

BOARD OF EDUCATION
(Official)

April 10, 2018
Elizabeth, New Jersey

The regular agenda meeting of the Board of Education was called on April 10, 2018 at 5:30 p.m., in the MultiPurpose Room, Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education, 544 Pennsylvania Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Board President Maria Carvalho presented the following statement at 5:35 p.m.

“Ladies and Gentlemen, good evening. This is a regular agenda meeting of the Board of Education. Pursuant to New Jersey Statutes and the rules adopted by the Board of Education, notice of this meeting was sent to The Star Ledger and Cablevision of Elizabeth. In addition, this notice is posted on the Bulletin Board in the lobby of 500 North Broad Street, and pursuant to this act, a copy has been filed with the City Clerk of Elizabeth, New Jersey.

“We want to welcome everyone present and our television viewers to this April 10, 2018 meeting of the Board of Education. We are here to govern, provide management oversight, and make policy for the district. The Superintendent manages the district. This is a meeting of the Board in public, not a meeting of the public.

“This meeting is being recorded and will become part of the Elizabeth Board of Education permanent record. In order that the recording will adequately reflect the proceedings, please refrain from talking while others are speaking. We also ask that you silence the sound on your electronic devices. Since it is legally mandated that these proceedings be accurately recorded, we may have to ask for order periodically should noise begin to interfere with our recording capabilities. We are pleased that you have taken time this evening to join us here for our Board of Education meeting. Thank you for your interest in the Elizabeth Public Schools.”

“There will be a public portion for citizens to address the Board. Participants for the public portion may sign in up to the start of the meeting so that they may have the opportunity to speak. The sign-in sheet states the name, address, telephone number and reason that the person wants to comment, whether it is an agenda item or a general education comment.”

Present: Mrs. Barbosa (arr. 5:38 p.m.), Ms. Bathelus (arr. 6:03 p.m.), Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega (arr. 5:41 p.m.), Messrs. Neron, Nina, Mrs. Carvalho – 8
Absent: Mr. Rodriguez – 1

Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr., Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Jennifer Cedeno, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Schools Judy Finch-Johnson, Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta, Comptroller Rajeev Malhotra, Deputy Counsel Heather Ford, and members of the public were in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Board President Carvalho presented the following public participation statement.

“At this time, the microphones are open for public comment to those who have signed in. I shall call individuals to the microphones based on the order of the sign-in. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes in duration. The total time of public comment shall be limited to sixty minutes. No individual is able to yield their time to another individual. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually. The following rules for public participants shall apply: time limits will be strictly enforced, no personal attacks on individuals, no vulgar or indecent language, a person may address the Board no more than once during a single meeting, speakers should refrain from naming individuals, and comments or questions posed during public participation will not be debated. As a reminder, this is a meeting of the Board in public, not a meeting of the public.”

Mrs. Carvalho called upon the first public participant, Christina Moreira, to address the Board.

Christina Moreira, 805 Gebhardt Avenue, spoke about opting out of the PARCC testing.

Mrs. Carvalho thanked her for her comments. Since there were no other public participants signed in to address the Board, Mrs. Carvalho closed this portion of the meeting.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that it is important that she shares with everyone that the PARCC administration is actually part of the state’s accountability plan. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that participation is a part of the accountability scores for each school. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that if the school does not show that they are meeting the 95% participation rate, then it results in a corrective action plan for the district. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that then we have to design a plan that will demonstrate how it is that we will increase our participation rate. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that takes the form of having meetings with parents to educate them on the importance of standardized tests and how we are accountable under Title I to ensure that students do take standardized tests. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that as a result of this our principals have spoken to our teachers and have had multiple communications with regard to the importance of students participating on the PARCC assessment.

Board President Carvalho stated that this is an agenda setting meeting. Mrs. Carvalho stated that we will go tab by tab and each Board member may ask questions. Present for the meeting were Director of Transportation Michael Rijo, Director of Security Matthew Glackin, Acting Director of Athletics Bartolomeo Candelino, Director of Food and Nutrition Services Jamie Leavitt, Director of Bilingual and ESL Education Sandra Nunes, Director of Special Services Diana Pinto-Gomez, Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment Amy Gil, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Aaron Goldblatt, Chief Information Officer-Technology Alberto Marsal, and Purchasing Agent Mario Rodrigues. The Board reviewed the agenda for the April 19, 2018 regular meeting.

