

TRENTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
108 North Clinton Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08609
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Monday – July 8, 2019 – 5:30 PM

Completed July 16, 2019
Convened at 5:37 P.M.

Call to Order

Board President Addie Daniels-Lane called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Daniels-Lane led the salute to the flag.

Roll Call

Present:

Gene Bouie
Addie Daniels-Lane
Yolanda Marrero-Lopez
Gerald Truehart II
Jeannie Weakliem

Absent:

Emily Hernandez
Fiah Kwesseu
Taraun McKnight
Sadé Williams

Superintendent of Schools – Dr. Fredrick H. McDowell Jr. - Absent

Business Administrator/Board Secretary – Jayne Howard - Present

New Jersey Sunshine Law - Read by Board President Daniels-Lane

The New Jersey Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right to the public to have advanced notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted on.

On the rules of this act, the Trenton Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by publicizing the date, time and place, therefore posted in the Central Services Building, 108 North Clinton Avenue, City Clerk's Office, City Hall, the Times and the Star Ledger. Anyone whose name is on the mailing list should receive a notice.

Formal action will take place at this meeting.

Mission Statement - Read by Board President Daniels-Lane

All students will graduate with a vision for their future, motivated to learn continually and prepared to succeed in their choice of college or career.

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Adoption Of Agenda

Motion was made by Mr. Bouie and properly seconded to adopt the agenda. Agenda was adopted by all Board Members present.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Gene Bouie	X		
Emily Hernandez	absent		
Fiah Kwesseu	absent		
Yolanda Marrero-Lopez	X		
Taraun McKnight	absent		
Gerald Truehart II	X		
Jeannie Weakliem	X		
Sadé Williams	absent		
Addie Daniels-Lane	X		

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Jessica Kirk, representing the PTO, asked for Board support for PTOs, PTAs and parental involvement in the District. She stated that parents want to help, but they do not feel welcome in some schools. She also expressed concern about outside companies serving small groups of children. She felt that these organizations should be offering services to all the students.

Mr. Darren Freedom Green, Community, said that people have lost faith in the Trenton Public Schools. He stated that the next Superintendent needs to rebuild that faith and understand the community.

Ms. Janice Williams, Grievance Chair for the Trenton Education Association (TEA), said that many teachers are willing to work collaboratively. Additionally, Title funds are given to schools for parental involvement. Ms. Williams said the Board should ask the Principals how this funding is being spent. She also spoke about union consensus regarding who should be the Interim Superintendent, and about the legal requirements for holding the position. Ms. Williams stated the community and taxpayers are in line with the union consensus, and there will be a revolt if their wishes are not heeded.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Truehart said there are monthly parent/community engagement meetings in many schools across the District, and much progress has been made. He thanked Ms. Kirk for bringing the issue to the Board's attention. Mr. Truehart asked for an update on the facilities moves at a Board meeting in the near future.

President Daniels-Lane also thanked Ms. Kirk for her comments, and she said the Board is working on assigning themselves to individual schools. She encouraged parents to contact Board Members via their District emails.

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Mr. Bouie asked if the Certificate of Occupancy is still on target for the new TCHS. President Daniels-Lane said this question will be followed up with the Facilities Administrator to provide an update.

BOARD DISCUSSION & ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Superintendent’s Recommendations:

Human Resources

Mr. Truehart wished to acknowledge Mr. Reginald Murray publicly for his accomplishments during 41 years of service to the District.

