

TRENTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
108 North Clinton Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08609
BOARD CONFERENCE MEETING
Monday – September 14, 2009 – 6:30 P.M.
MINUTES

Completed September 16, 2009
Convened at 6:30 P.M.

Call to Order

Dr. Diane Campbell, President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. In the absence of a quorum, the formal portion of the meeting was delayed.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Diane Campbell, President, led the salute to the flag.

PRESENTATION - TEACHER RECOGNITION

Superintendent Lofton and the Board recognized four Nationally Board Certified Teachers within the District: Rayna Culver, Denise Hallinan, Martha Higginbotham and Suzanne Martin.

Roll Call for Quorum

Present:

T. Missy Balmir – arrived 6:40 p.m.
Alexander Brown
Elizabeth Johnson
Harry Luna
Donald O. Shelton
Nicola Tatum – arrived 7:00 p.m.
Marcellus Smith – arrived 7:20 p.m.
L. Diane Campbell

Superintendent of Schools - Rodney Lofton - Present

New Jersey Sunshine Law - Read by Jayne Howard, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

The New Jersey Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right to the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted on.

On the rules of this act, the Trenton Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by publicizing the date, time and place, therefore posted in the Central Services Building, 108 North Clinton Avenue, City Clerk's Office, City Hall and the Times. Anyone whose name is on the mailing list should receive a notice.

Formal action will take place at this meeting.

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Adoption Of Agenda

President Campbell stated she would like to change the order of business on tonight's agenda. She also advised the Board of the following changes to the agenda:

- Add the Human Resources Addendum dated September 14, 2009
- Board Action is required on the following items:
 - **Human Resources Agenda:**
 - **Item G5** – Appointment of Mr. Williams
 - **Item H2** – Interim Appointment of Mr. Bandeh
 - **Item J3** – Appointment of Ms. Blain
 - **Item K1** – Involuntary Transfers
 - **Items U1 to U6, U8** – Before & After School Programs
 - **Human Resources Addendum for September 14, 2009**
 - **Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for July 31, 2009**

Motion by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Johnson to adopt the agenda with the above changes. Agenda was adopted by all Board Members present.

| <u>ROLL CALL</u> | YES | NO | ABSTAIN |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------|
| T. Missy Balmir | X | | |
| Alexander Brown | X | | |
| Elizabeth Johnson | X | | |
| Harry Luna | X | | |
| Donald O. Shelton | X | | |
| Marcellus Smith | not present for vote | | |
| Nicola Tatum | not present for vote | | |
| L. Diane Campbell | X | | |

PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

The presentation on Data Analysis – State Assessments was postponed to a later date. Ms. Valerie Rushmore, Executive Director of the Trenton Public Education Foundation (TPEF), addressed the Board regarding her organization's plans for a partnership with the District to assist with connecting resources for educationally based initiatives.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

President Campbell read the following statement prior to public comment:

The Board President is the spokesperson for the Board of Education. It is not the role of the individual board members to respond to the public during Public Comment. This is the public's time. If the Board President feels that concerns need more clarification or background information for a factual response, it will be referred to the administration for a response.

There were no members of the community wishing to address the Board at this time.

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ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Campbell read the Executive Session Resolution:

WHEREAS, The Board of Education must discuss subjects concerning personnel matters, negotiations, and legal matters;

WHEREAS, The aforesaid subjects are not appropriate subjects to be discussed in public meeting; and,

WHEREAS, The aforesaid subjects to be discussed are within the exemptions which are permitted to be discussed and acted upon in closed executive session pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 231, it is therefore

RESOLVED, That the aforesaid subjects shall be discussed in closed executive session by this Board and administrative staff at the conclusion of the public segment of this meeting, and information pertaining thereto will be made available to the public as soon thereafter as possible and once the reasons for nondisclosure no longer exist.

Motion by Mr. Shelton and seconded by Mr. Brown to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session. **All** were in favor **0** opposed **0** abstentions.

ADJOURN 6:50 p.m.

REOPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Open Public Meeting reconvened at 8:05 p.m. Dr. Campbell stated the Board would take action at this time on the following Executive Session items:

**3. Legal services re: Abbott Funding and Abbott Facilities
Reimbursement \$363.28 to Richard Shapiro, Esq.**

Motion by Mr. Luna and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the above legal reimbursement. Reimbursement of \$363.28 to Richard Shapiro, Esq. was approved by all Board Members present.

| <u>ROLL CALL</u> | YES | NO | ABSTAIN |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| T. Missy Balmir | X | | |
| Alexander Brown | X | | |
| Elizabeth Johnson | X | | |
| Harry Luna | X | | |
| Donald O. Shelton | X | | |
| Marcellus Smith | X | | |

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Nicola Tatum X
L. Diane Campbell X

7. Sheldon Berman Settlement Agreement

Motion by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Balmir to approve the Settlement Agreement with Sheldon Berman. Settlement Agreement with Sheldon Berman was approved by all Board Members present.

| <u>ROLL CALL</u> | YES | NO | ABSTAIN |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| T. Missy Balmir | X | | |
| Alexander Brown | X | | |
| Elizabeth Johnson | X | | |
| Harry Luna | X | | |
| Donald O. Shelton | X | | |
| Marcellus Smith | X | | |
| Nicola Tatum | X | | |
| L. Diane Campbell | X | | |

SUPERINTENDENT’S REMARKS

Mr. Lofton reported that the Finance Office, along with the Human Resources Department, has finalized the position control process.

The Superintendent invited the public and Board Members to attend the upcoming Facilities Advisory Board (FAB) meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 23 at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Services Building.

Mr. Lofton reported to the Board on the Opening of School, specifically addressing the areas of teacher vacancies, school buildings, the lunch program and student enrollment.

Mr. Lofton updated the Board on the District’s latest communications regarding the H1N1 influenza virus.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Members commented on the following issues:

- Parent complaints about transportation problems
- Controlling class size in light of increased enrollment
- Liability for walking students who do not live outside the two-mile radius to qualify for District-provided transportation
- Students in the same family being sent to different schools due to overcrowding
- Ascertaining reasons for the late registration of students

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Dr. Campbell advised that Dr. Lucy Guzman has resigned from the Board and will be greatly missed. Board Member Elizabeth Johnson has volunteered to serve on the Board Curriculum Committee.

BOARD DISCUSSION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Meeting Minutes:

August 17, 2009 Special Board Meeting
September 2, 2009 Special Board Meeting

There were no comments or questions regarding the Board Meeting Minutes.

Superintendent's Recommendations:

Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment & Student Services (1)
Human Resources (2)
Finance & Facilities (3)

There were no comments or questions regarding the Superintendent's Recommendations.

Board Committee Reports:

Buildings & Grounds, Mr. Brown, 8/12/09
Finance, Mr. Brown, 9/9/09
Human Resources, Dr. Campbell, 8/19/09

There were no comments or questions regarding the Board Committee Reports.

BOARD ACTION

Dr. Campbell asked for a motion to approve the Board Action items as noted in the Adoption of the Agenda.

Motion by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Luna to approve the Board Action items. Board Action items were approved by all Board Members present.

| <u>ROLL CALL</u> | YES | NO | ABSTAIN |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| T. Missy Balmir | X | | |
| Alexander Brown | X | | |
| Elizabeth Johnson | X | | |
| Harry Luna | X | | |
| Donald O. Shelton | X | | |
| Marcellus Smith | X | | |
| Nicola Tatum | X | | |
| L. Diane Campbell | X | | |

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Human Resources Addendum – September 14, 2009

a. Re-appointments

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following re-appointments :

