

**Board of Education of East Newark, Hudson County, NJ
Reorganization/Regular Meeting Minutes May 19, 2021**

Dr. Richard Corbett Board Secretary Pro-Tempore called the virtual meeting to order at 6:15 pm, led the Board in the Salute to the Flag and read the following Opening Statement:

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Goncalves
Ms. Lopez
Ms. Fernandes
Ms. Slattery

Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Richard Corbett

OPENING STATEMENT

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., adequate notification of this meeting has been provided by advertising in the Jersey Journal and posted at the Borough Clerk's Office

EXPLANATION OF VOTING PROCEDURES – DR. CORBETT

MOTION TO OPEN THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT

Motion by: Ms. Slattery
Seconded by: Ms. Fernandes

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

Valeria Slattery nominated Carla Fernandes for President

MOTION TO CLOSE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Slattery

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

ROLL CALL FOR PRESIDENT – CARLA FERNANDES

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Slattery

**ROLL CALL: YES - Ms. Lopez, Ms. Fernandes, Ms. Slattery
NO - Ms. Goncalves**

Carla Fernandes is elected President declines to chair the remainder of the meeting

MOTION TO OPEN THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Fernandes

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

Carla Fernandes nominated Valeria Slattery for Vice President

MOTION TO CLOSE THE FLOOR FOR NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Fernandes

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ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

ROLL CALL FOR VICE PRESIDENT – VALERIA SLATTERY

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Fernandes

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

Valeria Slattery is now elected Vice President

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT AGENDA FOR BOARD COMMENT R 01 – R 19

Motion by: Ms. Fernandes
Seconded by: Ms. Lopez

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

DISCUSSION

Dr. Corbett asked to strike “Board Treasurer” from R-11

MOTION TO CLOSE DISCUSSIONS

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Fernandes

ALL IN FAVOR

RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE R 01 – R19

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Slattery

ROLL CALL: YES 4 NO 0

R-01 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the following meeting dates for the Board of Education business meetings for the 2021-22 School Year, and to advertise this resolution in the official newspaper of the East Newark Board of Education.

- Tuesday, June 22, 2021
- Monday, July 19, 2021
- Monday, August 16, 2021
- Monday, September 20, 2021
- Monday, October 18, 2021
- Monday, November 15, 2021
- Monday, December 20, 2021
- Monday, January 24, 2022
- Monday, February 14, 2022
- Monday, March 14, 2022
- Monday, April 25, 2022

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Monday, May 16, 2022 (reorganization/business meeting)

- R-02** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, designate the Jersey Journal as the official newspaper for advertisement of notices of the East Newark Board of Education; the Observer or the Star Ledger as alternate official newspapers.
- R-03** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves Paul Vizzuso as Board Secretary for the 2021-2022 school year.
- R-04** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves Cecilia E. Lindenfelser, whose address is 570 Kearny Avenue, Kearny, NJ 07032 as Counsel to the East Newark Board of Education for the 2021-22 school year at a rate of \$150.00 per hour. The Board is awarding this contract for professional services, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a) (1), without public advertising for bids.
- R-05** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves Samuel Klein & Company whose address is 550 Broad Street, Newark, NJ 07102 at an annual fee of \$32,450, as the School Auditor for the 2021-22 school year. The Board is awarding this contract for professional services, pursuant to N.J.S.A 18A:18A-5(a) (1), without public advertising for bids.
- R-06** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves George Morville of Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services whose address is 550 Newton-Sparta Road, Newton, NJ 07860, as Insurance Consultant/Risk Manager for the 2021-22 school year with a fee per Fund Agreement for the following:

- Property Insurance
- General Liability
- Employee Benefits Liability
- Crime Insurance
- Business Automobile Insurance
- Umbrella Liability Insurance
- School Board Legal Liability Insurance
- Worker's Compensation Insurance
- Group Accident Insurance
- Student Accident Insurance
- Public Official Bonds