Motion was made by Mr. Truehart and seconded by Mr. Bouie to approve the Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda was **approved** by all Board Members present.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Gene Bouie	X		
Emily Hernandez	absent		
Fiah Kwesseu	absent		
Yolanda Marrero-Lopez	X		
Taraun McKnight	absent		
Gerald Truehart II	X		
Jeannie Weakliem	X		
Sadé Williams	absent		
Addie Daniels-Lane	X		

Human Resources

BE IT RESOLVED that the Trenton Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, approves the following personnel transactions:

a. ABOLISHMENT OF POSITIONS - EFFECTIVE 07/01/2019 – 06/30/2020

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>NUMBER OF POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>
Truck Driver	1	Warehouse

b. CREATION OF POSITIONS - EFFECTIVE 07/01/2019 – 06/30/2020

<i>TITLE</i>	<i>NUMBER OF POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>
Store Keeper II	1	Warehouse

c. RETIREMENT

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>YEARS OF SERVICE</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE</i>	<i>NOTE</i>
Murray	Reginald	Health and Physical Education Teacher	TCHS	41	7/1/19	

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d. RESIGNATION

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE</i>	<i>NOTE</i>
Scheer	Jordana	Art Teacher	Hill	7/1/19	

e. EMERGENT HIRES

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>SALARY/STEP</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE</i>	<i>NOTE</i>
Silver	Lisha	Math Teacher	Rivera	\$56,465-BA, Step 1-TEA	9/1/19-6/30/20	Replacing R. Kanter who retired.
Pokryska	Ronald	Music Teacher	Rivera	\$56,465-BA, Step 1-TEA	9/1/19-6/30/20	Replacing R. Fell who retired.
Bradbury	Jennifer	Music Teacher	Rivera	\$56,465-BA, Step 1-TEA	9/1/19-6/30/20	Filling a vacancy.
Grillo	Heather	Elementary Teacher Gr. 4	Kilmer	\$56,465-BA, Step 1-TEA	9/1/19-6/30/20	Filling a vacancy.
Brown-Russell	Tresian	Elementary Teacher Gr. 4	Kilmer	\$56,465-BA, Step 1-TEA	9/1/19-6/30/20	Filling a vacancy.
Romolo	Danielle	Elementary Teacher Gr. 2	Kilmer	\$56,465-BA, Step 1-TEA	9/1/19-6/30/20	Filling a vacancy.
Fox	Bryan	Social Studies Teacher	Trenton Restorative Academy	\$56,465-BA, Step 1-TEA	9/1/19-6/30/20	Filling a vacancy.

f. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE ADMINISTRATOR FOR 2019-2020

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>SALARY</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE</i>
Theadford	Brita	Talent Acquisition and Development/Human Resources	\$450 per day	7/1/19-6/30/20

g. APPOINTMENT

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>SALARY</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE</i>
Gaymon-Ojeikere	Keshia	Interim Principal	Harrison	\$140,945, Step 1-TASA	7/1/19-10/1/19
Harris	Tammy	Elementary Teacher Gr. 2	Kilmer	No change in salary	9/1/19-6/30/20
Cekoric	Carol	Elementary Teacher Gr. 4	Kilmer	No change in salary	9/1/19-6/30/20
Rodgers	Davon	Social Studies Teacher	Trenton Restorative Academy	No change in salary	9/1/19-6/30/20

h. APPOINTMENT-SUMMER

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>SALARY</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE</i>	<i>NOTE</i>
South	Rotanda	Summer School Teacher	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775

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		(Substitute)				total program.
Ogbeni	Reward	Summer School Teacher (Substitute)	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775 total program.
Milligan	Meredith	Summer School Teacher (Substitute)	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775 total program.
Rosario	Joel	Summer School Teacher (Substitute)	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775 total program.
Campbell	Dieisha	Summer School Teacher (Substitute)	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775 total program.
Orense	Sonia	Summer School Teacher (Substitute)	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775 total program.
Caceres	Glinys	Summer School Teacher (Substitute)	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775 total program.
Fennell	Gerry	Summer School Teacher (Substitute)	TCHS	\$42.00	7/1/19-8/20/19	Not to exceed \$5,775 total program.
Hanscomb	Kendra	ELA Teacher for Summer Bridge Program (Rising 9th Graders)	9th Grade Academy	\$36.00/ \$42.00	7/29/19-8/26/19	Not to exceed \$7,500 total program.
Kelley	Dawn	ELA Teacher for Summer Bridge Program (Rising 9th Graders)	9th Grade Academy	\$36.00/ \$42.00	7/29/19-8/26/19	Not to exceed \$7,500 total program.
Campbell	Shanitta	ELA Teacher for Summer Bridge Program (Rising 9th Graders)	9th Grade Academy	\$36.00/ \$42.00	7/29/19-8/26/19	Not to exceed \$7,500 total program.
Green	Fred	Math Teacher for Summer Bridge Program (Rising 9th Graders)	9th Grade Academy	\$36.00/ \$42.00	7/29/19-8/26/19	Not to exceed \$7,500 total program.
Hendryx	Dawn	Math Teacher for Summer Bridge Program (Rising 9th Graders)	9th Grade Academy	\$36.00/ \$42.00	7/29/19-8/26/19	Not to exceed \$7,500 total program.
Conrad	Tara	Math Teacher for Summer Bridge Program (Rising 9th Graders)	9th Grade Academy	\$36.00/ \$42.00	7/29/19-8/26/19	Not to exceed \$7,500 total program.

i. Salary Adjustments

<i>LAST NAME</i>	<i>FIRST NAME</i>	<i>POSITION</i>	<i>LOCATION</i>	<i>FROM SALARY</i>	<i>TO SALARY</i>	<i>EFFECTIVE</i>	<i>NOTE</i>
Bethea	Alakee	Behavior Specialist	Jefferson	\$55,065 - BA, Step 3 - TEA	\$55,565 - BA, Step 4 - TEA	9/1/2015 - 6/30/2016	Previously on 6/28/2019 agenda

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Daniels-Lane read the Executive Session Resolution:

EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION
July 8, 2019

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WHEREAS, The Open Public Meetings Act, codified as N.J.S.A. § 10:4-6, et seq., permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting under certain circumstances; and,

WHEREAS, the Trenton Board of Education is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist, indicated as follows:

Personnel matters related to the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion, or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individuals who could be adversely affected request, in writing, that the matter be discussed at a public meeting;

MATTERS/CAPTION: Superintendent Search Process, Superintendent's Deliverables, Administrator's Employment

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Trenton Board of Education, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, that an Executive Session will be held on July 8, 2019 for the statutorily permissible purposes indicated in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that action may be taken by the Board when it reconvenes in Open Session.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the Executive Session with regard to the above subject matter shall be disclosed to the public at a later date and to the extent that the same is not prejudicial to the interests of the parties involved, no longer adverse to the public interest, or does not endanger any individual's right to privacy.

At this time, President Daniels-Lane stated that representatives of the Board have met with Union Leadership, Community members and the Leadership Team to solicit input regarding the Superintendent Search. The Board will review all the feedback and exercise its responsibility to design a process for selecting its one and only employee – the Superintendent of Schools. This will be done in accordance with the previous posting and the policies and requirements of the County and the State. Ms. Daniels-Lane said a posting should be made public shortly for the position of Interim Superintendent. In the meantime, Assistant Superintendent Shelley Jallow is sitting in an Acting capacity while Dr. McDowell is absent. There will most likely be another community meeting at the end of July or the beginning of August for further updates and input. In the meantime, there is a process which must be followed.

Motion was made by Mr. Bouie and properly seconded to adjourn the meeting into Executive Session. **All** were in favor, **0** opposed **0** abstentions.

ADJOURN 6:10 p.m.

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REOPEN PUBLIC MEETING

Open Public Meeting reconvened at 8:10 p.m. No formal Board action was taken. President Daniels-Lane advised the public that the Board will meet again on either July 16 or July 29 to approve the Job Description and Posting for the position of Interim Superintendent.

Motion was made by Mr. Bouie and properly seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

ADJOURN 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Jayne S. Howard

Jayne S. Howard
Business Administrator/Board Secretary