1. Ms. Kathryn Graf – Mathematics Teacher – Hill Elementary School – at the salary of \$57,271 MA+60, Step 8-TEA, effective September 16, 2009 through June 30, 2010. (15-130-100-101-0000-00-32) **ACTION September 14, 2009.**
2. Ms. Donna Lombardo – Health/Physical Education Teacher – Daylight/Twilight – at the salary of \$47,651-BA, Step 1-TEA, effective September 16, 2009 through June 30, 2010. (15-140-100-101-0009-00-35) **ACTION September 14, 2009.**

b. Before/Afterschool Programs

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following before/after school programs :

1. Approve the following teachers for the **AM/PM Supervision** – Monument Elementary School, at the rate of \$42.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 25, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0000-09-25)
NOTE : To exceed 7,644.00 Total.
ACTION September 14, 2009

Adrienne Mack Diane Frascella
Nicholas Barbato Paula McCoy

2. Approve the following paraprofessionals for the **AM Monitor** – Monument Elementary School, at the rate of \$26.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 25, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0000-09-25)
NOTE : To exceed 4,732.00 per person.
ACTION September 14, 2009

Valerie Rivers
John Williams

c. Creations of Position

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following creation of positions & job descriptions for the 2009-2010 school year :

1. Approve the creation of position & job description for Per Diem Health Processor, at the rate of \$30.00 per hour, not to exceed 19 hours per week.
(Funding by the NJ Dept of Human Services – Insured for Sure School Campaign)
Add c-1

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Human Resources September Agenda

g. Appointment(s)

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following appointments:

5. Mr. Bruce Williams – from : Assistant Manager Human Resources, at the salary of \$74,263-Confidential Administrator - to: Mathematics Teacher- Hedgepeth/Williams School, at the salary of \$67,121(\$65,621-MA+60, Step 11-TEA + \$1,500 dual certification), effective September 15, 2009 through June 30, 2010, pro-rated. (15-130-100-101-0000-00-08) **ACTION: September 14, 2009**

h. Appointment – Interim

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following interim appointments:

2. Mr. Bocary Bandeh-from: Supervisor of Gifted and Talented, at the salary of \$87,251-Step 1 to: Interim Vice Principal Monument/Columbus Schools, at the salary of \$82,947 Step 1, effective September 15, 2009 through December 23, 2009, pro-rated. (15-000-240-103-0000-00-17) (15-000-240-103-0000-00-25)

NOTE: Performing duties of the Vice Principal who is on a leave of absence.

ACTION September 14, 2009

j. Re-appointment / Removed from Preferred Eligible List

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following re-appointments and removal from the Preferred Eligible List :

3. Ms. Ritha Blain – School Nurse – Dunn Middle School, at the salary of \$77,75-BA, Step 15 – TEA, effective September 15, 2009 through June 30, 2010, pro-rated. (15-000-213-104-0000-00-10)

ACTION: September 14, 2009

k. Transfer(s) - Involuntary

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following involuntary transfers :

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1. Involuntary Transfers effective September 15, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

ACTION : September 14, 2009

| NAME | TITLE | OLD LOCATION | NEW LOCATION |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Joanne Ford | School Nurse | Dunn Middle | TCHS-West |
| Carmen Reyes | Special Education Teacher | Dunn Middle | Mott Elementary |
| Monica Aponte | Special Education Teacher | Mott Elementary | Dunn Middle |
| Margaret Sidberry | Psychologist | Hill Elementary | TCHS-Main |
| Dr. Kathleen Brondi | Psychologist | Dunn Middle | Rivera Elementary |
| Sheila Polite | Learning Consultant | Hedgethpeith/Williams | Cadwalader Elementary |
| Joyce Hannibal | Learning Consultant | Cadwalader Elementary | Hedgethpeith/Williams |

u. Before and After School Programs

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approve the following before and after school programs:

1. Approve the following Paraprofessionals for the **AM/PM Bus Monitors**, Stokes Elementary School, at the rate of \$26.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 30, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0000-01-29)

NOTE: Not to exceed \$4,680.00 Total. ACTION September 14, 2009

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Annie Mansur | Andrea Bryant |
| Janet Montague | Janaya Thompson |

