



Atlantic City Board of Education

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Ms. Tina L. Trueba, SFO, QPA
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

January 28, 2026

At the regular meeting of the Atlantic City Board of Education held on January 27, 2026, the following resolution was approved:

Personnel #26

On a motion made by Mr. Mayfield and seconded by Ms. Bridgers, the Atlantic City Board of Education voted to approve Personnel #26. At the call of the roll the vote was as follows: Mr. Bailey-abstain; Dr. Bridgers-yes; Mr. Dorsey-yes; Mr. Johnson- yes; Mr. Mayfield-yes; Mr. McKinley-yes; and Mr. Steele-yes. Of the seven members present, one member abstained, two members were absent and six voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

Approve and invoke the following Doctrine of Necessity: **Business Administrator/ Board Secretary Ms. Tina L. Trueba, SFO, QPA read the resolution aloud.**

WHEREAS, the School Ethics Commission (“SEC”) has provided guidance in Public Advisory Opinion A03-98, regarding how a Board should invoke the Doctrine of Necessity when a quorum of a board of education has conflicts of interest on a matter required to be voted upon; and

WHEREAS, the opinion set forth that, when necessary for a Board to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity, the Board should state publicly that it is doing so, the reason that such action is necessary and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

WHEREAS, the SEC by resolution dated February 25, 2003, clarified and required a Board of Education invoking the Doctrine of Necessity to adopt a resolution setting forth that they are invoking the doctrine, the reason for doing so, and the specific nature of the conflicts of interest; and

WHEREAS, the SEC further directed Boards of Education that invoke the Doctrine of Necessity to read the resolution at the regularly scheduled public meeting, post it where it posts public notices for thirty days, and provide the Commission with a copy; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Education promulgated *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-6.2*, which places additional standards and restrictions upon the ability of a board member to vote on a particular issue; and

WHEREAS, the four board members’ conflicts are as follows:

- (1) Board Member Mr. Shay Steele’s spouse is employed by the Board as a teacher.
- (2) Board Member Mr. Walter Johnson’s spouse is employed by the Board as a teacher; and
- (3) Board Member Mr. KaShawn Mckinley spouse is employed by the Board as a secretary; and

- (4) Board Member Mr. Ronald Bailey is currently represented by the Castellani Law Firm. The Castellani Law Firm represents the Plaintiff, former Atlantic City Board Member, John Devlin which is currently in litigation. The caption of the case is John Devlin v. Atlantic City Board of Education, Docket No.: ATL-L-001381-24. Superintendent, La'Quetta Small is a named Defendant in this litigation. Further, Ronald Bailey solicited funds through a personal "Go Fund Me" account. Plaintiff, John Devlin contributed to Ronald Bailey's personal request on "Go Fund Me."

WHEREAS, the inability of the aforementioned Board members to participate in the approving of the Superintendent's employment contract; and

WHEREAS, as required by law, the Board desires to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity in accordance with Procedures established by the Commission; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Atlantic City Board of Education, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, that the aforementioned Board Members are prohibited from participating in and voting on the employment contract of Superintendent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board invokes the Doctrine of Necessity in order to allow the full body of the Board, excluding Ronald Bailey, to participate in and approve the Superintendent's employment contract in accordance with State law; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be read at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board and be publicly posted by the Board; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the School Ethics Commission.

Respectfully submitted,



Ms. Tina L. Trueba, SFO, QPA
Business Administrator/Board
Secretary