATION
BOARD RETREAT**

January 28, 2025 – 6:08 p.m.
Central Office (First Floor)

Presiding: Comm. Eddie Gonzalez, President

Present:

Dr. Laurie W. Newell, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rodney Henderson, Deputy Superintendent
Khalifah Shabazz-Charles, Esq., General Counsel

Comm. Valerie Freeman
Comm. Della McCall
Comm. Hector Nieves
Comm. Joel Ramirez, Vice President

Comm. Mohammed Rashid
Comm. Kenneth Rosado
*Comm. Kenneth Simmons
Comm. Corey Teague

The Salute to the Flag was led by Comm. Gonzalez.

Comm. Gonzalez read the Open Public Meetings Act:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of, and to attend the meetings of the Paterson Public School District, as well as other public bodies at which any business affecting the interest of the public is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with the provisions of this law, the Paterson Public School District has caused adequate and electronic notice of this meeting:

**Board Retreat
January 28, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.
90 Delaware Avenue
Paterson, New Jersey**

to be published by having the date, time and place posted in the office of the City Clerk of the City of Paterson, at the entrance of the Paterson Public School offices, on the district's website, and by sending notice of the meeting to the Arab Voice, El Diario, the Italian Voice, the North Jersey Herald & News, and The Record.

Comm. McCall: Mr. President, before we get started, I just want to make it known for the record that this agenda has not been posted within the proper time that is allotted for us to meet the Open Public Meetings Act. I just wanted to put that out there, so you are aware that we're supposed to have it up there 48 hours before we convene, and it was not put there.

*Comm. Simmons enters the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Ms. Williams: The notice has the goal-setting session. That's what was posted on the website.

Comm. Gonzalez: The goal setting was posted?

Ms. Williams: Yes.

Comm. Gonzalez: Okay, thank you.

Ms. Shabazz-Charles: Just for clarity, this is the open seat and usually there's a seat next to the President. I saw the notice was the actual agenda that we have here posted like our normal Board meetings. I didn't receive it, but I wasn't sure if it was posted.

Ms. Williams: No, it was just completed today.

Ms. Shabazz-Charles: The Open Public Meetings Act does require the agenda... Again, I don't know if it was received or posted, or if the Board members received it. I don't know that.

Comm. Gonzalez: Just for clarity, what was posted was that we were having a Board Retreat to discuss goals, correct?

Ms. Williams: Yes.

Comm. Gonzalez: Although the agenda doesn't specify exactly what we're seeing here, all the items here and only the items here are pertaining to the goals and what was advertised. It's just broken out differently because there's a presenter, but it's all related to the goals.

Ms. Shabazz-Charles: Understood, but I think this would fall under legal advice and that is not something that should be given publicly.

Comm. Gonzalez: Do you want to go into executive session to discuss?

Ms. Shabazz-Charles: That would be at the pleasure of the Board.

It was moved by Comm. Ramirez, seconded by Comm. McCall that the Board goes into Executive Session to discuss issues that warrant confidentiality, as consistent with NJSA 10:4-12 for matters of Attorney/Client Privilege, Contracts, Legal, Litigation, Negotiations, Personnel and Student Matters. The minutes will be made available to the public upon request, when the confidentiality of the subject is no longer warranted. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The Board went into executive session at 6:13 p.m.

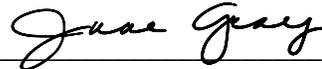
It was moved by Comm. McCall, seconded by Comm. Ramirez that the Board reconvenes the meeting. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The Board reconvened the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Comm. Gonzalez: We are going to move to adjourn this meeting on the advice of legal counsel, to postpone this meeting until February 4, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. here, same place, to review and go over what was publicly posted, the goals and objectives for the Superintendent and the school district. That's going to happen on Tuesday, February 4, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. here at this same location.

It was moved by Comm. Ramirez, seconded by Comm. Rosado that the meeting be adjourned. On roll call all members voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "June Gray", positioned above a horizontal line.

**Ms. June Gray
Business Administrator**