

**TRENTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**108 North Clinton Avenue**  
**Trenton, New Jersey 08609**  
**BOARD REORGANIZATION MEETING**  
**Monday – May 17, 2010 – 5:30 P.M.**  
**MINUTES**

**Completed May 18, 2010**  
**Convened at 5:35 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Jayne S. Howard, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Jayne S. Howard led the salute to the flag.

**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.

**Oath of Office for Reappointed Board Members**

Trenton Municipal Court Judge Gregory E. Williams, a former Board Member, administered the Oath of Office to the two reappointed Board Members: Marcellus Smith and Nicola Tatum.

**Roll Call for attendance**

**Present:**

T. Missy Balmir  
L. Diane Campbell  
Elizabeth Johnson  
Harry Luna – arrived 5:55 p.m.  
Donald O. Shelton  
Marcellus Smith  
Nicola Tatum

**Superintendent of Schools** - Rodney Lofton - Present

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**Nomination and Election of President**

Ms. Howard stated that the floor is open for nominations to the office of President. Ms. Johnson nominated Ms. Nicola Tatum for President, seconded by Mr. Smith. Ms. Howard asked if there are any other nominations for President. Mr. Smith motioned to close the nominations for President, seconded by Ms. Balmir. **Ms. Nicola Tatum** was elected to the position of President of the Board. Ms. Howard welcomed Ms. Tatum as the new Board President.

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

**Nomination and Election of Vice President**

President Tatum stated that the floor is open for nominations to the office of Vice President. Mr. Smith nominated Dr. Diane Campbell for Vice President, seconded by Ms. Balmir. Ms. Tatum asked if there are any other nominations for Vice President. Mr. Smith motioned to close the nominations for Vice President, seconded by Ms. Johnson. **Dr. Diane Campbell** was elected to the position of Vice President of the Board. Ms. Howard welcomed Dr. Campbell as the new Board Vice President.

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

**Board Member Comments**

Ms. Johnson thanked Dr. Campbell for her good stewardship, dedication and hard work during her time on the Board. She also thanked Superintendent Lofton and all staff members for the time and hard work they have invested in the District.

Dr. Campbell thanked the Board for working together.

Mr. Smith expressed optimism for moving the Board and District forward. He said he is very confident in the ability of the new Board leadership. Mr. Smith said the Board is committed to providing the highest quality education possible for the children, and he asked

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for the support of the community in this endeavor. Mr. Smith also thanked Dr. Lofton for all his personal work and preparation towards leading the District.

Ms. Tatum thanked the Board for their confidence in electing her as Board President. She said that when she graduated Trenton Central High School, she never imagined she would be a member of the Board or its President. She expressed hope that everyone will work together towards common goals, both the Board and community members alike.

**Superintendent’s Comments**

Dr. Lofton thanked the entire Board for their service. He said that a majority of his time to date as Superintendent has been spent dealing with political and management issues. He said that from this point forward, his time will be mostly focused on student achievement. He thanked Dr. Campbell for working with him the past two years, and he looked forward to working with Ms. Tatum as the new Board President.

**Discussion of Business Agenda**

Ms. Tatum asked for a motion to adopt the Business Agenda. It was motioned by Ms. Balmir to adopt the Business Agenda. Dr. Campbell expressed concern regarding Item 1, the adoption of the Annual Board Meeting Schedule. She felt that one meeting per month would not be sufficient. Mr. Shelton asked the reason for reducing the meetings from twice per month to once monthly. Ms. Howard stated that one reason is to eliminate the confusion of multiple addendums. She said the monthly committee meetings would focus on discussion of the Board agenda for that month. Mr. Rocky Peterson, Board Attorney, stated that sometimes legal matters arise that may be time-sensitive and cannot wait 30 days until the next Board meeting. Mr. Luna did not feel there would be sufficient time for input from staff and members of the community with just one meeting per month. Ms. Johnson agreed with Mr. Luna. Mr. Peterson stated that the Board is required to adopt a Regular Meeting schedule at the annual organization meeting, and he advised the Board to adopt the meeting schedule in Item 1 at this time, with the option of adding Conference Meetings at a later date.

**Approval of Business Agenda**

The Business Agenda was approved by all Board Members present.

<b><u>ROLL CALL</u></b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>
T. Missy Balmir	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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1. **Approval of RESOLUTION to Adopt the Annual Board Meeting Schedule for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the Resolution to adopt the Annual Board Meeting Schedule for the 2010/2011 school year (**Attachment 1**).

2. **Approval of RESOLUTION for Newspapers of Record for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith designates *The Times* as the official Newspaper of Record; further be it

RESOLVED: that the following newspapers are approved as Newspapers in Education: *Fourth Estate, Newark Star Ledger, Philadelphia Tribune, Philadelphia Inquirer* and *Vision Hispana*.

3. **Approval of RESOLUTION Authorizing the Superintendent to Audit and Approve Bill Payments for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith designates the Superintendent of Schools, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1, as the person designated to audit accounts and demands and to approve accounts and demands prior to presentation to the Board for the 2010/2011 school year.

4. **Approval of RESOLUTION to Approve the Board Operational Policy Manual for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith readopts the Board Operational Policies/Procedures for the 2010/2011 school year.

5. **Approval of RESOLUTION to Appoint an Affirmative Action Officer and Section 504 Administrator for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith appoints the Director of Special Education as the Affirmative Action Officer and Section 504 Administrator, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:4-1.4, for the 2010/2011 school year.

6. **Approval of a RESOLUTION to appoint a Section 504 Compliance Officer for the 2010/2011 school year**

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BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith appoints the Supervisor of Nurses as Section 504 Compliance Officer, pursuant to Section 504 – 1973 Rehabilitation Act, for the 2010/2011 school year.

7. **Approval of a RESOLUTION to appoint External Auditing Firm for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith appoints WISS & Company LLP as the vendor to prepare the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 and the Management Report at a cost not to exceed **\$200,000.00**.

8. **Approval of a RESOLUTION to appoint Board Attorney for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith appoints Hill Wallack LLP as the vendor to provide legal services needed for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011 at a cost not to exceed **\$200,000.00**.

9. **Approval of a RESOLUTION for the Borrowing of Funds**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education authorizes the borrowing not to exceed **\$27,000,000.00** due to the delay in the June State school aid payments with an interest of 5% and an interest cost not to exceed **\$1,400,000.00** through July 1, 2010, or alternatively with an interest cost of **\$1,350,000.00** through July 2, 2010, such interest cost to be paid directly to the lending bank by the State.

10. **Approval of 2010/2011 Organization Chart**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the 2010/2011 Organization Chart (**Attachment 10**).

11. **Approval of 2010/2011 Payroll Schedule**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby approves the 2010/2011 Payroll Schedule (**Attachment 11**).

12. **Approval of a RESOLUTION to appoint District Purchasing Agents for the 2010/2011 School Year**

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BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, hereby appoints for the 2010/2011 school year Jayne S. Howard as its duly authorized qualified purchasing agent, and as authorized purchasing agent, Georgette Bowman.

**13. Approval of RESOLUTION to Approve the District’s Curriculum for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith approves the existing Curriculum for the 2010/2011 school year.

**14. Approval of a RESOLUTION to appoint Treasurer of School Monies for the 2010/2011 school year**

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, herewith appoints James Bartolomei as Treasurer of School Monies for the 2010/2011 school year at a cost not to exceed **\$16,000.00**.

**Adjournment**

Ms. Tatum asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motioned by Mr. Shelton and seconded by Ms. Johnson to adjourn the meeting.

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

**ADJOURN 6:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted

*Jayne S. Howard*

Jayne S. Howard  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary