



Committee Report

Board Development and Governance Committee

Location	Date	Time
Virtual	11/22/21	5:00 PM
Board Members		
D. Haynes, President	F. Hill, Co-Vice President	
V. Santana, Co-Vice President		
District Liaison & Superintendent Representative		
B. Liss, General Counsel	R. León, Superintendent	
Other District Staff		
H. Nazario, Chief of Staff	P. Luke, Executive Legal Assistant	
N. Johnson, Deputy Superintendent	V. Wilson, School Business Administrator	
N. Deering, Director of Board Relations	A. Zartarian, Deputy General Counsel	
R. Jackson, Executive Director, Policy Planning, and Testing		
Guests		
N/A		
Meeting Summary		
<p>Comments:</p> <p>The Committee received reports from the Superintendent and District staff on the following topics, and discussed each of them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Next Decade: 2020-30 Strategic Plan - COVID-19 Update - Start Strong Preliminary Report - 2022-23 Budget Calendar - 2022-23 School Year Calendars - Equity Group Update - Newark Enrolls MOU - Charter School Reports, Renewals, Leases - Travel Policy Update - Legal Update <p>Call to Order: 5:00 PM Adjournment: 6:50 PM</p>		

Item: The Next Decade: 2020-30 Strategic Plan	
Lead(s): R. León	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

Thanks to the hard work and commitment of a large number of staff and board members involved with implementation of our ten-year strategic plan, the District is in a good place strategically. Our work is self-sustaining and forward-thinking, and the District has been well prepared to address the difficulties of the COVID pandemic. The Newark Public Schools have been recognized nationally as an example of successful administration and operation of schools.

Superintendent Leon met with the three social workers engaged in the District's Conception to Cradle initiative, working with hospitals and other agencies to provide educational resources to parents of newborn children. This work is outlined in the Strategic Plan as the Conception to Cradle to Grade 3 Consortium.

Item: COVID-19 Update	
Lead(s): R. León	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

The Committee received a COVID-19 update, including the number of employees who have tested positive since July 1. Additionally, student testing is going well, and reporting of results pursuant to the new state reporting system has begun. District protocols and procedures remain in place, including procedures for notification of parents in situations of positive diagnosis.

Item: Start Strong Preliminary Report	
Lead(s): R. León	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

The Committee reviewed several categories of preliminary data from Start Strong testing. These preliminary results were shared with the I&P Committee and will be shared with the full Board and the public at this month's Board meeting.

Item: 2022-23 Budget Calendar	
Lead(s): R. León, V. Wilson	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

The administration has created a tentative calendar for development of the 2022-2023 district budget. The Board President will appoint Board members to the Budget Committee. The SBA reviewed the dates, including the date of the required budget hearing, which will be March 23, 2021.

Item: 2022-23 School Year Calendars	
Lead(s): R. León	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

The process of preparing school calendars for the 2022-2023 school year requires consideration of provisions in several collective bargaining agreements as well as applicable legal requirements for school attendance. It results in several slightly different calendars for students and different categories of

employees. A District team will prepare tentative 2022-23 calendars for the Superintendent's consideration, and upon his approval he will consult with unions and charter school representatives about the calendars and then present them to the Board for approval. Employee attendance on public holidays is not required, although their attendance on the required number of work days is a contractual requirement. The Juneteenth holiday will be recognized on school days in all district schools this year.

Item: Equity Group Update	
Lead(s): R. León	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

Superintendent León has identified employees who will participate in the Equity Group, including principals and central office employees, along with board members. The Committee discussed the relationship between the Equity Group and the Board's equity policy work, and the Superintendent recommended that a report on the Equity Group be presented at the next Board retreat.

Item: Newark Enrolls MOU	
Lead(s): R. Jackson	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

All but one of the participating charter schools have returned their executed copies of the Newark Enrolls MOU. The Superintendent will be meeting with representatives of the one remaining school to discuss a few outstanding issues.

Item: Charter School Reports, Renewals, Leases	
Lead(s): R. León	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

Two Newark charter schools have requested charter amendments to permit increases in their student enrollments. The district has submitted or will be submitting comments to the Commissioner, opposing those requested increases.

Item: Travel Policy Update	
Lead(s): R. León, V. Wilson, N. Deering	Priority/Strategy:

Comments:

SBA Wilson and Ms. Deering have reviewed the statute and regulations governing travel, as well as the OMB circular with travel approval and reimbursement requirements. The SBA expressed her belief, based on this review, that no change in the Board's policy is needed, except possibly to remove the provision requiring submission of all expense receipts for which Board members request reimbursement. The Committee discussed that possible change and reached a consensus to keep the policy unchanged.

Item: Legal Update	
Lead(s): R. León	Priority/Strategy:

The Board's litigation against the Newark Housing Authority and other parties is proceeding, with no major developments at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.