Minutes of the Meetings of March 5, 15, and 27, 2018
Secretary/Treasurer’s Report for the Month of February 2018

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Minutes of the Meetings of March 5, 15, and 27, 2018 and the Secretary/Treasurer’s Report for the Month of February 2018 to the agenda.

Personnel Report

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta to speak about the Personnel Report.

Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta gave a synopsis of the report.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she is happy to see promotions and that it is important for people working in the district a long time to be promoted.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if the reason for the change in titles is from a union issue.

Mr. Cuesta responded yes.

Mrs. Barbosa asked about the community attendance liaison position.

Mr. Cuesta explained that this individual helps the schools when students are absent for a certain amount of days, like a truant officer, they visit homes and make sure they have a legitimate reason for being absent.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained that we currently have two individuals who hold that title and they work in the legal department. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that, as Mr. Cuesta mentioned, they follow-up on attendance issues. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the principals provide the attendance liaison officers with a list of students that have exhibited a particular pattern of absences. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that their role is to go door-to-door and to be able to inquire with the family with regard to the reason for their absence especially if there hasn't been communication between the school and family.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Personnel Report to the agenda.

Tuition Report

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if Wilbur Watts is a new facility.

Director of Special Services Diana Pinto-Gomez stated that we have used them in the past. Mrs. Pinto-Gomez explained that it is a very small school, they don't take many students, and the students have to fit specific criteria.

Mr. Nina asked how many out-of-district students we have.

Mrs. Pinto-Gomez responded about 335 including general and special education.

Mr. Neron asked if we are currently working with Union County Educational Services to develop a program for students that we typically would send to Hillcrest Academy. Mr. Neron stated that instead of sending them out-of-district we would work with them here in our district.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that at this present time there is a collaboration with Union County Educational Services in order to work on future plans for designing a program similar to what we had many years ago, the Sunset Program which was an opportunity for students to attend in the evening and be able to recover credits. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that there are conversations taking place with regard to being able to replicate that program for the future.

Mr. Neron asked if we are looking at starting in the Fall.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer responded that it would not be for this school year. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the intent would be for the 19-20 school year.

Mrs. Carvalho asked what department will be working on it.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that at this present time the Director of Special Projects is working with Union County Educational Services to design it. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that all of the instructional directors will be working on it eventually.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if they could get something for the Board so we know where we are with that.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we haven't had a meeting yet. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that as soon as it is on the calendar and one has taken place we will be able to move forward with that.

Mr. Neron asked if it can be done sooner.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer responded that, unfortunately, it takes a year to design the program and then apply to the State Department for approval to be able to run that program.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Tuition Report to the agenda.

Superintendent's Report – Considerations

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Carvalho asked about the Penn Relays.

Acting Director of Athletics Bartolomeo Candelino stated that it has been a tradition in Elizabeth where we have sent our best track runners to the Penn Relays. Mr. Candelino stated that we are asking the Board to continue the tradition for our students that qualified. Mr. Candelino stated that you have to qualify with a specific time in order to be a part of the event. Mr. Candelino stated that they compete against some of the top runners in the country, especially the Northeast.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that we are sending 29 student athletes and congratulated them.

Mrs. Carvalho asked about the League of Innovative Schools Meeting.

Chief of Operations-Technology Alberto Marsal stated that the League of Innovative Schools is a leadership group and 93 school districts from 33 states are participating. Mr. Marsal stated that we not only get to see what others are doing but we also will be demonstrating what we are currently doing here in Elizabeth.

Mrs. Carvalho added the report to the agenda.

Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Nina asked if the request from At Heart's Length for a basketball program is for students in-district or out-of-district and if they are charging the students.

Mr. Kennedy stated that they have charged the students for the uniforms but is not sure of the fee.

