



Roger León  
Superintendent

# Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

## Minutes of the Board Business Meeting Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Co-Vice President Vereliz Santana convened the meeting at approximately 6:03 p.m. The meeting was held virtually with audio and video access provided to members of the Board and the public.

**I. Call to Order (Reading of Statement) Ms. Brenda Liss**

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the "Star-Ledger, Haiti Progress, Luso Americano and La Voz" newspapers and by distribution to administrative offices of the Newark Public Schools. Electronic notice was provided by posting on the Newark Board of Education website. A copy of the meeting notice was forwarded to City Hall for posting.

**II. Flag Salute**

**III. Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Mr. Council, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, Ms. Santana and Student Representative Kimberly Gonzalez.

**Board Members Absent:**

Ms. Anderson  
Ms. Haynes

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Mr. Roger León, Superintendent  
Ms. Brenda Liss, General Counsel/Board Secretary  
Ms. Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator  
Ms. Nicole T. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent  
Ms. Nancy Deering, Director of Board Relations

**IV. Committee Reports**

**Governance Committee Report - Ms. Santana**

Ms. Santana reported that the following were discussed at the Governance Committee meeting:

1. CUBE Conference Debrief and Policy Consideration
2. Policy 9250, Expenses and Reimbursements
3. Policy 1330.2, Use of School Facilities – Naming of Schools and Facilities
4. COVID-19 Monitoring and Safety Protocols
5. NJSBA Recommended Policy Adoptions and Amendments
6. ARP Application

**Operations Committee Report - Ms. Garcia**

Ms. Garcia reported that the following items were discussed at the Operations Committee meeting:

1. Security
2. Transportation
3. Facilities

**Finance Committee Report – Mr. Council**

Mr. Council reported that the following items were discussed at the Finance Committee meeting:

1. Grants
2. Lunch Application
3. Safe School Routes
4. Prepared Meal Delivery
5. Water Donation
6. Home to School Transportation
7. Montclair Leadership Pipeline Program
8. K-5 Local History Amistad Curriculum
9. Health Benefits

**Legal Committee Report - Ms. Norton**

Ms. Norton reported that the following items were discussed at the Legal Committee meeting:

1. Recommendation for Board Action

**Program and Instruction Committee Report - Ms. Murray-Thomas**

Ms. Murray-Thomas reported that the following items were discussed at the Program and Instruction Committee meeting:

1. Reopening of Schools
2. Chromebooks
3. COVID-19
4. Give Me 5 Campaign
5. Principal Leadership Instruction
6. Social Media
7. Next Decade
8. Resolutions
9. COVID Information Access

**Parent Engagement & Student Life Committee Report – Ms. Murray-Thomas**

Ms. Murray-Thomas reported that the following items were discussed at the at the Parent Engagement & Student Life Committee meeting:

1. Parent Engagement Tour
2. Project F.E.E.D
3. Operation Warm
4. Supportive School Grants
5. Parent Training/Opportunities
6. Title I Conference

7. Office of Student Life
8. High School Guidance
9. Homeless/Displaced McKinney Vento
10. Parent Training/Opportunities
11. Upcoming Events
  - Newark Bard of Education Staff Support Grouping
  - Newark Museum and Conflict Resolution Partnership

**Personnel Committee Report – Mr. Council**

Mr. Council reported that the following items were discussed at the Personnel Committee meeting:

1. Staffing
2. Negotiations
3. Personnel Actions
4. Separations
5. Resolutions
6. Recruitment

There was a motion made by Ms. Santana, seconded by Mr. Council, to approve the committee meeting reports. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

<b>Moved:</b>	Ms. Santana	
<b>Seconded:</b>	Mr. Council	
<b>Yeas</b>	Mr. Council, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, and Ms. Santana.	<b>7</b>
<b>Nays:</b>	None	<b>0</b>

**Motion carried.**

**V. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. León reported to the Board of Education on the following:

- Convocation
- Opening of Three New Schools
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Great School College Success Award - Gold
- Vacancies
- School Development Authority
- Black Men Rising Coalition
- Latino Men Rising Coalition
- COVID-19 Update
- Safe Return Plan
- EdResearch for Recovery, June 2020
- Chromebooks
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Vaccines for Employees
- Vaccines for Teens

- Impact of Storm Ida
- Start Strong State Assessment
- Pre-College Fair (High School)
- October 13<sup>th</sup> College Exams
- NBOE Workshops
- November 13<sup>th</sup> All Schools Fair
- Title I Parent Conference

Board Members' questions were answered by Mr. León.

**VI. Review Agenda for Public Meeting**

There was a motion made by Ms. Norton, seconded by Ms. Santana, to approve the agenda for the public meeting. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

<b>Moved:</b>	Ms. Norton	
<b>Seconded:</b>	Ms. Santana	
<b>Yeas</b>	Mr. Council, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, and Ms. Santana.	<b>7</b>
<b>Nays:</b>	None	<b>0</b>

**Motion carried.**

**VII. Public Participation**

Ms. Liss reviewed the guidelines for public participation. The comments of the following speaker can be found on the Newark Board of Education's website under Board Meeting video archives:

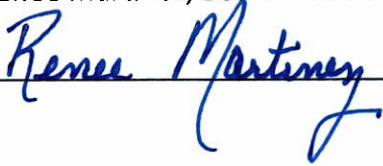
Dr. Leah Owens

**VIII. Adjournment**

Ms. Norton moved, seconded by Mr. Council, to adjourn. On a voice vote, all were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

The following board members were present at adjournment: Mr. Council, Ms. Garcia, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, and Ms. Santana.

Submitted by:  
Renee Martinez, Board Relations

  
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Reviewed by:  
Brenda C. Liss, General Counsel

  
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**Resolved, that the Minutes of the Board Business Meeting of the Newark Board of Education, Tuesday, September 28, 2021 be and are hereby adopted.**

Approved by:  
Mr. Roger León, Superintendent

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