

# Special Public Meeting March 4, 2024



**President**  
L. Daniel Rodriguez



**Vice President**  
Judith Sanchez



**Board Member**  
Abril Barrales-Garcia



**Board Member**  
Maryann Capursi



**Board Member**  
Craig B. Miller



**Board Member**  
Christina Schratz



**Board Member**  
Arthur G. Soto



**Board Member**  
Ronald Van Rensalier



**Board Member**  
Leslie Zuniga

**SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING – MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024**

**1.** Call to Order..... 1

**2.** Invocation ..... 1

**3.** Pledge of Allegiance..... 1

**4.** Roll Call ..... 1

**5.** Public Participation..... 1

**6.** Agenda Items:

    1. Approval of the 2024-2025 School District Budget for Submission to the  
        New Jersey Department of Education/Executive County Superintendent of Schools

    2. Resolution Establishing the Annual Maximum Travel Expenditure Amount  
        2024-2025 School Year

    3. Resolution Establishing Professional Services Appropriations and Extra Curricular  
        Activities (Clubs and Athletics) for the 2024-2025 School Year

    4. Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal

    5. Capital Reserve Withdrawal

**7. ADJOURNMENT** ..... 6

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **1. Call to Order**

This meeting is being held in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act", Chapter 231, Laws of 1975. The notice of this meeting was mailed to The Herald News and The Record, and to the presidents of the five employee groups. A copy of the meeting notice was delivered to the Office of Municipal Clerk and posted on the bulletin board at City Hall. A copy was also posted at the Board of Education Administration Building. Annual notice was filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(d). Adequate notice has been provided in accordance with the law.

### **2. Invocation**

God, guide us in the decisions to be deliberated this evening and help us to work together in the best interest of the children and the parents of the City of Passaic.

### **3. Pledge of Allegiance**

### **4. Roll Call**

### **5. Public Participation**

### **6. Agenda Items**

1. Approval of the 2024-2025 School District Budget for Submission to the New Jersey Department of Education/Executive County Superintendent of Schools
2. Resolution Establishing the Annual Maximum Travel Expenditure Amount 2024-2025 School Year
3. Resolution Establishing Professional Services Appropriations and Extra Curricular Activities (Clubs and Athletics) for the 2024-2025 School Year
4. Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal
5. Capital Reserve Withdrawal

### **7. ADJOURNMENT**



Regular Public Meeting Minutes  
Passaic Board of Education  
Passaic, New Jersey 07055

**March 4, 2024**  
Time: 6:18 pm

**AGENDA:**

**1. Call to Order**

President Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:18 pm. He called on the School Board Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. Kevin Lomski, to address the public. He stated that this meeting was being held in accordance with the "Open Public Meetings Act." Notice of this meeting was mailed to The Herald News and The Record, and to the presidents of the five employee groups. A copy of the meeting notice was delivered to the Office of Municipal Clerk and posted at City Hall. A copy was also posted at the Board of Education and filed in accordance with the law.

**2. Invocation**

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Roll Call**

Board Members Present:

Vice President Judith Sanchez,(Excused), Ms. Abril Barrales-Garcia, Ms. Maryann Capursi, Mr. Craig Miller, Ms. Christina Schratz, Mr. Arthur Soto, Mr. Ronald Van Rensalier, Ms. Leslie Zuniga, and President Rodriguez

Also Present: Dr. Sandra Montañez-Diodonet, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Jeffrey Truppo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Instruction, Dr. Manuel Negron, Chief of Operations, Kevin Lomski, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. Yaacov Brisman, Board Attorney

**5. Public Participation: NONE**

President Rodriguez invited members of the public to participate via Board Meeting Participation Forms, which were made available prior to the start of the meeting. Questions/comments were read aloud by Mr. Yaacov Brisman, Board Attorney.

Motion to close Public Participation: Commissioner Soto

Moved: Commissioner Miller

Seconded: Commissioner Zuniga

Public participation closed at: 6:21 pm

Voice Vote: 8

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Approval of the 2024-2025 School District Budget for Submission to the New Jersey Department of Education/Executive County Superintendent of Schools**

Recommends that the Passaic Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5(c) and N.J.A.C.6A:23A-8.1(a) recommends the proposed school budget for the school year 2024-2025, as prepared by Dr. Sandra M. Diodonet, Superintendent of Schools, be approved for submission to the New Jersey Department of Education and the Executive County Superintendent for Passaic County for review and approval.

The proposed school district budget as introduced by Dr. Diodonet highlights the following:

Total School District Budget Appropriations	\$ 405,154,643
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$ <u>387,656,595</u>
Minimum Tax Levy for Passaic Taxpayers*	\$ <u>17,498,048</u>

\*The Minimum Tax Levy of \$17,498,048, reflects a two percent (2%) tax increase over last year's budget.

The budget to be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education and to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for review is subject to possible adjustments and revisions. The proposed school budget is subject to revisions by the Passaic Board of Education. Budget discussions and review are ongoing through the month of March. The budget will be advertised in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:22-10.

Dr. Sandra M. Diodonet, Superintendent of Schools notes the following budget dates:

Monday, March 25, 2024 6:00 p.m. – Public Hearing of the Budget in person

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 – Annual School Board Election – Vote on the Budget





**3. Resolution Establishing Professional Services Appropriations and Extra Curricular Activities (Clubs and Athletics) for the 2024-2025 School Year**

Professional Services Appropriations – N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.2 (a) (1)

The Passaic Public Schools has budgeted the amount of \$16,716,500.00 for professional services in the 2024-2025 general current expense budget:

Description	Amount
Legal	\$ 343,000.00
Financial Audit	\$ 76,000.00
Actuarial Certification-IBNR	\$ 35,000.00
Insurance Consultant	\$ 32,500.00
OT/PT/Speech/Evaluation (Pre-K - 12)	\$ 10,170,000.00
Medical Inspector/Nursing/Drug Screening	\$ 320,000.00
SRO Contract	\$ 3,800,000.00
Architect Contracts	\$ 1,650,000.00
Home Instruction	\$ 290,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$16,716,500.00</b>

Extra-Curricular Activities (Clubs and Athletics) —N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.8 (c) (3)

The Passaic Public Schools has budgeted the amount of \$1,668,363.00 for extracurricular activities in the 2024-2025 general current expense budget:

Description	Amount
K-8 Co-Curricular (Clubs & Activities)	\$ 126,000.00
High School Co-Curricular (Clubs & Activities)	\$ 190,500.00
Interscholastic Athletics (Includes Coaches, Supplies & Services)	\$ 1,351,863.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,668,363.00</b>

**4. Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal**

Recommends that the Passaic Board of Education based upon the recommendation of Dr. Sandra M. Diodonet, Superintendent of Schools, recommends a maintenance reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$7,793,449.00. The district intends to utilize the resources to fund required maintenance activities throughout the district.

**5. Capital Reserve Withdrawal**

Recommends that the Passaic Board of Education based upon the recommendation of Dr. Sandra M. Diodonet, Superintendent of Schools, recommends a capital reserve withdrawal in the amount of \$2,000,000.00. The district intends to utilize these funds to implement district wide capital improvements as follows:

Project Description	Amount
Boverini Stadium Turf Replacement.	\$2,000,000.00



## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

The next ***Regular Public Meeting*** of the Passaic Board of Education will be held on ***Monday, March 25, 2024*** at 6:00 p.m. at the Passaic Board of Education, Board Meeting Room, 663 Main Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Passaic, New Jersey.

**6. Agenda Items**

- 1) Approval of the 2024-2025 School District Budget for Submission to the New Jersey Department of Education/Executive County Superintendent of Schools
- 2) Resolution Establishing the Annual Maximum Travel Expenditure Amount 2024-2025 School Year
- 3) Resolution Establishing Professional Services Appropriations and Extra Curricular Activities (Clubs and Athletics) for the 2024-2025 School Year
- 4) Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal
- 5) Capital Reserve Withdrawal

Motion to Approve: Commissioner Van Rensalier Voice Vote 8  
 Second: Commissioner Zuniga

Vice President Sanchez	Excused	Commissioner Barrales-Garcia	Yes
Commissioner Capursi	Yes	Commissioner Soto	Yes
Commissioner Schartz	Yes	Commissioner Van Rensalier	Yes
President Rodriguez	Yes	Commissioner Zuniga	Yes
Commissioner Miller	Yes		

**7. Adjournment**

President Rodriguez announced that the next Regular Public Meeting of the Passaic Board of Education will be held on Monday, March 25, 2024 at the Passaic Board of Education, Board Meeting Room, 663 Main Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Passaic, New Jersey.

Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Van Rensalier  
 Seconded: Commissioner Zuniga Voice Vote: 8

**Meeting ended at: 6:24 pm**

Recorded by:

*Mr. Kevin Lomski*

Kevin Lomski  
 School Business Administrator  
 Board Secretary