



Roger León
Superintendent

Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

Minutes of the Retreat Board Meeting Saturday, May 18, 2024

President Council convened the meeting at 9:16 a.m. The meeting was held at Newark Board of Education, 765 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07112 with video access provided to the members of the public.

1. **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 this meeting notice was forwarded to City Hall for posting.

2. **Flag Salute**

3. **Roll Call**

Board Members Present:

Ms. Anderson, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Santana, Ms. Vinhas, Ms. Williams, and Mr. Council.

Ms. Haynes arrived at 10:25a.m. and left at 12:13 p.m.

Board Members Absent:

Mr. Gonzalez

Ms. James-Frison

Administrative Staff Present:

Mr. Roger León, Superintendent

Ms. Brenda Liss, General Counsel/Acting Board Secretary

Ms. Nancy Deering, Director, Office of Board Relations

4. **Ice-Breaker**

Ms. Deering led the Board in an ice-breaker activity, testing members' knowledge of the school district and its schools.

5. **Retreat Topics**

Code of Ethics for School Board Members Review

Charlene Peterson, NJSBA Field Service Representative, presented and led the Board in discussion about the following topics:

- School Ethics Act
- Who is Accountable?
- Who Enforces the Act?
- What Training is Mandatory?
- Disclosure Statements
- Code of Ethics for School Board Members
- Prohibited Acts

- Volunteer in Schools
- Social Media

Chief School Administrator Evaluation Process

Ms. Peterson presented and led the Board in discussion about the following topics:

- Purpose of Annual Evaluation
- Legal Guidelines
- School Ethics Commission Guidance
- Evaluation Process
- NJSBA's Evaluation Tool

Committee Meetings, Reports, and Policy Review Procedures

Superintendent León reviewed the Board's committee procedures and protocols, including the following roles:

- Committee Liaison
- Superintendent Representative
- Committee Chair

Ms. Liss reviewed the Board's Policy Review Procedures.

- Board Policy 9000, Role of the Board
- Board Policy 9311, Formulation, Adoption, Amendment of Policies
- Procedure for presenting a proposed policy or amendment for consideration by the Board

The Next Decade: 2020–30 Strategic Plan

Superintendent León provided an update on the district's strategic plan implementation.

- NPS Clarity 2020
- Conception to Cradle
- High School Redesign Strategy
- Feeder Patterns

Board Binder Review

President Council reviewed the new Board Binder, which includes:

- Calendars
- Board Bylaws
- Parliamentary Procedures
- 13 Things School Board Member Wished People Knew...
- NJSBA Who Does What: The role of Board Members & Superintendent
- District Goals & Action Plan
- Committee Goals
- Committee Guidance
- Board Protocols (NJSBA)
- NJSBA Mandatory Training
- Individual/Board Certifications Requirements
- 2024-2025 Conference Dates
- Travel Guidance

Each Board member received a copy of the Board Binder.

6. Public Participation

Ms. Liss reviewed the guidelines for public participation.

No speakers were present.

7. Executive Session

There was a motion made by Ms. Garcia, seconded by Ms. Vinhas, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and matters within the attorney-client privilege. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Moved: Ms. Garcia

Seconded: Ms. Vinhas

Voice vote:

Yeas: Ms. Anderson, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Santana, Ms. Vinhas, Ms. Williams
and Mr. Council **6**

Nays: **0**

Abstentions: **0**

Motion Carried.

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 12:48 p.m.

Minutes of the Executive Session are attached.

8. Reconvene

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

Moved: Ms. Garcia

Seconded: Ms. Santana

Voice vote:

Yeas: Ms. Anderson, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Santana, Ms. Vinhas, Ms. Williams
and Mr. Council **6**

Nays: **0**

Abstentions: **0**

Motion Carried.

The board reconvened in open session at 2:44 p.m.

9. Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Ms. Vinhas.

Moved: Ms. Williams

Seconded: Ms. Vinhas

Voice vote:

Yeas: Ms. Anderson, Ms. Garcia, Ms. Santana, Ms. Vinhas, Ms. Williams
and Mr. Council

6

Nays:

0

Abstentions:

0

Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Ms. La Shon Blake, Office of Board Relations

Reviewed by:

Ms. Brenda Liss, General Counsel/Acting Board Secretary

Approved by:

Mr. Roger León, Superintendent