



## Committee Report

Committee Name: Board Operations

Location	Date	Time
Virtual	November 17, 2021	5:30pm - 6:44pm
<b>Board Members</b>		
Josephine Garcia	Hasani Council	
Shayvonne Anderson		
<b>District Liaison &amp; Superintendent Representative</b>		
Valerie Wilson	Dr. Shakirah Harrington – Not Present	
<b>Other District Staff</b>		
Krystle Whitlock-Ude	Anthony Jackson	
Imani Moody	Rashon Dwight	
Quanika Dukes-Spruill	Hasan Bullock	
Carlos Edmundo	Victoria Rivera	
Lisa Abdul	Mary Garripoli	
Rodney Williams	Rochanda Jackson	
Vince Hutcheson	Havier Nazario	
Chris Caponegro	Mary Harvey	
Ben Olagadeyo		
<b>Guests</b>		
Paul Napoli – Johnson Controls		
<b>Meeting Summary</b>		
<p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>The results of assigning student transportation to students who attend schools within the same neighborhoods has proven effective. OPT was able to route 97% of students this reporting period despite receiving 430 new requests for service. Bus tickets and bus passes, ride share codes, and transportation provided by district drivers will continue to be offered to students who await busing.</p> <p>During this operations committee meeting, Quanika Dukes-Spruill highlighted factors that as a result of the pandemic has caused transportation costs to increase upwards of 55% than in school year 19-20. The shortage of school bus drivers, as well as a decrease in school bus companies has also influenced transportation costs as well as the ability to service specialized routes and field trips timely.</p> <p>As the national school bus driver shortage may not be resolved in the foreseeable future, OPT has recommended best practices for the upcoming school year that are designed to improve student transportation in our district. Until there are improvements in these areas, OPT is resolved to identify solutions that are necessary to provide our students with transportation resources.</p>		

### **Planning, Evaluation & Testing**

Newark Enrolls successfully hosted its second Virtual Schools Fair on Saturday, 11/13th and then launched the SY 22/23 Open Enrollment window later that afternoon. The Virtual School Fair content has had 26,979 page views since Saturday. Earlier today, it was reported that there have been 11,434 sessions in terms of web site traffic to newarkenrolls.org alone.

The content from the Virtual Fair can be viewed at any time by going to NewarkEnrolls.org. Within minutes of the 3 p.m. window opening on Saturday, hundreds of applications were submitted: 837 applications within the 1st hour, 1746 applications at the 3-hour mark, and over 2785 applications by end of day. As of this afternoon, there were 4,745 applications from 1,361 unique applicants.

### **Security**

The Newark Board of Education Office of Safety is dedicated and operationally centered to provide a safe, secure, and orderly environment for all students and staff. This month we organized a joint professional development with the Essex County Prosecutors Office to educate our staff on the new rules and regulations relative to Marijuana possession. Our team has on boarded 16 new staff members this month. Consistent with our protocols all new staff receive 16 hours training with our supervisory team within our Johnny Harris Training Center prior to being allowed to work in any of our schools. Another key part of our strategy to enhance student and staff safety is our daily review of SSDS (Student Safety Data System) reports. We internally aggregate this information and allocate resources monthly to abate any upticks noticed throughout the district.

### **Facilities**

The Facilities Department continues its commitment to the continuing renovation and modernization of our buildings and grounds through the ESIP projects, EPA grant award, and forthcoming initiatives. District continues to expand school property and grounds through the signing of 155 Jefferson lease and upcoming St. Casimir lease. Recycling initiative progressing.

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

*Comments:* Amid transportation challenges, received an additional 430 applications this reporting period. Continued to use tiered routing approach. On Monday (11/22/21), will introduce two additional shuttle buses, awaiting response on a third bus. Increase in transportation costs due shortage. **District Report of Transported Resident Students (DRTRS)** submitted to State on Monday (11/15/2021) reported 13,476 students this year.

<b>Item: Planning, Evaluation &amp; Testing</b>	
Lead(s): Rochanda Jackson	Priority/Strategy: 1:1.1

*Comments:* Newark Enrolls hosted its second virtual school fair on Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> and subsequently the 2022-23 school year open enrollment window. Open enrollment accessible via Newark Enrolls website <https://newarkenrolls.org/> resulted in 4,745 applications submitted as of 11/17 afternoon by 1,361 applicants.

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

*Comments:* SSDS report data scrubbed based on SLT. Month of October reported seventy-one (71) incidents. Fifty-six (56) incidents of violence; one (1) violence lead to an arrest at the high school SLT; two (2) incidents of vandalism; five (5) incidents of weapons, eight (8) incidents of substance; one (1) incident leading to removal. Fights and assaults were the most reported incidents. North SLT had the highest increase in reported incidents of violence; resulting in suspension disposition. South/West SLT had no incident reported for the month of October.

HIB report: forty-six (46) HIB related incidents reported of which twenty-nine (29) were confirmed and seventeen (17) alleged. East/Central: 15 (7 alleged, 8 confirmed); North Ward: 20 (7 alleged; 13 confirmed); South/West Ward: 6 (1 alleged, 5 confirmed); High School: 5 (2 alleged, 3 confirmed).

Recently hired sixteen per diem officers of whom were given sixteen hours of training. Looking to hire two additional safety officers. Installation under way for new command center. Summary of training provided by Prosecutor's office on **Marijuana Law** to be provided at next month's Operations meeting.

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

*Comments:* 155 Jefferson Lease has been signed. Negotiations underway pertaining to construction and design. Project lead: Dr. Ray Lindgren. Landlord has hired a renowned architect experienced in school design nationwide. Estimating official opening of September 2023. Initial setup occupancy in March 2023.

Approval of St. Casimir lease to be presented before the board next month. Occupancy beginning March of 2022. Two-year lease with three (3) one-year option for renewal. St. Casimir advertised as Ironbound Academy on Newark Enrolls.

ESIP: Top priority on roof work. Thirteen roofs completed undergoing inspection will include fifteen-year warranty. Wildan doing direct install for lighting program. Boiler for McKinley in route. Boilers ordered for Eastside, Lafayette and Gladys Hillman Jones/School of Global Studies. Coordinating with Facilities department on asbestos abatement. CHA reviewing building envelopes for window contractors.

The Bond Issuance for the ESIP projects has been recognized by the Bonding Industry as the Green Deal of the Year; Award Ceremony in December.

District is moving forward with Recycling initiative. First Avenue became first Silver Sustainable school with others to follow.

The committee recommends items move forward to the full Board for action.