



Roger León
Superintendent

Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

Minutes of the Board Retreat Meeting Saturday, January 20, 2024

President Council convened the meeting at 9:05 a.m. The meeting was held virtually with audio and video access provided to the members of the Board and public.

I. Call to Order (Reading of Statement) Ms. Valerie Wilson

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, and Luso Americano 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.

II. Flag Salute

III. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Ms. Garcia, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Dawn Haynes, Ms. Santana, Ms. James-Frison, Ms. Williams, and Mr. Council

Ms. Haynes arrived at 9:38 a.m.

Administrative Staff Present:

Mr. Roger León, Superintendent
Ms. Valerie Wilson, Board Secretary
Ms. Brenda Liss, General Counsel
Ms. Nancy Deering, Director of Board Relations

IV. Ethics for School Officials (NJSBA)

Charlene Peterson, NJSBA Field Service Representative for Essex County, presented on school ethics and accountability, including:

- December Resolutions
- Ethics/Accountability
- School Ethics Act
- The School Ethics Act Established
- Who is Accountable?
- Who Enforces the Act?
- SEC Jurisdiction
- What Training is Mandatory?
- Disclosure Statements
- Code of Ethics for School Board Members Only
- Cases Related to the Code of Ethics
- Prohibited Acts
- Conflicts and Recusal
- Relationship Definitions

- Hiring Personnel
- Collective Bargaining
- Advisory Opinions or Cases Related to Prohibited Acts
- Impact on Committee Assessments when Relative Works in-District
- Impact on Executive Session – Relative
- Potential “Advice of Counsel” Defense for Penalties
- Volunteering in School
- Voting
- Social Media
- Disclaimer Q&A
- Social Media- General Guidance
- Points to Consider
- Ethics Reminder
- Resources

V. Parliamentary Procedures

- Why Use Parliament Procedures
- What is Parliamentary Procedure
- Agenda
- History
- Principles of Parliamentary Procedures
- Key to Effective Use
- The Basics
- Importance of the Agenda
- Types of Motions
- Main Motions
- Steps to Process Motions
- Debating a Motion
- Subsidiary Motions
- Examples of Subsidiary Motion: Amend
- A word of Caution
- Other Subsidiary Motions
- Knowledge Check
- Incidental Motions
- Privilege Motions
- Privilege Motions Example
- Bring Back Motions
- Knowledge Check
- Voting Methods
- Voting Requirements
- A Word About Abstentions
- Conflicts and Recusal
- Voting
- Using the Gravel

- Elections
- Tips for the Board Chair/President
- General Tips

VI. Public Participation

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

- Denise Cole
- Che Colter

VII. Adjournment

There was a motion made by Ms. Garcia, seconded by Ms. Haynes to adjourn the meeting.

Moved: Ms. Garcia

Seconded: Ms. Haynes

Voice vote:

Yeas: Ms. Garcia, Mr. Gonzalez, Ms. Haynes, Ms. Santana, Ms. James-Frison,
Ms. Williams and Mr. Council 7

Nays: None 0

Abstentions: None 0

Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Submitted by:

Ms. La Shon Blake, Office of Board Relations

Reviewed by:

Ms. Valerie Wilson, Board Secretary

Approved by:

Mr. Roger León, Superintendent