

**TRENTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**108 North Clinton Avenue**  
**Trenton, New Jersey 08609**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Friday – February 10, 2017 – 5:30 P.M.**

**Completed February 14, 2017**  
**Convened at 5:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Board Vice President Gerald Truehart II called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice President Truehart led the salute to the flag.

**Roll Call**

**Present:**

Gene Bouie  
D. A. Graham  
Fiah Gussin  
Jane Rosenbaum  
Gerald Truehart II  
Lucy Vandenberg  
Heather Watson

**Acting Superintendent of Schools** – Nelson Ribon - Present

**Business Administrator/Board Secretary** – Jayne Howard - Present

**New Jersey Sunshine Law** - Read by Board Vice President Truehart

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.

**Adoption Of Agenda**

Motion was made by Dr. Graham and seconded by Mr. Bouie to adopt the agenda. Agenda was adopted unanimously by the Board.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Billie Hayes, Community Member, addressed the Board regarding the cancellation of recent Facilities Advisory Board meetings and preschool options for families in Trenton. He also expressed concern regarding the flyer for the Superintendent search process.

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**NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD PRESIDENT**

Motion was made by Mr. Truehart and seconded by Ms. Gussin to nominate Gene Bouie as Board President. With no other nominations, a Roll Call was taken. The appointment of Mr. Gene Bouie as Board President was unanimously **approved** by the Board.

<b><u>ROLL CALL</u></b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
Gene Bouie	X		
D. A. Graham	X		
Fiah Gussin	X		
Jane Rosenbaum	X		
Gerald Truehart	X		
Lucy Vandenberg	X		
Heather Watson	X		

President Bouie thanked everyone for their support and stated he has been learning a lot in his time on the Board. He said the best interests of the children of Trenton must come first in the service of the Board. He discussed three areas of improvement he hopes to see by the May 15 Organization Meeting:

- Communication – among Board Members, within the District and with the community at large
- Collaboration – eliminate adversarial relationships through determination, sacrifice and hard work
- Responsibility – to the students and the taxpayers

President Bouie also spoke in favor of public education.

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Truehart said he looks forward to working with Mr. Bouie to steer the District in the right direction and address the three areas of improvement. He stated that the positive gains already realized will increase.

Dr. Graham also congratulated President Bouie, and he expressed appreciation for Mr. Truehart's leadership in the interim. He welcomed Ms. Watson to the Board.

Ms. Gussin also welcomed Ms. Watson to the Board and said she looks forward to working with her, and she congratulated Mr. Bouie.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S COMMENTS**

Superintendent Ribon congratulated President Bouie and thanked Vice President Truehart for his assistance in the interim. He also welcomed Ms. Watson to the Board and said he is looking forward to working with her. He thanked the entire Board for their continued support and communication.

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Motion was made by Dr. Graham and properly seconded to adjourn the meeting.

**ADJOURN** 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

*Jayne S. Howard*

Jayne S. Howard  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary