

Board of Education of East Newark, Hudson County, NJ
Regular Meeting Minutes February 28, 2022

Board Secretary R. Paul Vizzuso called the Regular Meeting of the East Newark Board of Education to order on Monday February 28, 2022 at 6:15 p.m., led the Board in the Salute to the Flag and read the following Opening Statement:

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Ms. Fernandes, President, via Telephone
Ms. Ditchkus
Ms. Perez
Ms. Pinto

Absent: Ms. Sarro, Ms. Lopez

Also Present: Dr. Richard Corbett, Superintendent
R. Paul Vizzuso, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

THE REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Covid -19

Testing ~

We scheduled our final Covid-19 testing with *Garden State Infusion* on February 23. Over the past several weeks the number of students testing positive for Covid-19 has decreased dramatically. In fact, the most recent results indicated no positive cases. We have an ample supply of rapid tests available. These will be used as needed.

Masks~

Governor Murphy has announced that the in-school mask mandate will end on March 7. Commissioner of Health, Judy Persichilli stated, "Conditions have improved enough to lift the mask mandate." This is based on the current CALI score of yellow or green throughout the State. In fact, as of February 19, Hudson county is green (at low risk). If the CALI index shows orange or red, and/or if there is a classroom or school outbreak, a mask mandate may return. Ms. Persichilli advises that districts continue to maintain social distancing when possible, hand washing and health screenings. Masks will still be required for those riding school buses and public transportation. Students who test positive will be required to wear a mask until the 10th day after returning from quarantine. This is consistent with the administrative decision of the majority of Hudson County school districts.

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Delayed Opening

Due to a heavy rain snow mix, on February 25, our school opening was delayed until 10:00 a.m. Fortunately, all teachers and students arrived safely. So far, this school year we have used no snow days. As a reminder, school closures and delayed openings are posted on Twitter and Instagram. Please let me know if you would like to be included on our phone-blast list to receive important district announcements, including school closings or delayed openings.

Preschool Expansion

As mentioned last month, I am scheduled to meet with the Pastor of Holy Cross (Fr. John), the architect (Peter Campisano) and our business administrator (Paul Vizzuso) on March 8 to discuss preschool expansion and the use of space at Holy Cross.

Honor Roll / Principals List

The chart below is a comparison of student academic achievement from the first to the second marking period.

Grade	M.P. 1		M.P. 2		Percent change	
	Honor Roll	Principal's List	Honor Roll	Principal's List		
K	22	1	18	3		
1	0	0	3	0		
2	7	0	4	1		
3	4	1	5	1		
4	2	1	2	2		
5	3	0	3	0		
6	5	0	8	1		
7	9	5	9	5		
8	2	1	9	2		
<i>Totals</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>61</i>	<i>15</i>		
Combined		63		76		21% Inc.

The 21% increase in the number of students who achieved Honor Roll or Principal's list from Marking Period 1 to Marking Period 2 indicates that our students and teachers are working hard. As I explained, we are very excited about our academic achievement as measured by I-Ready and I anticipate that the NJSLA assessments will reflect a similar increase in student achievement.

Winter4kids

Our students have thoroughly enjoyed their Winter4Kids experience. Our youngest students completed their third trip on February 26. Our middle school students will enjoy skiing and snowboarding on March 5, 12 and 19.

Read Across America

I am grateful to our community leaders for participating in Read Across America. In particular, Mayor Grilo, Ms. Rose Evaristo, Mr. Robert Dowd, Officers Billy Erezuma and Junior Fiori, have all volunteered their time to read to our young students. It is a wonderful demonstration of service. Thank you!

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Rescheduled Board Meeting

As a reminder, our board meetings for February and March have been rescheduled to accommodate the budget calendar. The board will meet on February 28 and March 28.

CONSENT AGENDA FOR BOARD COMMENT R2-1156-22 – 2-1168-22

Motion by: Mr. Ditchkus

Seconded by: Ms. Perez

ROLL CALL: YES 4 NO 0 ABSTAIN:

- 2-1156-22 Approval of Minutes – Executive Session and Regular Meeting Minutes
- 2-1157-22 Approve Monthly Financial Reports
- 2-1158-22 Approve Transfers
- 2-1159-22 Approve Bill List
- 2-1160-22 Approve Disposal of Surplus Property
- 2-1161-22 Approve Policy First Readings
- 2-1162-22 Revise Resolution# 1-1138-22
- 2-1163-22 Approve Kid Clan Services Agreement
- 2-1164-22 Approve Field Trips for Gifted and Talented Students
- 2-1165-22 Approve SEMI Waiver
- 2-1166-22 Approve Special Services Tuition Contract
- 2-1167-22 Approve Karen Rivadeneira for Sub-Calling Service
- 2-1168-22 Approve Board meeting date change

RESOLUTION BY BLOCK VOTE R2-1156-22 – 2-1168-22

Motion by: Ms. Ditchkus

Seconded by: Ms. Pinto

ROLL CALL: YES 4 NO 0

- 2-1156-22 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following minutes, as submitted.
 - January 31, 2022 Executive Session Minutes
 - January 31, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - February 17, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

- 2-1157-22 **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 January 31, 2022. The Board notes that the Secretary’s and Treasurer’s reports are in balance for the cash receipts and disbursements for the month ended January 31, 2022 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 January 31, 2022 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

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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 January 31, 2022 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.

2-1158-22 **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 January 31, 2022.

2-1159-22 **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 \$364,714.39 for February 24, 2022 is hereby approved and payment authorized as funds of the board are made available following this meeting.

2-1160-22 **WHEREAS**, the East Newark Board of Education is the owner of certain surplus property which is no longer needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, the Board are desirous of selling said surplus property in an "as is" condition without express or implied warranties.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the East Newark Board of Education in the Borough of East Newark, County of Hudson, as follows:

1. The sale of the surplus property shall be conducted through GovDeals pursuant to Passaic County Cooperative Pricing System #38PCCP in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract. The terms and conditions of the agreement entered into with GovDeals is available online at govdeals.com and also available from the East Newark Board of Education.
2. The sale will be conducted online and the address of the auction site is govdeals.com.
3. The sale is being conducted pursuant to Local Finance Notice 2008-9.
4. A list of the surplus property to be sold is as follows:
 - 2010 Chevrolet 16 Passenger
 - Odometer Reading 99,273 miles
 - VIN#: 1GBHG31C181221769
5. The East Newark Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any bid submitted.

2-1161-22 **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, acknowledge the first reading of the following policies:

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First Reading

Policy	Status	Regulation	Title	Summary
2415.05	Mandated Revised		Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluation, Examinations, Testing, Or Treatment	Provides additional details regarding the Federal Code and Regulations
2431.4	Mandated Revised	2431.4	Prevention and Treatment of Sports-Related Concussions and head Injuries	Addresses revisions in N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.2 and N.J.S.A. 18A:40-41.4
2451	Mandated Revised		Adult High School	Reflects new code language and terminology.
2460.30	Mandated New	2460.30	Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services	Addresses the provisions of the recently passed State law P.L. 2021
2622	Mandated Revised	2622 New	Student Assessment	Addresses revisions in N.J.A.C. 6A:8, standards and assessment.
3233	Revised		Political Activities	Replacement of verbiage
5460	Mandated Revised		High School Graduation	Includes updated language and provisions from N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1; 6A:8-5.2; and 6A:8-5.3.
5541	Mandated New		Anti-Hazing	Requires the district's anti-hazing policy be applied to conduct on or off school grounds.
7540	Revised		Joint Use of Facilities	Revision of the term "board of chosen freeholders".

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8465	Mandated Revised	8465	Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts	Updated to align with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.3(e) and the MOA
9560	Mandated Revised		Administration of School Surveys	Updated to reflect the enactment of P.L. 2021 c. 156

2-1162-22 **Be It Resolved,** that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves hiring Evelyn Garcia, Elementary Teacher (BA Step 1, \$43,993 pro-rated, paid through the PEA grant) effective, February 1, 2022. Single benefits, as per CBA.

2-1163-22 **Be It Resolved,** that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the Agreement with Kid Clan Services for ABA Therapy and BCBA Supervision.

ABA Therapy	15 hours per week	\$90 per hour
BCBA Supervision	3 hours per week	\$120 per hour

2-1164-22 **Be It Resolved,** that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the following field trips for the gifted and talented students at a cost of \$5,008 for the 2021-2022 school year.

Topic:	Date:	Grades:
Environmental Planning	March 10 th	7 th & 8 th
Through the Artists Eyes	March 24 th	4 th , 5 th , and 6 th
Wind and Water	March 28 th	2 nd & 3 rd
CSI	April 6 th	4 th , 5 th , and 6 th
See the Forest for the Trees	April 13 th	2 nd & 3 rd
Go with the Flow: Plankton Adventures	April 26 th	7 th & 8 th
Astronomy	May 3 rd	4 th , 5 th , and 6 th
Marsh Explorers	May 19 th	Kdg. – 3 rd

2-1165-22 **Be It Resolved that** the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, that the following SEMI waiver be approved:

WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides the school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district’s participation in the Special Education Medicaid initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2022-23 school year; and

WHEREAS, the East Newark Board of Education in the County of Hudson desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students OR participation in SEMI would not provide a cost benefit to the district based on the projection of the District’s available SEMI reimbursement for the 2021-22 budget year;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the East Newark Board of Education in the County of Hudson hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the

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Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Hudson an appropriate waiver of requirements of NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2022-23 school year.

- 2-1166-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Agreement between Gloucester County Special Services School District to provide 1:1 Aide for student # 5157456913 at a cost of \$41,580 (pro-rated) for the 2021-2022 school year.
- 2-1167-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Karen Rivadeneira for sub-calling service at a rate of \$24.11 per hour, maximum one hour per day on an “as needed” basis.
- 2-1168-22** **Be It Resolved**, that the East Newark Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Board meeting change from March 28, 2022 to Tuesday March 15, 2022 in order to be able to submit the tentative budget to the County Superintendent of Schools by March 17, 2022.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Perez inquired about running an event, mini library, and how to get the students involved on a voluntary basis. This event would planned for Spring 2022. Dr. Corbett requested details of the event to be sent to him and mentioned that the students would be happy to participate.

PUBLIC COMMENT/QUESTIONS

None

BOARD COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: Mr. Ditchkus
Seconded by: Ms. Pinto

BE IT RESOLVED, that with no further business to come before the East Newark Board of Education, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m., all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



R. Paul Vizzuso
Business Administrator/Board Secretary