

Newark Board of Education

Where Passion Meets Progress

Committee Report

Committee Name: Board Operations

Location	Da	te	Time		
Virtual	October	20, 2021	5:34pm -7:43pm		
Board Members					
Josephine Garcia		Hasani Council			
Shayvonne Anderson					
District Liaison & Superintendent Representative					
Valerie Wilson		Dr. Shakirah Har	rington – Not Present		
Other District Staff					
Krystle Whitlock-Ude		Anthony Jackson	1		
Imani Moody		Rashon Dwight			
Quanika Dukes-Spruill		Wali Thomas			
Carlos Edmundo		Darrell Major			
Lisa Abdul		Dr. Tonya McGill			
Rodney Williams		Victoria Rivera			
Vince Hutcheson		Rochanda Jackson			
Chris Caponegro					
Ben Olagadeyo					
Michele Johnson					
Guests					
Paul Napoli – Johnson Controls		Grace Vote - Fac	ilitron		
Valerie Moran - DCO		Brittany Brady -	Facilitron		

Meeting Summary

Planning, Evaluation & Testing

The purpose of the Newark Enrolls discussion was to share a few critical reminders and updates since we are about a month away from the launch of the next enrollment cycle. The core dates in the implementation rollout are November 13th (Application Window Opening), February 11 (Application Window Closing), and April 18th (Match Letter Release). The All Schools Fair will also be held on November 13th and like last year, it will be virtual. The NE PR campaign is ready to go and includes the updated NE website, flyers, guidebook, billboards and social media. MOUs have been sent for review and signature to all prior year Newark Enrolls partner LEAs, as well as to the two charters that decided to not participate in the most recent cycle with the invitation to rejoin. One LEA has already returned the signed document.

Security

The Office of Safety is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all students and staff while continuing to support district policies and procedures. SSDS reports were collected for State and Federal compliance while the Office of Safety uses the data to create effective incident reduction strategies. The Office of Safety will be working with NPD and NFD "Safe Passage Program" to create safe routes for the children of Newark to travel to and from school. Specific locations will have NPD and NFD staff stationed to help monitor children travel safely through the city. Also, the Office of

Safety is working with the DOT "Safe Routes to School" program. The "Safe Routes to School" program is a program the DOT created by installing speedbumps and rumble stripes around Newark Board of Education schools. With all agencies aligned our schools will benefit from the provided resources.

Transportation

On September 27th the Office of Pupil Transportation implemented a tiered routing approach in an effort to get students awaiting transportation busing. As a result, 95% of students who were awaiting transportation prior to Sept. 27th, received busing. Bus tickets and bus passes, ride share codes, and transportation provided by district drivers will continue to be offered to students who await vendor provided transportation. As the national school bus driver shortage may not be resolved in the foreseeable future, OPT has identified recommended best practices for the upcoming school year that are designed to improve student transportation in our district. The Office of Pupil Transportation remains in partnership with the Office of Special Education and school staff to ensure that students who are eligible for busing receive services to get to and from school amidst this unprecedented climate.

Facilities

The Facilities Department is committed to the continuing renovation and modernization of our buildings and grounds through the ESIP projects, EPA grant award, and forthcoming initiatives. District is seeking to expand school property and grounds through lease of St. Casimir. Continuous repair and maintenance of district building and grounds creating an environment conducive to learning and in alignment with districts priorities and strategies.

Item: Food & Nutrition	
Lead(s): Dr. Tonya McGill	Priority/Strategy: 1:1.1

Comments: As of October 13, 2021, 76.9% lunch application processed. Challenges: staffing and supply shortages (containers, breakfast cereal, deli meat, etc.). As of September 21, 2021; started with 85 vacancies; interviewed over 100 candidates to make whole. Delivery to satellite schools became another challenge. This was addressed by reaching out to vendors who could deliver directly to the schools. Meals are being delivered on time without interrupting instruction. Staff is being trained on meal preparation and presentation.

Item: Deputy Superintendent	
Lead(s): Nicole Johnson	Priority/Strategy: 1:1.1

Comments: Creation of Guidance for Remote Instruction. District is required to submit a **Remote Instruction Plan** annually. Plan will be implemented for closures more than three consecutive school days (public health related emergency or any directive from the appropriate health agencies). Plan must be submitted to the County Office for review and approval by October 29, 2021.

Resolution – *Emergency Remote Instruction Plan* – *SY 2021-2022 (An addendum to the Safe Return Plan)* goes before the Board on 10/28/21. The committee recommends the resolution move forward to the full Board for action.

Item: Planning, Evaluation & Test	ting
Lead(s): Rochanda Jackson	Priority/Strategy: 1:1.1

Comments: Newark Enroll launches application on November 13, 2021 for SY 2022/2023; and closes February 11, 2022. All Schools Fair will take place November 13, 2021 (virtual). April 18, 2022, Match Release – letters go out.

Item: Security	
Lead(s): Levi Holmes	Priority/Strategy: 1:1.1

Comments: SSDS report data scrubbed based on SLT. High Schools had the most SSDS incidents. Violence was the leading reported incident. Most dispositions resulted into suspensions. Weapons and vandalism increased. No arrests, 31 incidents of violence, 4 incidents of vandalism, 2 incidents of weapons, 7 incidents of substance, and 3 incidents leading to removal (a decrease). Two safety officers on-boarded; 7 per-diem safety officers are being hired. Interviewed fifty (50) candidates for per diem security positions. Power DMS launched on Monday which holds security personnel accountable for training. Essex County Prosecutor's Office will be training Assistant Superintendents on marijuana in schools.

HIB report: fifty (50) related incidents for the month of September. Twenty (20) in high schools; thirty (30) in elementary and middle schools.

Item: Transportation	
Lead(s): Quanika Dukes-Spruill	Priority/Strategy 1:1.1

Comments: As of October 15, 2021, the Office of Pupil Transportation is transporting 3,620 students. Reminder, on September 27; buses are operating on a tiered schedule servicing multiple schools. Bus passes, bus tickets, Uber codes, tiered bus routes, extended staff hours made it possible to get 95% of eligible students transported to and from school.

Parental Contracts, Quoted Route Contracts, Jointure Agreements to be presented to the Board November 2021.

Item: Facilities	
Lead(s): Valerie Wilson	Priority/Strategy:1:1.1

Comments: Gym floors are being restored. EPA grant award (\$7.5 million) to receive funding to begin the process of replacement measure. Twelve to sixteen schools over four years (3 – 4 schools/year). Walkthroughs conducted at Lafayette, Old Speedway, Chancellor Annex, Michelle Obama, Dr. E Alma Flagg and Hawkins. The underlined schools to be addressed to start. Water testing schedule to begin November 2021. Water to be turned back on Spring of 2022 pending Covid restrictions.

ESIP well underway. DCO focus on high schools and 100% complete design of energy conservation measures. No safety and environmental issues to report as of to date. JCI continues to focus on completing roof upgrades before the end of December. As of Friday, 10/15/2021, roof coating completed at six (6) schools and additional eleven (11) slated to be completed by end of October 2021. Roof upgrades will be completed at 34 schools prior to solar panel installation.