



Roger León  
Superintendent

# Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

## Committee Report

Committee Name: Ad Hoc Legal Committee

Location	Date	Time
WebEx	September 21, 2023	
<b>Board Members</b>		
Vereliz Santana, Board Co-Vice President and Committee Chair	Dawn Haynes, Board Co-Vice President	
Crystal Williams, Board Member		
<b>District Liaison &amp; Superintendent Representative</b>		
Brenda C. Liss, General Counsel	H. Nazario, Chief of Staff	
<b>Meeting Summary</b>		
<p>The Ad Hoc Legal Committee met on Thursday, September 21, 2023 and discussed the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Request for Board Action: Resolution Authorizing Appointment of Outside Counsel</li> <li>- Recent Decision: <i>Friends of Team Charter School, Inc. v. Board of Education of the City of Newark</i></li> <li>- Committee Goals</li> <li>- Title IX</li> </ul> <p>Call to order: 3:00 p.m. Adjourn: 3:45 p.m.</p>		

Item: Requests for Board Action: Resolution Authorizing Appointment of Outside Counsel	
Lead(s): B. Liss	Priority/Strategy:

**Comments:**

A partner in a law firm previously authorized by the Board of Education to serve as outside counsel has announced that he is leaving that firm and creating a new firm, Taylor Law Group LLP. In order to provide for continuity of services, the Taylor Law Group should be added to the list of law firms authorized by the Board of Education to serve as outside counsel. The Committee agreed to recommend this addition by resolution to be adopted at this month's meeting.

Item: Recent Decision	
Lead(s): B. Liss	Priority/Strategy:

**Comments:**

A decision has been issued by the Office of Administrative Law (Hon. Kimberly A. Moss, A.L.J.) in the matter of *Friends of Team Charter School, Inc. v. Newark Board of Education*, granting the Board's motion for summary decision, denying Friends of Team's similar motion, and dismissing the petition filed by Friends

of Team, challenging the Board’s lawsuit against that party and others, which is currently pending in the Superior Court of New Jersey. More specifically, the administrative law judge ruled, as a matter of law that the filing of litigation pertaining to Maple Avenue School was not a school facilities matter requiring Board action and NJDOE school facilities approval. A copy of the decision will be placed in each Board member’s folder for their information.

Item: Committee Goals	
Lead(s): V. Santana	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

Committee members agreed upon the following committee goals:

1. To monitor and report on compliance with provisions of Board Policy 3327 as it relates to prudent use of legal services
2. To lead the Board discussion regarding appointment and/or assignment of counsel to handle matters specific to the Board of Education and make recommendations to the full board with regard thereto
3. Upon assignment (if any) of counsel to handle matters specific to the Board of Education, to monitor and report on the effectiveness of such assignment

Item: Title IX	
Lead(s): V. Santana	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

Genera Counsel provided a report on the Resolution Agreement between the Board of Education and the USDOE Office for Civil Rights relating to compliance with Title IX, which addresses discrimination on the basis of sex. The details of that report and the Committee’s discussion are subject to the attorney-client privilege.