



Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

Board Finance Committee Meeting
Daniel Gonzalez, Chairperson
Thursday, March 20, 2025
5:30pm

Agenda

| Location | Date | Time |
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| WebEx | March 20, 2025 | 5:30pm |
| Board Members | | |
| Daniel Gonzalez | Dawn Haynes | |
| Crystal Williams | | |
| Committee Liaison & Superintendent Representative | | |
| Valerie Wilson | Dr. José Fuentes | |
| Yolonda Severe | | |
| Other District Staff | | |
| Krystle Whitlock | Sherelle Spriggs | |
| Shirley Zachary | Wilma Davis | |
| Pablo Canela | Nelson Pared | |
| Committee Norms | Committee Goals | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Assume good intentionsMonitor your airtime! Be succinct, concrete, and explicit when speakingRefrain from using cell phones or computers for checking email orSending text messages except during breaksKeep what occurs during executive session confidentialListen to understand, and ask if you don't understandWait until the person speaking is finished before talkingNo personal attacks on anyone! Don't take comments personally | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Increase Board mechanisms to evaluate quality control measures for current and prospective vendorsPrioritize local and minority-owned businesses in the bid process, increase community access to knowledge about NBOE vending protocolsStandardize vendor selection process by outlining key indicators and benchmarks and soliciting Board insight for standardization | |
| Meeting Summary | | |
| The Finance Committee meeting was called to order at 5:39 pm by Board Member Daniel Gonzalez. In attendance were Board Members Gonzalez, Dawn Haynes, Crystal Williams, along | | |



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with School Business Administrators Valerie Wilson and Dr. Jose Fuentes, Assistant SBA Krystle Whitlock, Deputy Superintendent Yolanda Severe, and other district staff.

At 5:40 pm, School Business Administrator Valerie Wilson opened the meeting by reviewing several resolutions and updates, including the acceptance of 2 grants, one from monies awarded to the District for Summer Learning and one from fundraising donation from Weequahic High School's Basketball Classic. Ms. Wilson also highlighted an opportunity to apply for a grant from the EDA for tree planting at local schools, aimed at improving environmental conditions.

At 5:49 pm, further discussions included SBAs Ms. Wilson and Dr. Fuentes giving an overview of the Secretary's report and budgeting as per Board Member Haynes request. Ms. Wilson continued by discussing the resolution to sell some district busses, and how this would offset the costs for the purchase of new busses.

At 5:58 pm, Ms. Wilson provided updates on a literacy initiative funded by ARP monies, clarifying that the funds were mistakenly sent to the city instead of the district would be redirected to support early childhood literacy programs. She also outlined several major projects, including the roof replacement at University High School and masonry work at Lafayette Street, with state funding. These projects aim to address critical infrastructure needs without interrupting instructional time.

At 6:05 pm, Board Member Haynes asked about equity in resource allocation across schools, particularly regarding textbook availability and laptop lifespans. Ms. Wilson and Dr. Fuentes explained how resources are distributed based on school programs and floor plans, while ensuring that all students have access to necessary learning materials. Additional discussions covered the Set-Aside Contract, used to restrict vendor participation to certified state vendors, and the ongoing efforts to address disparities in vendor opportunities. Ms. Wilson also discussed resolutions for lead stabilization projects at some of our schools.

At 6:20 pm, the meeting concluded with updates on other projects, including waterproofing work at Avon, pool contracts for several high schools, and a cosmetology suite at West Side High School. The committee also addressed student enrichment programs and the expansion of career technical education (CTE) offerings, such as HVAC and plumbing courses as well as Advanced Placement courses.

At 6:30 pm, SBA Ms. Wilson discussed the on-time submittal of our district's budget to the state.

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 pm after a motion was made to move all resolutions to the Board for approval.