Mr. Nina asked Mr. Kennedy to find out the cost charged to the students and whether the students are in-district or out-of-district.

Mr. Kennedy stated that he will get the information.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that the NJ Port Authority is requesting to train lifeguards at our facility and asked if we can form a partnership where some of our children can benefit from their training.

Miss Goncalves asked about the services provided by the YES program.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have had a partnership with Trinitas for many years and they provide counseling services to our students in the high schools. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have the YES Program based at Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy and at Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy to service our students.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities report with a waiver of fees to the agenda.

Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Supplemental Superintendent's Report – Use of Facilities to the agenda.

Superintendent's Report – Field Trips

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes to speak about the requests for field trips.

Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes stated that there are 92 trips requested of which 34 are for high schools, 49 for K-8, and 5 for special services. Mr. Cortes stated that 14 trips are to visit colleges. Mr. Cortes stated that 7 trips to Liberty Hall and Boxwood Hall are supported from the \$5,000. donation received a few months ago.

Director of Special Services Diana Pinto-Gomez stated that we are taking approximately 75 students to compete at the Special Olympics Track and Field on April 22nd.

Mrs. Carvalho asked about the field trips from Director of Instruction and Curriculum.

Director of Instruction and Curriculum Aaron Goldblatt stated that the trips are part of the HISPA partnership. Mr. Goldblatt stated that the students go to corporate offices such as Merck and Prudential and meet professionals with similar backgrounds as their own who have succeeded even though they were immigrants lacking education, language skills, or from poor families. Mr. Goldblatt stated that this is the third year of the program and the stories that these professionals share with our students are very inspiring.

Mrs. Carvalho asked how the students are selected.

Mr. Goldblatt stated that they are selected by the schools and three or four 7th and 8th grade students of Hispanic heritage are selected from each of the ten HISPA schools for each trip.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked for an explanation of how field trips are requested since some schools have more than others.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained the process for a request for a field trip.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked what a good answer is when the community asks her about not having field trips at some schools.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that each school has to be looked at individually. Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained that School No. 1, for example, has what is called reverse field trips. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that School No. 1 has a partnership with Liberty Science Center and they

provide the opportunity to come into the school and provide the experience to the students. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that you have to look at each individual school as to how they provide field trips. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that a lot of our schools leverage technology with the same concept as reverse field trips. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that not everything is going out into the field and a lot is bringing it into the schools.

Mr. Jacobs stated that looking at this list you can see a great disparity among the schools and asked how we encourage schools to have more field trips.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we can have a conversation with our administrators with regard to what particular theme the students are studying and to what it is they are being able to pursue outside of the school. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that a lot of it has to do with reverse field trips from preschool all the way up through the school system. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we can certainly discuss what options may be available but this is reflective of what our schools are largely pursuing. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that at the middle school level you will see a lot of field trips to the college campuses as an opportunity to prepare our students to make the appropriate decisions when they are entering high school. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that at the elementary level it varies with regard to different experiences that each school is pursuing. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that it is an individual decision on the part of the classroom teacher and for the comfort level of being able to take the next step to provide different opportunities. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that a lot of our teachers use our technology initiatives to bring a lot of valuable experiences to the students via technology or through partnerships bringing those experiences into the schools. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that it really is site-based decision making with regard to experiences, externally or bringing the experiences into the classrooms in the schools.

Miss Goncalves asked if our school administrators can sit for a refresher with our assistant superintendents who say yes or no to the school trips so they can know what can or can't get approved. Miss Goncalves stated then the school administrators can relay the message back to the teachers.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we have bulletins that our administrators are required to review with their faculty. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that they have to submit a statement of assurance to the assistant superintendent attesting to the fact that the bulletins have been reviewed with the faculty. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that it is very much a part of our protocol at the present time to ensure that every staff member has a thorough understanding of policies and the procedures as well.

