



Roger León
Superintendent

Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

Minutes of the Board Retreat Meeting Saturday, August 21, 2021

Board President Dawn Haynes convened the meeting at approximately 9:05 a.m. The meeting was held in person at 765 Broad Street. Additionally, audio and video access, was provided to members of 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:

Ms. Anderson, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, and 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. **Board Discussion**

Mr. León reported to the Board on the following topics:

- COVID -19 Update and Safe Return Plan
- The Next Decade 2020-30

Ms. Rochanda Jackson, Director of the Office of Policy, Planning, Evaluation and Testing presented the SY2021 Attendance and Achievement Summary.

Mr. León reported on the following topics:

- District Goals & Action Steps
- Newark Enrolls
- Assessments
- Individual Learning Plans
- Tutoring
- New curricula
- District Staff Convocation

- Three new schools

Board members had comments and questions on several items in Mr. León's report. Board members' questions were answered by Mr. León.

V. Public Participation

Ms. Liss reviewed the guidelines for public participation.

No members of the public requested an opportunity to comment.

VI. Executive Session

There was a motion made by Ms. Haynes, seconded by Mr. Gonzalez, to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, collective negotiations, and matters within the attorney – client privilege. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Moved:	Ms. Haynes	
Seconded:	Mr. Gonzalez	
Yeas	Ms. Anderson, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, and Ms. Haynes.	6
Nays:	None	0

Motion carried.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 12:20 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION ARE ATTACHED

There was a motion made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Norton, to reconvene in open session. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Moved:	Ms. Anderson	
Seconded:	Ms. Norton	
Yeas	Ms. Anderson, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, and Ms. Haynes.	6
Nays:	None	0

Motion carried.

The Board reconvened in open session at approximately 1:17 p.m. The following Board members were present: Ms. Anderson, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton, and Ms. Haynes.

VII. Board Discussion - Equity

Dr. Lauren Wells of Creed Strategies led Board Members in an interactive discussion of equity.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Norton moved, seconded by Ms. Anderson to adjourn. On a voice vote, all were in favor. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

The following board members were present at adjournment: Ms. Anderson, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Thomas, Ms. Norton and Ms. Haynes.

Submitted by:
Renee Martinez, Board Relations

Renee Martinez

Reviewed by:
Brenda C. Liss, General Counsel

Brenda C Liss

Resolved, that the Minutes of the Retreat Board Meeting of the Newark Board of Education, Saturday, August 21, 2021 be and are hereby adopted.

Approved by:
Mr. Roger León, Superintendent



Roger León
Superintendent

Newark Board of Education

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Minutes of Executive Session Saturday, August 21, 2021

Executive Session called to order at 12:25 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Ms. Anderson, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Murray-Thomas, Ms. Norton and Ms. Haynes.

Board of Education Staff Present:

Mr. Roger León, Superintendent
Ms. Brenda Liss, General Counsel/Board Secretary
Ms. Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator
Mr. Javier Nazario, Chief of Staff
Ms. Nicole T. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent
Ms. Nancy Deering, Director of Board Relations
Dr. Yolanda Mendez, Assistant Superintendent

Collective Negotiations

Mr. León and Dr. Mendez gave an update on collective negotiations with Local 3 and Building Trades unions.

Personnel

Mr. León gave an update on data related to performance evaluation.

Attorney-Client Privilege

Mr. León and Ms. Liss gave an update on settlement of the DOJ investigation, for which Board approval was requested and recommended, and answered Board members questions about the settlement terms and implementation.

Executive Session adjourned at 1:15 p.m.