Finance & Operations

Item: Resolution to Accept--Acceptance of Funds for Excellence in Summer Learning

Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator

Priority: 1

Strategy: 1.1



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| Item: Newark Board of Education Operating Account Checks - February 2025 | | |
| Lead(s): Pablo Canela, Executive Controller | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |
| Item: Resolution to Accept- Brick City Showdown Basketball Classic Funds | | |
| Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.1 |
| Item: Resolution of Support Authorizing the Trees for Schools Grant Application | | |
| Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.1 |
| Item: Secretary Report January 2025 | | |
| Lead(s): Pablo Canela, Executive Controller | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |
| Item: Treasurer Report January 2025 | | |
| Lead(s): Pablo Canela, Executive Controller | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |
| Item: Transfer Report January 2025 | | |
| Lead(s): Pablo Canela, Executive Controller | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |
| Item: Payroll Summary for 2/7/2025, 2/21/2025 and 3/6/2025 | | |
| Lead(s): Pablo Canela, Executive Controller | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |
| Item: Authorization of District Employee Travel - March 2025 | | |
| Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |
| Item: Sale of District School Buses | | |
| Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |
| Item: Sub-Grant Agreement with Van-Con for Clean School Bus Grant | | |
| Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator | Priority: 1 | Strategy: 1.2 |



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Superintendent

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| Item: Resolution to Accept-- Acceptance of Newark Literacy Initiative Program from Department of Community Affairs | |
| Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.1 |
| Item: Acceptance of SDA Emergent Needs and Capital Maintenance FY25 | |
| Lead(s): Valerie Wilson, School Business Administrator | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.1 |

| Purchasing | |
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| Item: Award of Waterproofing at Avon Avenue Elementary School Contract 9998R | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.2, 1.5 |

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| Item: Change Order Twelve to Building Envelope Repair and Window Replacement at East Ward Elementary School Contract 9710 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.5 |

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| Item: Renewal of Swimming Pool Repair and Maintenance Contract 9608R-R1 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.5 |

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| Item: Change Order Four to New Cosmetology Suite at West Side High School Contract 9785R | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.5 |

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| Item: Award of Translation and Interpretation Services Contract 10012 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 3 Strategy: 3.4, 3.5 |



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| Item: Award of Student Enrichment Services, Expanded Learning Services and Teacher Professional Development Contract 10031 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 2 Strategy: 2.1, 2.6 |
| Item: Award of Advanced Placement United States History Professional Development Contract 10033 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 2 Strategy: 2.1 |
| Item: Award of 10034 Survey of Trades: Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Plumbing, and Electrical Instructional Materials Contract 10034 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 2 Strategy: 2.6 |
| Item: Amendment Two and Change Order Sixteen to Facade Repairs and Roof Replacement at Sir Isaac Newton Elementary School Contract 9475 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.5 |
| Item: Award of Trophies and Awards Set-Aside for Small, Minority and Women Owned Businesses Contract 10028 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 1 Strategy: 1.1 |
| Item: Award of Conference Venue Contract 10032 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: 2 Strategy: 2.3 |
| Item: Award of Purchase of Book Vending Machines Contract 9995 | |
| Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs – Director of Support Services, Purchasing | Priority: Strategy: |



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Item: Award of Building Envelope Repairs and Skylight Replacement at Salome Urena Elementary School Contract 10021

Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs –
Director of Support Services,
Purchasing

Priority: 1
Strategy: 1.2, 1.5

Item: Award of Lead In Paint Stabilization at Peshine Avenue School Contract 10014

Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs –
Director of Support Services,
Purchasing

Priority: 1
Strategy: 1.2, 1.5

Item: Award of Lead In Paint Stabilization at Sir Isaac Newton School Contract 10015

Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs –
Director of Support Services,
Purchasing

Priority: 1
Strategy: 1.2, 1.5

Item: Award of Lead In Paint Stabilization at Ann Street School Contract 10016

Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs –
Director of Support Services,
Purchasing

Priority: 1
Strategy: 1.2, 1.5

Item: W.E.B. Dubois Summer Leadership Academy Purchasing Reference 10050

Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs –
Director of Support Services,
Purchasing

Priority: 3
Strategy: 3.4

Item: Saint Elizabeth Pre-Collegiate Summer Residential Program Purchasing Reference 10051

Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs –
Director of Support Services,
Purchasing

Priority: 3
Strategy: 3.4

Item: Professional Financial Services Purchasing Reference 9726E2

Lead(s): Sherelle Spriggs –
Director of Support Services,
Purchasing

Priority: 1
Strategy: 1.1, 1.2

Meeting Adjourned



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Superintendent

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| The Committee agreed to move all Resolutions Forward to The Full Board | Yes |
| Miscellaneous | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 155 Jefferson Street• Budget |
| Adjournment Time | 6:36 pm |
| Minutes Submitted By | Nelson Pared |