

**TRENTON BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**108 North Clinton Avenue**  
**Trenton, New Jersey 08609**  
**BOARD RETREAT MINUTES**  
**Thursday – August 31, 2017 – 6:00 P.M.**

**Completed September 12, 2017**  
**Convened at 6:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order**

Board President Gene Bouie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

President Bouie led the salute to the flag.

**Roll Call**

**Present:**

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

**Absent:**

D. A. Graham  
Jane Rosenbaum  
Gerald Truehart II

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

**Business Administrator/Board Secretary** – Jayne Howard - Present

**Also Present** – State Monitor Dr. Les Richens

**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 take place at this meeting.

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**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 of career.

**Adoption Of Agenda**

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

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

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR BOARD MEMBERS**

President Bouie welcomed everyone to this extension of the Board Retreat that was held on August 10 & 11. He said that if the Board is to be successful, it is important to learn together as a team, especially in light of the fact that there are several new Board Members, including himself.

Mr. Jesse Adams, Field Service Representative for New Jersey School Boards Association, gave a presentation on Committee Effectiveness and Roles (handout attached). Board questions and comments were in the areas of:

- Various differences between operating as a Committee of the Whole and as separate Standing Committees
- Public perception of the Committee of the Whole
- Public Participation – Board Policy versus statutory requirements
- Responsibilities of committee chairs
- Producing committee minutes
- Keeping the Board informed of committee agenda items
- Committee membership
- Formation of ad hoc committees to address recurring issues

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Mr. Adams also discussed Board-Superintendent Relationships (handout attached). Board questions and comments were in the areas of:

- Ways for the Board to communicate with the public
- The Board's role and responsibility
- Requirements for Board certification

Motion was made and properly seconded to adjourn the retreat. **All** were in favor, **0** opposed **0** abstentions.

**ADJOURN** approximately 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

*Jayne S. Howard*

Jayne S. Howard  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary