

**THE ENGLEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES  
SPECIAL PUBLIC WORK SESSION MEETING  
March 10, 2020  
6:30 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. and the NJ Open Public Meeting Statement was read by Ms. Cheryl Balletto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Present: Donovan Rodriques, Michelle Marom, Brent Watson, Angela Midgette-David, Suzanne Mullings, Samuel E. Trusty, Molly Craig-Berry

Absent: Dalia Lerner, Steven Berrios

Also Present: Robert Kravitz, Superintendent of Schools, Cheryl Balletto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Paul Griggs, Board Attorney

Motion by Ms. Marom; seconded by Mr. Trusty to enter closed session.

CLOSED SESSION AS NECESSARY (*Use this resolution to identify the qualified matters to be discussed*)

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-12, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss: (select one or more)

- 1) *a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law*
- 2) *a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds*
- 3) *material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy*
- 4) *a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it*
- 5) *a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds*
- 6) *protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law*
- 7) *pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege*
- 8) *specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session*
- 9) *deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss;*

and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- I spoke with the Health Department. At this time, there are no confirmed COVID-19 cases with our staff, students or employees. We do have one family in our district who is on self quarantine. They are on day nine. They have four more days of self quarantine.
- School Closures - A school cannot close for a health concern unless a Health Office closes them.
- We are closing for half-days to create our action plan in the event we have to close for health concerns.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ONLY**

None

**BOARD DISCUSSION – March 19, 2020 Board Agenda and 2020-2021 Budget****Topics Discussed:**

- 20-B-34 RFP – Legal Services  
Mr. Rodriques requested that the RFP be attached to the resolution.
- 20-A-68 Third Grade Field Trip to Melba’s Restaurant, Harlem, NYC  
Mr. Rodriques asked why Mr. Berrios was present on this trip. Did he have authorization?
- 20-A-72 First Reading of Board of Education Policies  
0168.1 Recording of Board Meetings  
This policy was removed from the March 19, 2020 agenda. The Business Administrator will e-mail a list of vendors and cost to the Board members.
- 20-F-76 Staff & BOE Travel  
Mr. Kravitz stated that some trips may be cancelled if we hear from the Health Department.
- 20-F-78 Bills List  
Ms. Craig-Berry stated that going forward a Board member will sign off on the monthly bills list. Mr. Trusty will sign off on the next bills list.  
Ms. Balletto will change a vendor’s name from Mission One to ESS in Systems 3000.  
Mr. Rodriques requested to see ESS purchase orders. Ms. Balletto stated that purchase orders and required documents are in the Business Office.
- Mr. Kravitz handed out a list of programs to the Board members. A list of School Counselors and Social Workers and a comparison with similar districts was also distributed.  
Ms. Balletto will move one social worker to general fund.  
Mr. Kravitz will find money to add a Reading Specialist.
- Capital Outlay Account has been modified - \$400,000 is staying in the budget. Bathrooms at Grieco is being deleted. The \$400,000 now is for district paving, district air conditioners and locker room renovations.
- Ms. Balletto provided a transportation analyses that can be viewed by the Board members in the shared drive.
- Ms. Balletto presented an analysis of outsourced services.
- Transportation Budget – Ms. Balletto explained the non-public transportation process and air in lieu (AIL).
- 20-F-86 Internet Service with Cablevision Lightpath Technologies, Inc., (Altice Business)  
Mr. Brown explained the need to replace computers.
- 20-F-90 Summer Food Program  
Ms. Balletto reviewed the sites designated.  
Ms. Balletto asked everyone to send a list of places for her to reach out to.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Ms. Balletto read the two walk-in resolutions 20-B-35 and 20-A-73.**

Roll Call Vote on the Consent Agenda – **yes to all**

Resolution #	Topic	Rodrigues	Lerner	Marom	Midgette-David	Mullings	Trusty	Berrios	Craig-Berry
20-B-35	Approval – Long Term Suspension (walk in resolution)								
20-A-73	Approval – Revision of 2019-2020 School Calendar (walk in resolution)								

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM OTHER THAN CONSENT AGENDA**

- Ms. Williams – Daughter of Reggie Williams - asked that the track at Winton White Stadium be named Reggie Williams Track and Field Complex.
- Mr. Lee – Student at A@E – Reminded the Board about the Student Representative proposal. He wanted everyone to know there are a lot of concerns among the student regarding COVID-19. There are hundreds of kids that come from different districts. That is why kids are worried.
- Mr. Whilby – Discussed an incident with a school bus. The bus was involved in an accident. Car made contact with the bus. The Principal said there wasn’t impact. She lied.
- Ms. Bulluck – Will Mr. Kravitz’s list of programs, school counselors and social workers be available to the public? Will Ms. Balletto’s breakdown be available? School trips – you might want to consider adding to the policy that they should not go where alcohol is served. The Board needs to have a policy that the name of the school, that is on record at the State, is Dwight Morrow High School not Academies @ Englewood.
- Mr. Cucuta – I think the Jr ROTC would be an accomplishment for this district.
- Pastor Hong – Spoke about his experience with Jr ROTC. It taught leadership, integrity and personal responsibility.
- Mr. Carter – NAACP President – Me personally and the Bergen County NAACP stand behind naming the track after Reggie Williams. Reggie Williams has been a pillar of this community. We have to start honoring our black legends.
- Ms. Craig-Berry –
  - I’m 100% for freedom of speech. I want to hear your comments.
  - Going forward, we will have paper copies of the draft agenda during work sessions.
  - Administration needs to investigate the bus incident. I’m sure they will address it.
  - In order to do the naming of the track, we need a policy.
  - Mr. Trusty stated there is a precedent for naming without a policy.
  - A resolution will be placed on the March 19 agenda to name the track after Coach Reggie Williams.
  - The Board agrees that the analyses presented by Mr. Kravitz and Ms. Balletto will be put on-line.

Motion to adjourn at 11.03 p.m. by Ms. Marom; seconded by Mr. Trusty.

**BOARD**

**20-B-35 APPROVAL – LONG TERM SUSPENSION**

Motion to approve long term suspension of student number 148223.

**ADMINISTRATION**

**20-A-73 APPROVAL – REVISION OF 2019-2020 SCHOOL CALENDAR**

WHEREAS, the 2019-2020 school calendar was approved at the February 21, 2019 and revised on July 18, 2019 meetings and upon recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools a change will be made to the district calendar for the 2019-2020 school year,

WHEREAS, the district has been actively watching information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and we have been aggressively planning and preparing should the need arise for closure of our schools.

WHEREAS, the district decision to close schools cannot be made by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) as the decision can only be in collaboration with the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH).

WHEREAS, on Thursday, March 12, 2020 the district will have an Early Dismissal for Students Only. Staff will use the remainder of the day to train on the district long term educational plan required by the NJDOE.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education approves the revision of the 2019-2020 school calendar for the 2019-2020 school year.