

TRENTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
108 North Clinton Avenue
Trenton, New Jersey 08609
RETREAT MINUTES
Friday – June 29, 2018 – 5:30 to 9:30 PM
Saturday – June 30, 2018 – 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Completed July 23, 2018
Convened at 5:55 P.M.

Call to Order

Board President Gene Bouie called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Bouie called for the salute to the flag.

Roll Call

Present:

Gene Bouie
Addie Daniels-Lane
Fiah Kwesseu
Yolanda Marrero-Lopez
Gerald Truehart II
Lucy Vandenberg
Heather Watson

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

Business Administrator/Board Secretary – Jayne Howard - Present

New Jersey Sunshine Law - Read by Board President Bouie

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 and the Times. Anyone whose name is on the mailing list should receive a notice.

Formal action will not take place at this meeting.

Mission Statement - Read by Board President Bouie

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 Ms. Daniels-Lane and seconded by Ms. Kwesseu to adopt the agenda. Agenda was adopted by all Board Members present.

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Addie Daniels-Lane	X		
Fiah Kwesseu	X		
Yolanda Marrero-Lopez	X		
Gerald Truehart	X		
Lucy Vandenberg	X		
Heather Watson	X		
Gene Bouie	X		

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Board.

BOARD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Training was facilitated by Dr. Joseph Youngblood and Mr. Bill Watson from Khafre Solutions LLC (handouts attached). The retreat centered on community engagement. Areas of discussion included:

- Guiding values and vision
- Definition of community engagement
- Tangible interaction with the public
- Different identities for different schools
- Trust among Board Members
- Varied perspectives and approaches
- Reconciling differences
- Ways to demonstrate caring to the community
- Building a framework
- Working with unions on shared values
- Engaging the community early in the decision making process
- Building authentic relationships
- Appreciation for the humanity and culture of students; investment in future leaders
- Acknowledgement of the caring, compassion and dedication of employees
- Parents' deep desires for their students' success, and trust in the school system
- Diversity, persistence and pride of community; vocal in sharing their opinions, which helps the Board
- Staff is professional and ethical
- Celebrating the value of everyone's contribution
- Community is parents, students, colleagues, unions, non-profits, corporations, faith-based partners, elected and appointed officials, residents/neighbors

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- Engagement is involvement, support, being fully present, having a shared vision and purpose, based on trust
- Priorities are formed by community engagement
- Mechanism for improved listening
- Feeling a part of community
- Context relative to community engagement
- Finding common priorities for all

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Ms. Marrero-Lopez and seconded by Ms. Kwesseu to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session at 8:14 p.m. The Board and Superintendent met in Executive Session to discuss the 2017-2018 CSA Evaluation, with the exception of Ms. Watson. Executive Session adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m. on June 29, 2018.

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened on June 30, 2018 at 9:11 a.m. to continue the Retreat.

Call to Order

Board President Gene Bouie called the meeting to order at 9:11 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Bouie called for the salute to the flag.

Roll Call

Present:

Gene Bouie
Addie Daniels-Lane
Yolanda Marrero-Lopez
Gerald Truehart II
Lucy Vandenberg
Heather Watson

Absent:

Fiah Kwesseu

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

Business Administrator/Board Secretary – Jayne Howard - Present

New Jersey Sunshine Law - Read by Board President Bouie

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Formal action will not take place at this meeting.

Mission Statement - Read by Board President Bouie

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.

Adoption Of Agenda

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

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
Addie Daniels-Lane	X		
Fiah Kwesseu	absent		
Yolanda Marrero-Lopez	X		
Gerald Truehart	X		
Lucy Vandenberg	X		
Heather Watson	X		
Gene Bouie	X		

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Board.

BOARD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Youngblood and Mr. Watson from Khafre Solutions LLC continued the discussion on establishing a community engagement plan. The following points were addressed:

- First draft of the Board’s vision for community engagement – in-depth discussion
- Steps towards roll out and execution of the plan
- Use of various media to engage the community
- Creation of access points for engagement opportunities
- Broader engagement beyond individual issues
- Respecting cultural differences and treating all stakeholders fairly
- The goals of public participation
- Challenging old ways of thinking
- Handling external pressures
- Level of engagement for different issues
- Test framework addressing chronic student absenteeism

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ADJOURN

Motion was made and properly seconded to adjourn the Retreat at approximately 2:43 p.m. on June 30, 2018.

Respectfully submitted

Jayne S. Howard

Jayne S. Howard
Business Administrator/Board Secretary