Mr. Neron stated that he met with students at Halsey Academy and they had a very open and robust conversation about field trips. Mr. Neron stated that there is a lot of misunderstanding regarding field trips among students and even advisors. Mr. Neron stated that sometimes advisors say no without an explanation to the students and without presenting them another option. Mr. Neron stated that he agrees with Miss Goncalves to have them sit down with the assistant superintendents to understand the kind of trips that they can go on. Mr. Neron stated that he thinks the teachers stop the trips before it even goes anywhere because they know Board policy but they don't really communicate to the parents and the students to say why this may not be the best possible idea. Mr. Neron stated that instead of saying no, how can we make this possible and how can we make trips that students can participate in. Mr. Neron stated that is the necessary education that must happen but there is a lot of misunderstanding. Mr. Neron stated that from the students and community they think that the Board says no when the Board has not even seen it. Mr. Neron stated that the Board members have not stopped the trips because we have been advocating for trips. Mr. Neron stated that it is really an education for the advisors, parents, and students to understand the nature of the trips that need to happen.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that a vehicle that could be leveraged is the student handbook that is provided to all students electronically on their laptops. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we could provide greater clarity especially for our high school students who are able to go into their handbook and be able to see for themselves in terms of the field trip process. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the trips that we primarily endorse are the ones that are going to provide an educational value.

Mr. Neron stated that he thinks the Board members are very frustrated because we are getting the low end of the stick because it is said that we stop these trips. Mr. Neron stated that we haven't stopped trips and the trips haven't gotten to us. Mr. Neron stated that the students can only do so much and the advisors have to educate the students and direct them. Mr. Neron stated that even though there is a student handbook it has to be very clear. Mr. Neron asked how many parents take out the time and stated that they are just looking at public perception. Mr. Neron stated that he understands the parameters that we put in place and the system that we put in place but at the end of the day, the advisors have to be the driving force behind it to make sure our students understand. Mr. Neron stated that, for instance, tomorrow the students at Edison, Halsey, and Dwyer are going to see that students from Cicarell Academy are going to Boston, MA and they can't even go to the park. Mr. Neron stated that Boston, MA is an educational tour. Mr. Neron stated that if the other schools are doing the same thing and saying let's provide an educational tour to Boxwood Hall, to Trenton, NJ, or to Pennsylvania then that can happen. Mr. Neron asked if there is someone directing them. Mr. Neron stated that he is not placing blame on anybody but he thinks it is really about communication.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that it is certainly a topic to speak with our principals about in our upcoming principals' meeting to ensure that the feedback is going to our students.

Mr. Neron stated that as a Board we are advocating for our directors and supervisors to help us in this process as well.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked why we can't have low-cost trips like Spring Olympics and Fall Olympics in Warinanco Park like other districts. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that we have a beautiful park, Warinanco Park and asked why we can't spend one day in the park and suggested one school go for the day with K-5 in the morning and 6-8 in the afternoon. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that Warinanco Park would not be too expensive and that as a Board member we know we need to save money. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that maybe Union County or someone else can help with the bus and the students will remember it forever. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that we have the library next to Elmora with a wonderful back area where the students can grow vegetables. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked why we don't have a science project combined for schools to visit that specific park and they complete their science curriculum and at the same time they enjoy. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that not everybody has money to visit places. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that sometimes the only trip they have is the field trip provided from the school and this is the reality we have with some students in a disadvantaged district.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that they are asking the directors to help them because we are hearing from the students that the Board said no. Mrs. Carvalho stated that where there is a will there is a way and asked the directors to help them think outside the box. Mrs. Carvalho stated that especially with the high school children they need to be exposed to bigger and better. Mrs. Carvalho stated that some of these children will never see that play and they will never be able to go to these locations unless they experience them. Mrs. Carvalho stated that they won't go back unless we take them when they are in high school. Mrs. Carvalho stated that when they say the Board won't let you do something, then reach out because we will help.

Mrs. Barbosa asked if there is a limit or mile radius on how far we go with field trips.

Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes stated that it varies and depends on the age of the students and if they can get back on time in one day.

Mrs. Barbosa asked if the student activity fund is from fundraising.

Mr. Kennedy explained that the student activity fund checkbook is maintained by the school and is included as part of the audit at the end of the year.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Superintendent's Report – Request for Field Trips to be added to the agenda.

Superintendent's Report – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Investigative Results

Mrs. Carvalho added the report to the agenda.

Authorizations Report

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Director of Instruction and Curriculum Aaron Goldblatt to speak about the Building Capacity for Career Pathways.

Director of Instruction and Curriculum Aaron Goldblatt stated that the Building Capacity for Career Pathways Continuation Grant is for career and technical education programs such as the nursing program at Halsey Academy in partnership with Trinitas Hospital.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Chief of Operations-Technology Alberto Marsal to speak about the Microsoft Showcase School at William F. Halloran School No. 22.

Mr. Marsal stated that we are requesting authorization to make application for William F. Halloran School No. 22 to become a Microsoft Showcase School. Mr. Marsal stated that through the district's one-to-one laptop initiative, the school based technology team worked with students and staff to implement Microsoft programs to maximize instruction utilizing technology in the classrooms.

Mrs. Carvalho asked why School No. 22.

Mr. Marsal responded that School No. 22 volunteered and other schools are watching and ready to go.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Director of Instruction and Curriculum Aaron Goldblatt to speak about the WE Charities.

Mr. Goldblatt stated that the WE Charities is recognizing Shernick Barthelus, eighth grade student at Joseph Battin School No. 4, as a special guest at the WE Day Broadcast and Event in Los Angeles, California. Mr. Goldblatt stated that Shernick Barthelus is being recognized for her efforts in combatting hunger by raising awareness and setting up a food pantry in her school so struggling families can receive ongoing assistance.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Assistant Superintendent for Schools Rafael Cortes to speak about a donation.

Mr. Cortes stated that Elizabeth High School and University of Pennsylvania alumnus Patrick Hackett and his wife Janienne donated \$7,500.00 for twenty-five eleventh grade students from Elizabeth High School Frank J. Cicarell Academy to take the SAT Fundamentals Course. Mr. Cortes thanked them for their generous gift.

Miss Goncalves asked how the students were selected.

Mr. Cortes stated that the students had to have an interest, be available to attend classes on Tuesday afternoon and Saturday, and have the criteria to attend the University of Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she is happy to see the approval for a school visit by senior citizens to read to preschool students. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega thanked the person responsible for this visit.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Principal Jocelyn Rodriguez requested the visit. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51 is striving to become a Character Education School.

Ms. Bathelus stated that she would like to meet the student recognized by the WE Charities.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we can recognize her achievement at a Board meeting.

Mrs. Barbosa stated that we are participating in the Six Flags Autism Day.

Mrs. Carvalho added the report to the agenda.

Supplemental Authorizations Report

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that on April 5, 2018 twenty-three high school students participated in the *Youth Against Gun Violence: Keep the Movement Going* roundtable with New Jersey high school and college students along with public officials at the Lesniak Institute for American Leadership located at Kean University. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that building on the national movement to stop gun violence and the event at Parkland, Florida the students and officials gathered at the roundtable for an opportunity to join the national youth movement to stop gun violence and to plan the next steps for student action in our state.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment Amy Gil to speak about the NAAD symposium.

Director of Research, Evaluation and Assessment Amy Gil stated that the National Association of Assessment Directors (NAAD) invited Samuel Etienne, Principal of Winfield Scott School No. 2, to present at its Symposium on April 14th in New York City. Mrs. Gil stated that Panasonic Foundation Senior Consultant Adrienne Bailey is a Board member on NAAD and invited us to participate. Mrs. Gil stated that the symposium is part of the meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME) which is scheduled during the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). Mrs. Gil stated that Mr. Etienne will highlight the work of the Elizabeth Public Schools with regard to benchmark assessments for a national audience.

Mr. Jacobs asked about the job fair.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer requested Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta to speak about the job fair.

Chief of Operations Francisco Cuesta stated that the district has participated in five job fairs in the last few months. Mr. Cuesta stated that the district is holding a job fair at Monsignor João S. Antão School No. 31 on Saturday, June 2, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mr. Cuesta

stated that the anticipated positions include elementary, bilingual, language arts literacy, mathematics, science, and others.

