



Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

Committee Report

Parent Engagement & Student Life Committee Meeting

June 10, 2024

Location	Date	Time
Virtual via WEBEX	June 10, 2024	5:35pm-6:36pm
Board Members		
Committee Chairperson Dawn Haynes	Allison K. James-Frison	
Josephine Garcia		
District Liaison & Superintendent Representative		
Carolyn Granato, Assistant Superintendent		
Other District Staff		
Darrell Major, Manager Specialist Truancy	Rashon Dwight, HIB/Title 9 Coordinator	
Giancarlo Tello, Student Support Services	Rania Sawaged, Student Assistant Coordinator	
Mary Leigh Harvey, Director, office of Student Life	Edwin Mendez, Director, Office of Attendance	
Michelina Thornton, Director Parent Engagement and Federal Grants		
Havier Nazario, COS		
Guests		
Meeting Summary		
<p>Committee Chairperson Dawn Haynes commenced the PESL Committee Meeting at 5:35 pm, Monday, June 10, 2024. The meeting began with New Business:</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent Granato introduced the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new Director of Mentoring position has been created. Partial funding of 60,000 will come from the NJDOE Community Projects Award/Senator Cory Booker. The remaining funding will come from the District to pay the salary of this new position. The salary will be based on the CASA contract. <p>Edwin Mendez, Director of Attendance reviewed the attendance for the month of May. He announced that May was the number 1 month for the 23-24 School Year thus far regarding the “rarely absent category” with 74% of students districtwide being rarely absent.</p> <p>Rashon Dwight, HIB/Title 9 Coordinator presented May HIB data and informed the committee of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The HIB Report for Period 2 data is currently being compiled for SSDS/NJDOE submission and certification <p>***Committee Chair Haynes inquired about the NBOE Policy for <i>Parent Banning Letters</i>. She requested that all Committee Members receive a copy of the current policy for review at the next PESL Committee Meeting.</p> <p>Michelina Thornton, Director of Federal Grants and Parent Engagement provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parenting Partners Cohorts are in graduation season. 12 schools have used their commitment to family engagement and have begun to hold their powerful key to educational success. The 2023-2024 cohorts are continuing to see results from this parent 		

capacity-building program they participated in and have increased parent leaders in their schools. Proud parent effective leaders are producing more successful students.

● **Title I Annual School Plans**

The District expectation is for each school to have at least 2 parent workshops per month. The goal is for these workshops to impact student learning outcomes. The workshops are created to align to the Priority Needs and SMART Goals in the ASP. The Title I Parent Engagement funds are used for workshop services and materials that support the school's SMART Goals.

● **Back to School Event - August (Date TBD)**

In alignment with the District's Strategic Plan and equity statement, the Back-to-School event will be at Hawkins Street School. The Parent Engagement Team welcomes all organizations (space permitting) to be part of the event and provide resources to families.

Mary Leigh Harvey, Director of Student Life presented the following:

Vulcans Jr. Firefighters' Pipeline Initiative

- The Office of Student Life partnered with the Mayor's Office and the Vulcans Jr. Firefighters Pipeline Initiative and hosted over 70 high school seniors to introduce them to careers as firefighters with the Newark Fire Department.
- Seniors participated in a presentation, walkthrough of the training facilities and live demonstration of the fire truck apparatus use.

CARA Bridge Liaison Training at Rutgers University

- On May 20, 2024, Newark City Learning Collaborative (NCLC) provided training to 16 School Counselors identified as CARA Bridge Coach Liaisons in order to support College Bridge Coaches supporting high school seniors with their post-secondary planning.

NJ LEEP

- NJ LEEP is a college access and success program that operates after-school, Saturday, and summer programming to support students in going to and graduating from college. NJ LEEP programs seek to offer students the opportunity to develop both their hard academic and social-emotional skills. NJ LEEP will recruit, enroll, and serve NPS students in the 11th grade from East Side High School and Central High School. (Schools were selected based on data of college, scholarship, and FAFSA/NJAFSA completion rates.)

Homeless/Displace McKinney Vento –

- June 8th McKinney-Vento Family Resource Day. In collaboration with the Family Assistance Resource Center, OSL delivered a personalized, free shopping experience to 56 Families.
- Student Assistance Coordinators - On May 20 & 21 - SACs provided classroom presentations for Ann Street and Belmont Runyon. During the visitation, SACs conducted 26 workshops and provided valuable information about substance abuse law, vaping, marijuana and fentanyl to over 569 students

Truancy Task Force Manager Specialist, Durrell Majors shared the following updates:

- Truancy pickups as of 6-4-24 **Males : 760 Females : 551 Total : 1311**
- TTF Social worker referrals. **7**
- TTF/Newark Police safety escort. **2**
- TTF Safe passageway initiative. **Various locations**
- TTF Hotline (973-733-8007) **(36)Truancy complaints**

Committee Chairperson Haynes adjourned the meeting at 6:36pm.