- R-07** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves Dr. Ponciano Palmieri as the School Physician whose address is 332 Harrison Avenue, Harrison, NJ 07029 for the 2021-22 school year at an annual fee of \$4,000. The Board is awarding this contract for professional services, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a) (1), without public advertising for bids.
- R-08** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves USA Architects, Planer + Interiors Designers PA as the Architect of Record, whose address is 332 N. Doughty Avenue, Somerville, NJ 08876 for the 2021-22 school year at per project fee based or fee schedule. The Board is awarding this contract for professional services, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a) (1), without public advertising for bids.
- R-09** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the following compliance positions for the 2021-22 school year as follows:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Appointment</u>
Agency Compliance Office	Richard Corbett

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Affirmative Action Officer	Veronica Pereira
Title IX Coordinator	Rosaura Bagolie, Ed.D.
Section 504 Compliance Officer	Rosaura Bagolie, Ed.D.
A.D.A. Coordinator	School Nurse
Homeless Liaison	Veronica Pereira
ADHERA Compliance Officer	Paul Vizzuso
Right to Know Officer	Paul Vizzuso
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator	Paul Vizzuso
Public Agency Compliance Officer	Paul Vizzuso
Custodian of Public Records	Paul Vizzuso
Health and Safety Officer	Paul Vizzuso
^Purchasing Agent	Paul Vizzuso
Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Coordinator	Paul Vizzuso

^ Bid Threshold \$40,000 and Quote Threshold \$6,000

R-10 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the order of business for the East Newark Board of Education Business Meetings as follows:

- I. Sunshine Statement/Call to Order/Flag Salute
- II. Executive Session (as needed)
- III. Public Comment (Agenda Items Only)
- IV. Superintendent's Report
- V. HIB Report
- VI. Resolutions (consent agenda)
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Public Comments/Questions
- X. Board Comments
- XI. Adjournment

R-11 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the following as Bank Depositories for the East Newark Board of Education, and to designate (1) President or Vice President, and (2) Superintendent (3) Business Administrator as authorized signatories:

Valley National Bank
Bank of America, N.A.

R-12 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the curriculum on file for grades Pre-K through Grade 8 for the for the 2021-22 school year, unless modified upon the recommendation of the Superintendent.

R-13 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the School District Policies & By-Laws as adopted and written in the District Policy Manual (prepared and updated by Strauss Esmay) with the stipulation that the Board may further amend and supplement Board policies, including those policies establishing its own by-laws and operational procedures.

R-14 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the Superintendent and the School Business Administrator as the Board's Agents to request state and federal funds (as determined by the grantor) as follows, under the existing state and federal law as of the date of this organization meeting:

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Non- Public Nursing, Non-Public Textbooks, Chapter 192-193,
Non-Public Technology, IDEA Basic, IDEA Pre-School Flow-Through,
EASA, NCLB, Title I, Title II, Title IV, Title VI,
Emergency Immigrant Education Program

R-15 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the requisition of taxes from the Borough of East Newark to be paid in twelve (12) equal monthly payments for the 2021-22 school year.

R-16 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the following account signatures at Valley National Bank: Board President, Board Vice-President, Treasurer, Superintendent and Board Secretary.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Signatory</u>	<u>No. of Signers</u>
Current Account	Board President Board Vice-President Board Secretary	2
Payroll Account	Board Secretary	1
Payroll Agency	Board Secretary Board President	2
Capital Reserve Account	Board President Board Vice-President Board Secretary	2
Maint. Reserve Account	Board President Board Vice-President Board Secretary	2
Student Activities Account	Board Secretary Superintendent	2
Cafeteria	Board President Board Vice-President Board Secretary	2

R-17 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves Superintendent or designee, be designated to approve such line-item budget transfers as are necessary between Board of Education meetings, and that such transfers shall be reported to the Board of Education, ratified and duly recorded in the minutes of the next regular meeting, as provided by N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1.

R-18 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves the following delegates/representatives be appointed for the 2021-22 school year.

Appointment of _____ as delegate to Hudson County School Boards Association
 Appointment of _____ as alternate delegate to Hudson County School Boards Association
 Appointment of _____ as sending district representative to Town of Harrison Board of Education

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R-19 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, approves substitute teacher compensation at \$100 per diem for the 2021-22 school year.

MOTION TO CLOSE REORGANIZATION MEETING

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Fernandes

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

MOTION TO OPEN REGULAR MEETING

Motion by: Ms. Fernandes
Seconded by: Ms. Lopez

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

PUBLIC COMMENT/QUESTIONS

None

CONSENT AGENDA FOR BOARD COMMENT R 05-943-21 – 05-960-21

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Slattery

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

DISCUSSION

None

MOTION TO CLOSE DISCUSSIONS

Motion by: Ms. Lopez
Seconded by: Ms. Fernandes

ALL IN FAVOR

RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE R 05-943-21 – 05-960-21

Motion by: Ms. Fernandes
Seconded by: Ms. Slattery

ROLL CALL: YES - 4 NO - 0

05-943-21 Be It Resolved, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following minutes as submitted.

- April 19, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes
- April 19, 2021 Executive Meeting Minutes
- May 4, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes
- May 4, 2021 Executive Meeting Minutes

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05-944-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accepts the financial reports as submitted, which include the monthly Board Secretary's report and the Treasurer of School Monies report for the month ended April 30, 2021. The Board notes that the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports are in balance for the cash receipts and disbursements for the month ended April 30, 2021 and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 (c), I, R. Paul Vizzuso, Board Secretary, certify that as of April 30, 2021 no budgetary line-item account has obligations and payments which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the District Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8 and 18A:22-8.1, and that the District financial accounts have been reconciled and are in balance, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that through the adoption of this resolution, we, the East Newark Board of Education, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10, certify that as of April 30, 2021 after review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriation section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

05-945-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Monthly Transfer Reports as submitted for the month ended April 30, 2021.

05-946-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Bill List as submitted in the amount of \$666,492.49 for April 30, 2021 is hereby approved and payment authorized as funds of the board are made available following this meeting.

05-947-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the attached 2021-2022 Tax Levy Payment Schedule to be submitted to the Borough of East Newark as submitted.

05-948-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Food Service Management Company (FSMC) Cost Reimbursable COVID Contract Renewal (6th year) School Year 2021-2022 as submitted.

05-949-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the 2021-2022 CSI Software Support Contract in the amount of \$2,640.00 as submitted.

05-950-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Michael Cedeno for summer work not to exceed 4 days per week at his per diem rate.

05-951-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Nurse Acuna for summer camp.

05-952-21 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, retroactively approves Diana Betancourth paraprofessional for Pre-Kindergarten at a rate of \$13.50 per hour, 29 hours per week with no health benefits.
*employment subject to criminal history review:

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- 05-953-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Janet Gamarra as P/T Bus Driver effective July 6, 2021 at a rate of \$24 per hour, 20 hours per week with no health benefits.
- 05-954-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Stephany Fardin to assist in State testing on May 10 thru May 24 at her daily per diem rate of \$244.78.
- 05-955-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, rescind resolution 03-910-21.
- 05-956-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves retroactively Derris Brown to move on the salary guide to BA Step 7 plus 30, effective March 29, 2021.
- 05-957-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves Derris Brown as Middle School S.S./Science Teacher for the 2021-2022, BA+30 Step 8.
- 05-958-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Agreement between the East Newark Board of Education and the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey effective May 17, 2021 as attached.
- 05-959-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the school calendar for the 2021-22 school year (as attached)
- 05-960-21** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the School Security Grant for the 2020-2021 school year in the amount of \$20,000. The District acknowledges the availability of local funds in case the total estimated costs of the proposed work exceed the school district's grant allowance.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT/QUESTIONS

None

DR. CORBETT REPORTED

TESOL Essay Contest

We are always proud of our students' academic accomplishments. This month, I would like to recognize two students, Valentina Nvidia-Arias and Helen Barreto Martinez who entered a writing competition sponsored by TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of other Languages). Students were asked to reflect, in writing on the topic: *"If you were a teacher, what changes would you make to help new immigrants adjust to your school?"* Under the guidance of their teacher, Mrs. Marlene Hinostroza, both students wrote excellent essays. The exciting news is that Helen won the contest! Congratulations to both students for entering and particularly to Helen on winning this very prestigious contest.

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Summer Camp 2021

We are planning an awesome summer camp experience for our students. As explained previously, summer camp will be expanded this year to provide supplemental instruction and make up for potential learning loss that might have occurred during the extended school closure. Specifically, the summer camp day will be expanded from four to six hours; the week will be extended from four days to five days; and summer camp will go from four weeks to six weeks, beginning July 6 and ending August 13.

While the morning session (8:00 am. to 12:00 p.m.) will focus on academics, the afternoon (12:00 to 3:00 p.m.) will focus on social, emotional, physical and integrating these components through mixed martial arts. Although we intend to make the entire day engaging and fun, Fridays will be “Fun Days” and our goal is to plan an outdoor experience each Friday.

The supplemental funding for the camp is from the ESSER Grant, so students are eligible to participate at no cost. As of today, we have received 77 applications. Students and parents are excited about this opportunity.

Teacher Appreciation / TOY

Due to the pandemic, this year has been wrought with many challenges and our teachers certainly deserve recognition for their dedication and hard work. The week of May 3 was Teacher Appreciation Week and on May 5 (Cinco de Mayo) we had a celebration to recognize their contributions to the education of our young people.

In a special way, I would like to recognize our Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Vanessa Jablonsky who has been designated as East Newark’s “*Teacher of the Year.*” Mrs. Jablonsky has been teaching in East Newark for 11 years at various grades. She is the quintessential early childhood teacher; compassionate, intelligent, and

knowledgeable. Most of all, Vanessa is always helpful and professional. So many times, I have asked Vanessa for assistance. She never says “No.”

Thank you, Mrs. Jablonsky, for years of dedication to the students of East Newark.

Graduation 2021

We are proud of the accomplishments of the Class of 2021, particularly during this very difficult year. Graduation for our eighth-grade students will be held on June 17 at 6:50 p.m. in the middle school gym.

Although seating is limited, the students and staff would be honored by the participation of the members of the Board of Education. To reserve your seat, please let me know if you are able to attend.

Bond Issue

On the evening of Wednesday, May 12 I was informed by our Bond Attorney, Mr. Steve Rogut that Borough Council has agreed to issue a bond for \$353,500 to cover the cost of the bathroom renovations.

You may recall that the sale of the bond for \$1.3 million was already been approved by the Board of School Estimates and the Borough Council and is required for the health and welfare of the students and residents of East Newark. While \$353,000 covers the cost of the bathroom renovations, it fails to fund the building envelop which remains a critical issue since it effects the health and safety of students, staff and the community. The district has already spent \$105,000 on this project in the expectation that it would receive reimbursement for the entire cost of the project (\$1,000,000) as the bonds are sold. In the interests of the students and staff, the Board of Education calls on the Council to perform its required ministerial task and issue the bond in the full amount.

The municipality has been on notice of the deterioration of the District’s facilities. The Board of Education and the Board of School Estimate have advised the Borough of the need to perform safety renovations on the Board’s facilities. The Board of Education and the Board of School Estimate have performed their duties in

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seeking the Council to approve an ordinance for the sale of the bond. In the best interests of the students and for the welfare and safety of the students, staff and residents of the Borough, the Board is imploring to Council to issue the bond sale in the full amount (\$1.3 million) so that this essential repair project can be performed.

Pre-Kindergarten

To provide the board with an update regarding options for Pre-Kindergarten, I have asked Mr. Peter Campisano to attend our next board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: Ms. Goncalves

Seconded by: Ms. Lopez

BE IT RESOLVED, that with no further business to come before the East Newark Board of Education, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m., all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



R. Paul Vizzuso
Business Administrator/Board Secretary