Mr. Jacobs stated that it is very important to concentrate on diversity.

Mrs. Carvalho added the report to the agenda.

Finance and Accounting Report – Authorization to Pay Vouchers, etc.

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Nina asked about the payment to Catapult Learning and if parents get charged.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that Catapult Learning is for preschool before and after school. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that through the Department of Human Services the parents pay based on a sliding scale and it is not funded through the district.

Mr. Kennedy explained that we cover for security and our teachers taking the children on and off the bus.

Mr. Nina asked who is responsible for workers' compensation.

Mr. Kennedy responded that he will get the answer.

Mr. Nina requested that counsel look over the contract to see for what we are responsible.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that we need to provide the best security beginning with PreK. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega asked if this was for Pre-K - 1st grade and stated that some schools have PreK and kindergarten.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained that in our district the program is for preschool only.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that it is for PreK 3 and PreK 4 only. Mrs. Carvalho stated that we offer a program for K-8.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained that there is an after school program for grades K-8.

Mr. Nina asked if the parents still get charged for the day from Catapult when the district has a half day.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we will look into it.

Mrs. Barbosa asked about the payments for the Ripken Experience.

Acting Director of Athletics Bartolomeo Candelino stated that the baseball team traveled to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Mr. Candelino stated that this is part of the expense and that the total cost is much more.

Mr. Nina asked if the baseball team does fundraising.

Mr. Candelino stated that the Baseball Diamond Club does the fundraising.

Mr. Nina asked for the total cost.

Mr. Candelino stated that he will provide the information.

Mrs. Carvalho thanked Mr. Candelino for continuing the experience and stated that the baseball team gains from it.

Mr. Neron asked if we can look at fundraising by the PTOs at each school. Mr. Neron stated that it makes a difference on the trips they are taking at the schools.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the PTOs are individually managed and it is not through the district. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that a meeting can be set with all the PTO Presidents to have a conversation.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she would like to part of that meeting.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that Board member Stephanie Goncalves started roundtable meetings.

Mrs. Barbosa asked if the PTO is separate from student activity.

Mrs. Carvalho responded yes.

Mrs. Carvalho added the report to the agenda.

Supplemental Finance and Accounting Report – Transfer of Funds

Mrs. Carvalho added the report to the agenda.

Award of Contracts Report

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Bathelus asked what kind of snacks are provided by U.S. Foods.

Director of Food and Nutrition Services Jamie Leavitt stated that the snacks provided meet all the approved guidelines. Ms. Leavitt stated that there are five contracts for food services and some only had one bidder.

Mr. Jacobs asked if there was only one bidder because of the way the bids were constructed.

Purchasing Agent Mario Rodrigues explained the procurement process.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that she had lunch with students at Halsey. Mrs. Carvalho stated that it is no one's fault but the students are not eating the lunches.

Ms. Leavitt stated that at Dwyer and Halsey over 1200 lunches are served daily. Ms. Leavitt explained that we are bound by the U.S. Government to serve certain foods with others. Ms. Leavitt stated that we purchase \$600,000. of pizza each year. Ms. Leavitt stated that we have to have certain sub-groups of foods, red/orange one day and dark green another day.

Mr. Neron stated that we have to advocate for diverse lunches and different options. Mr. Neron asked how we can negotiate to support healthy eating.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that we want to provide something that they will eat.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that we need to try to educate the community to eat healthy and review the quality of the products.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that at a previous Board meeting Supervisor of Physical Education, Health and Safety Joseph Przytula presented the healthy eating program Healthier Alliance in conjunction with the American Heart Association and the Bill Clinton Foundation. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the program emphasizes exercise and eating well and has incentives for the schools to earn awards.

Mrs. Barbosa asked who sets up the menu.

Ms. Leavitt stated that the menu is set monthly and every meal has to comply with the guidelines including whole wheat grains, low fat milk, and subgroups. Ms. Leavitt stated that we also have to use our budget and budget controls. Ms. Leavitt stated that we use processed commodity foods and we want to serve what children like to eat.

Ms. Bathelus requested a listing of the menu for this month and next month.

Ms. Leavitt stated that the menus are on the website.

Ms. Bathelus requested that it be sent with the requirements. Ms. Bathelus stated that when you serve our students the tray is specific and asked if there can be a bar.

Ms. Leavitt stated that in each high school we do have a salad bar.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that an Ad Hoc Committee for Food Service Operations will include Chairperson Rosa Moreno-Ortega and Board members Diana Barbosa and Charlene Bathelus.

Miss Goncalves thanked Director of Transportation Michael Rijo for the Let's Talk training for bus drivers.

Director of Transportation Michael Rijo stated that the training for bus drivers will be on June 28th and 29th and will include recognizing bullying, accident procedures, bus evacuations, passenger security, safety, and student discipline.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Award of Contracts Report to the agenda.

Supplemental Award of Contracts Report

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Carvalho added the report to the agenda.

Miscellaneous Communication

Claims List

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mrs. Carvalho added the Miscellaneous Communication and Claims List to the agenda.

Resolution – Kindness Awareness Month

Resolution – National School Nurse Day

Resolution – Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

Resolution – National Teacher Appreciation Week

Resolution – Special Education Week

Resolution – Holocaust Remembrance Day

Resolution – Better Speech and Hearing Month

Resolution – Bilingual Multicultural Education Month

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions on the above resolutions.

Mr. Neron stated that we are passing a lot of resolutions and asked if there is a list of activities that the schools do for them.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that she will provide the list. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we are testing from April 23rd through mid-May so there are not too many activities at this time.

Mrs. Carvalho added the above resolutions to the agenda.

Resolution – Essex Regional Educational Services Commission Transportation Services for the 2018-2019 School Year

Resolution – Educational Services Commission of NJ - Coordinated Transportation Services for the 2018-2019 School Year

Resolution – Approving Renewal of Contract - Cream-O-Land Dairies, LLC for Fluid Juice Products

Resolution – Approving Renewal of Contract - Cream-O-Land Dairies, LLC for Dairy Products

Resolution – Approving Renewal of Contract – American Commercial Equipment Repair Corp.

Resolution – Approval of Superintendent of Schools Contract

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions on the above resolutions.

Mr. Neron stated that he thought we already did the contract for Superintendent.

Mr. Williams explained the approval process from the State of New Jersey that has to happen before the Board can vote on the resolution.

Mrs. Carvalho added the above resolutions to the agenda.

Resolution – Payment for Medical Health Insurance Waiver

Resolution – Residence Investigative Results and Actions

Resolution – Payment for Unused Vacation Days

Resolution – Payment for Unused Sick Days

Resolution – Essex Regional Educational Services Commission Home Instruction Services 2018-2019 School Year

Mrs. Carvalho asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Nina commended the investigators and legal department who have been doing residence investigations and vetting parents twice a month.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that they have found students attending our schools who do not live in our City.

Mrs. Carvalho added the resolutions to the agenda.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that the following resolutions will be added to the agenda:

Resolution – Approval of Form of Contract - RP Baking LLC for Bread and Rolls

Resolution – American Wear Inc. for Food Service Uniforms

Resolution – Maximum Quality Foods for Process Commodity

Resolution – Armored Car Services for Food Services

Resolution – Blejwas Associates for Air Filters

Mr. Williams stated that the above five resolutions are subject to attorney review.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she would like to sit down with the Superintendent because she has a lot of questions on the policies.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer explained that the policy changes come from New Jersey School Boards. Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that some are a change in name, for example, from the Electronic Violence and Vandalism Reporting System (EVVRS) to the new Student Safety Data System (SSDS). Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that she will be available to meet and talk about the changes.

Mrs. Carvalho asked Director of Security Matthew Glackin about the training for security guards last week.

Director of Security Matthew Glackin responded that it went very well. Mr. Glackin stated that the training included backpack searches, school search policy, critical incident analysis, and CPR, First Aid, and AED training.

Mrs. Carvalho asked what happens if a guard misses the training.