2. Approve the following TEA staff for **AM/PM Bus Monitors**, Stokes Elementary School, at the rate of \$42.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 30, 2010 (15-120-100-101-0000-01-29)

NOTE: Not to exceed \$7,560.00 Total. ACTION September 14, 2009

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Denise Mylowe | William Jones | Catherine Dismukes |
| Shirley Williams | Linda Doherty | Frances Willever |
| Laura Perez | Carol Cekoric | Laura Colvin |
| Roxanne Henry | Karen McNear | Sammie Rae Greene |
| Dawn Kelley | Doreen Harmon | Anne Errico |
| Robin Hall | Jacqueline Fentress | Betty Musetto |

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| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Barbara Dickman | Don Dixon | Karen Delgado |
| Jennifer LaGrassa | Lawrence Brown | Marie GiQuinto |

3. Approve the following staff for **Before /After School Supervision**, Wilson Elementary School, at the rate of \$42.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 30, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0009-00-31)
NOTE: Not to exceed \$11,766.00 Total. ACTION September 14, 2009

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Ellen Sunshine | Felicia Alexander |
| Teresa DeSanctis | Walter Hosey |
| Ivelucy Rosario-Thomas | Len Mitnaul |
| Michelle Marrazzo | Evelyn Benjaani |
| Rujay Curry | Bridget O’Hara |
| Patricia Boyle | Kimberly Jacquay |
| Ingris Peralta | Eugene Litynskij |
| Lisette Muniz-Vasquez | Karen Rowe |
| Wanda Valdes-Harris | Hugh Donaghy |
| Joyce Jenerette | Patricia Hicks |
| Lysette Toro-Mays | Margarita Cintron |
| Gloria Hernandez | Carol Frehafer |
| Dana Steele | Diane Smith |
| Katrenia McCormick | |

4. Approve the following Paraprofessionals for the **Before and After School Program** – Wilson Elementary School, at the rate of \$26.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 30, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0009-00-31)
NOTE: Not to exceed \$11,766 Total. ACTION September 14, 2009

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Elizabeth Calderone | Gwendolyn Scott |
| Florence Saint Juste | Marjorie Stokes |
| Zoraida Hernandez | |

5. Ms. Jeneya Nelson – **After School Supervision** - Franklin Elementary School, at the rate of \$42.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 25, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0009-00-19)
NOTE: Not to exceed \$3,780.00 ACTION September 14, 2009
6. Ms. Courtney Capone – **Before School Supervision** - Franklin Elementary School, at the rate of \$42.00 per hour, effective September 10, 2009 through June 25, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0009-00-19)
NOTE: Not to exceed \$3,780.00 ACTION September 14, 2009

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8. Approve the appointment of the following Teachers - **AM/PM School Supervision** - Columbus Elementary School, at the rate of \$42.00 per hour, effective September 8, 2009 through June 25, 2010. (15-120-100-101-0000-01-17)
Note : Not to exceed \$11,466.00 Total. ACTION September 14, 2009

Gwendolyn Reid
Sharon Coates

**BOARD SECRETARY’S AND TREASURER’S REPORT TO
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT OF TRENTON**

- Board Secretary’s Report, July 31, 2009
- Board Treasurer’s Report, July 31, 2009

Dr. Campbell asked for a motion to accept the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports. Motion by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Smith to accept the Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports. Board Secretary’s and Treasurer’s Reports were **accepted** by all Board Members present.

| <u>ROLL CALL</u> | YES | NO | ABSTAIN |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| T. Missy Balmir | X | | |
| Alexander Brown | X | | |
| Elizabeth Johnson | X | | |
| Harry Luna | X | | |
| Donald O. Shelton | X | | |
| Marcellus Smith | X | | |
| Nicola Tatum | X | | |
| L. Diane Campbell | X | | |

Motion was made and properly seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. **All** were in favor **0** opposed **0** abstentions

ADJOURN 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Jayne S. Howard

Jayne S. Howard
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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