

MINUTES

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 (6:00 PM)

THE FOLLOWING ACTION IS HEREBY RECORDED OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING HELD ON JULY 28, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M

The Board of Education Special Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 28, 2021 was held at One Larkin Center 4th floor Board Conference Room. The meeting was also streamed live at www.yonkerspublicschools.org

Yonkers Board of Education **agendas, actions and webcasts** are available to the public on the District's website; yonkerspublicschools.org in the Board of Education section.

ROLL CALL

UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio
Andrea Brown
Gail Burns
Kevin Cacace
Dr. John Castanaro
Lakisha Collins-Bellamy

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Superintendent Dr. Edwin M. Quezada, Attorney Bradford Gorson and various staff.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order by Vice President Dr. Rosalba Corrado DelVecchio a 6:02 p.m.

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge was led by Trustee Gail Burns.

1.2 PRAYER

“Almighty God, we acknowledge our dependence upon Thee and ask Thy blessing upon us and Thy guidance in our deliberations. May Thy blessing rest upon all those who serve in our schools, upon our students, and upon our city and our country.”

The Prayer was led by Trustee Gail Burns.

1.3 MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of Silence

ROLL CALL AND QUORUM CHECK

2.1 ROLL CALL AND QUORUM CHECK

ROLL CALL

REVEREND STEVE LOPEZ

DR. ROSALBA CORRADO DEL VECCHIO

ANDREA BROWN

GAIL BURNS

KEVIN CACACE

DR. JOHN CASTANARO

LAKISHA COLLINS-BELLAMY

SHEILA GREENWALD

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

3.1 SUPERINTENDENT UPDATES

Communication from the Superintendent

Superintendent Dr. Edwin M. Quezada spoke about the two items on the July 28, 2021 Special Meeting agenda.

Adoption of the Workforce COVID-19 Protocol for Yonkers School District Employees. School District Employees must prove vaccination by September 1, 2021 or undergo weekly Covid-19 testing.

Certified Personnel Resolution for six Assistant Principal Candidates in the Yonkers Public Schools.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

4.1 WORKFORCE COVID-19 VACCINE MANDATE

To protect the safety of students and employees by preventing the resurgence of COVID-19 cases and in particular the COVID-19 Delta variant.

Resolution: WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020 the Governor of the State of New York (“Governor”) issued an Executive Order declaring a state disaster emergency for the entire state due to travel related cases and community contact transmission of the Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) occurring in New York State; and WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Mayor of the City of Yonkers declared a state of emergency in the City due to

emergency conditions produced by COVID-19 that threaten or imperil the public safety of its citizens; and WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 the Westchester County Executive declared a state of emergency in the County due to the emergency conditions produced by COVID-19 that threaten or imperil the safety of its citizens; and WHEREAS, the State of New York continues to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and WHEREAS, in response to the rapid spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant, on July 28, 2021, the Governor announced that effective Labor Day all New York State employees must be vaccinated or be tested on a regular basis; and WHEREAS, the Governor announced that he encourages all local governments to require that all employees be vaccinated or tested on a regular basis; and WHEREAS, On July 28, 2021, the Mayor of the City of Yonkers announced that all City employees will be required to provide proof of vaccination or weekly testing. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby directs that on or before September 1, 2021, all employees of the Board of Education must be vaccinated or tested on a regular basis; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that on or before September 1, 2021, all employees must provide proof of vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test result based on a COVID-19 test administered within the prior seven-day period; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any unvaccinated employee will be required to show proof of negative COVID-19 test results based on a COVID-19 test administered with the prior seven-day period on a regular basis in accordance with the procedures and protocols implemented by the Superintendent of Schools and/or his designee. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized and directed to create, mandate and enforce any procedures and protocols necessary to implement the requirement that employees provide proof of vaccination or testing on a regular basis.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Lakisha Collins-Bellamy**) Moved, Member (**Dr. John Castanaro**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020 the Governor of the State of New York (“Governor”) issued an Executive Order declaring a state disaster emergency for the entire state due to travel related cases and community contact transmission of the Novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) occurring in New York State; and WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Mayor of the City of Yonkers declared a state of emergency in the City due to emergency conditions produced by COVID-19 that threaten or imperil the public safety of its citizens; and WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020 the Westchester County Executive declared a state of emergency in the County due to the emergency conditions produced by COVID-19 that threaten or imperil the safety of its citizens; and WHEREAS, the State of New York continues to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and WHEREAS, in response to the rapid spread of the COVID-19 Delta variant, on July 28, 2021, the Governor announced that effective Labor Day all New York State employees must be vaccinated or be tested on a regular basis; and WHEREAS, the Governor announced that he encourages all local governments to require that all employees be vaccinated or tested on a regular basis; and WHEREAS, On July 28, 2021, the Mayor of the City of Yonkers announced that all City employees will be required to provide proof of vaccination or weekly testing. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education hereby directs that on or before September 1, 2021, all employees of the Board of Education must be vaccinated or tested on a regular basis; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that on or before September 1, 2021, all employees must provide proof of vaccination or proof of a negative COVID-19 test

result based on a COVID-19 test administered within the prior seven-day period; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any unvaccinated employee will be required to show proof of negative COVID-19 test results based on a COVID-19 test administered with the prior seven-day period on a regular basis in accordance with the procedures and protocols implemented by the Superintendent of Schools and/or his designee. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized and directed to create, mandate and enforce any procedures and protocols necessary to implement the requirement that employees provide proof of vaccination or testing on a regular basis'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Andrea Brown	Yes
Dr. John Castanaro	Yes
Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio	Yes
Gail Burns	Yes
Kevin Cacace	Yes
Lakisha Collins-Bellamy	Yes

PERSONNEL

5.1 CERTIFIED PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS FOR APPROVAL

Resolution: WHEREAS the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of those items as listed on the attached sheet covering certificated personnel. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That all personnel action as listed on the attached sheet is hereby confirmed.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Andrea Brown**) Moved, Member (**Kevin Cacace**) Seconded to approve the

ORIGINAL motion 'WHEREAS the Superintendent of Schools recommends approval of those items as listed on the attached sheet covering certificated personnel. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That all personnel action as listed on the attached sheet is hereby confirmed'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Andrea Brown	Yes
Dr. John Castanaro	Yes
Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio	Yes
Gail Burns	Yes
Kevin Cacace	Yes
Lakisha Collins-Bellamy	Yes

ADJOURNMENT

6.1 ADJOURNMENT

Adjourn meeting.

Resolution: Motion to adjourn.

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member (**Gail Burns**) Moved, Member (**Lakisha Collins-Bellamy**) Seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion 'Motion to adjourn'. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **6** Nay: **0**. The motion **Carried. 6 - 0**

Andrea Brown	Yes
Dr. John Castanaro	Yes
Dr. Rosalba Corrado Del Vecchio	Yes
Gail Burns	Yes
Kevin Cacace	Yes
Lakisha Collins-Bellamy	Yes