Mr. Glackin stated that if there is no excuse he doesn't get paid. Mr. Glackin stated that if the guard misses the CPR, First Aid, and AED training they have to pay for it and take it on their own time. Mr. Glackin stated that out of 151 guards only three did not come and two had valid excuses.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that the DOE has an active shooter training video and asked if it is mandatory training. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she is happy with the security in the morning.

Mr. Glackin stated that the training is mandatory. Mr. Glackin stated that the administrators and security guards had active shooter training.

Mrs. Carvalho stated that Mr. Neron met with students and discussed security issues.

Mr. Neron asked if we are reviewing the information with students.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that we go through two drills every month and it was an important finding from the roundtable meetings that students understand why there is training.

Mr. Glackin stated that the students need to know what to do if something happens.

Mrs. Barbosa and Mr. Nina excused themselves from the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Neron stated that the message from the students is that the students can see if the teachers and staff are there for them and they know who will save and protect them and who won't. Mr. Neron stated that they need to be able to identify who is a potential threat.

Mr. Glackin stated that part of the training they received in the past that is still relevant today is that if you see something, say something. Mr. Glackin stated that the Prosecutor's Office is taking every incident very seriously.

Mr. Neron asked if maintenance and kitchen staff are being trained.

Mr. Glackin stated that they have not been trained yet but they do participate in the monthly drills.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that the training will include principals and vice principals, the crisis team, and support staff.

Mr. Neron asked if all the programs in the schools get the training including the Dental Program at School No. 1 and the Yes Program, and stated that they need the training as well.

Mrs. Hugelmeyer stated that they are part of our training.

Mrs. Moreno-Ortega thanked the special education supervisor and stated that she knows it is a really hard moment for her. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that it was exciting at the Autism Walk and that as a mother of someone with special needs she appreciates it. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that it is not only her but everyone who supports it, Board members and our entire community. Mrs. Moreno-Ortega stated that she is very happy that we are a district that includes the special education population.

Mr. Nina returned to the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

The President requests a motion to go into Private Session to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act. The Board will reconvene in public to add to the agenda.

A motion was made by Ms. Bathelus, seconded by Miss Goncalves, to go into private session at 7:45 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Ms. Bathelus, Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Messrs. Neron, Nina, Mrs. Carvalho – 7

Negative: None

Ms. Bathelus excused herself from the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Mr. Neron excused himself from the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

A motion was made by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mrs. Barbosa, to reconvene in public session at 9:40 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Nina, Mrs. Carvalho – 5

Negative: None

Mrs. Carvalho amended the private session statement to consider matters exempt under the Open Public Meetings Act, specifically for discussion of personnel, specifically, reorganization, appointments D.D., J.F., B.C., J.M., suspension R.R., termination R.R., fit for duty K.B., J.T., 18-19 school calendar, directors' contract, trade unions contract; legal, specifically, settlement agreement S.W., F.N.; and workers' compensation claims M.R., J.C., J.R., and D.S. Mrs. Carvalho stated that the Board will reconvene in public to take formal action.

Mrs. Carvalho added the following resolutions to the agenda:

Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim – M.R.

Resolution – Settlement of Workers' Compensation Claim – D.S.

Resolution – Directors' Contract

Resolution – Appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Schools – Judy Finch Johnson

Resolution – Appointment of Director of Athletics – Bartolomeo Candelino

Resolution – Appointment of Principal – James Mondesir

Resolution – Appointment of Supervisor of Guidance – Anthony DiDonato

Resolution – Suspension – R.R.

Resolution – Termination – R.R.

Resolution – Fit for Duty – K.B.

Resolution – Fit for Duty – J.T.

Resolution – Reorganization – Job Description
Resolution – Settlement Agreement – S.W.
Resolution – Settlement Agreement – F.N.
Resolution – Trade Unions Contract
Authorization – 2018-2019 School Year Calendar

On a motion by Miss Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Nina, the agenda meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

The motion was carried by the following vote:

Affirmative: Miss Goncalves, Mr. Jacobs, Mrs. Moreno-Ortega, Mr. Nina,
Mrs. Carvalho – 5
Negative: None

Harold E. Kennedy, Jr.
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary