



ORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES

PASSAIC BOARD OF EDUCATION

Monday, April 26, 2021

6:07 P.M.

A. Calling the Meeting to Order – Board Secretary

Mr. Bowman, called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. He said that due to the current State of Emergency, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), and guidance from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Division of Local Government Services, this Public Meeting will be held by remote means. Details for how to access and participate in this Public Meeting through remote means are posted on the District Website at www.passaicschools.org.

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.

B. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance – Board Secretary

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Bowman read the results of the election as follows:

C. Election Results—Monday, April 20, 2021

Unofficial ELECTION RESULTS SUMMARY – Results Certified by Board of Elections

2021-2022 Tax Levy Question	Yes	No
Local Tax Levy \$16,818,577	580	118

Candidates (3) for Three Year Seat	Votes	
Ronald Van Rensalier	743	<u>Re-Elected</u>
Luis Daniel Rodriguez	762	<u>Re-Elected</u>
Judith Sanchez	770	<u>Re-Elected</u>

D. Oath of Office for Re-Elected Board Members

City of Passaic Mayor Hector Lora administered the oath of office.

- Ronald Van Rensalier
- Luis Daniel Rodriguez
- Judith Sanchez

E. Roll Call -- Board Secretary

Ms. Capursi	Yes	Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes	Ms. Schratz	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes	Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes	Mr. VanRensalier	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes		

F. Organization Items:

1. Election of the Office of President - Presided by the Board Secretary

Mr. Bowman opened the nomination for President. A motion was made to nominate Christina Schratz to the office of President. There were no other nominations.

Moved: Mr. Rodriguez
 Seconded: Ms. Capursi

Roll Call Vote for Christina Schratz to serve as President:

Ms. Capursi	Yes	Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes	Ms. Schratz	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes	Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes	Mr. VanRensalier	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes		

Vote: 9-0

2. Election of Vice President - Presided by the Newly-Elected President

President Schratz asked for nominations for Vice President. A motion was made to nominate Luis Daniel Rodriguez. There were no other nominations.

Moved: Mr. Soto
Seconded: Mr. Van Rensalier

Roll Call Vote for Mr. Rodriguez to serve as Vice President:

Ms. Capursi	Yes	Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes	Ms. Schratz	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes	Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes	Mr. VanRensalier	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes		

Vote: 9-0

3. Resolution Setting the Annual Meeting Schedule – Passaic Board of Education — 2021-2022 School Year

Recommends that the Passaic Board of Education approves the adoption of the Annual Meeting Schedule of the Passaic Board of Education as follows:

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE
PASSAIC BOARD OF EDUCATION
2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Pursuant to the “Open Public Meeting Act” N.J.S.A. 10:4-7 et seq., the Passaic Board of Education hereby establishes the Annual Meeting Schedule of the Board for the 2021-2022 School Year:

April 26, 2021

<i>Monday</i>	<i>April 26, 2021</i>	<i>Annual Board Organization Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>May 10, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>June 7, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>June 28, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>July 26, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>August 30, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>September 27, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>October 25, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>November 22, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>December 20, 2021</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>January 24, 2022</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>February 28, 2022</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>March 28, 2022</i>	<i>Regular Public Meeting</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>

All meetings will be held in the Board Rooms, 663 Main Avenue, Passaic, New Jersey, 6th floor, unless otherwise noted.

Motion was made to accept the above resolution:

Moved: Mr. Soto
Seconded: Mr. Miller

Ms. Capursi	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes

Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Ms. Schratz	Yes
Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. VanRensalier	Yes

Vote: 9-0

4. Authorization to Conduct Additional Board Business

Recommends, pursuant to Board Bylaw No. 9322.1, that the Passaic Board of Education conducts additional business at the Annual Organization Meeting.

Motion was made to accept the above resolution:

Moved: Mr. Miller
Seconded: Mr. Soto

Ms. Capursi	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes

Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Ms. Schratz	Yes
Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. VanRensalier	Yes

Vote: 9-0

G. Comments from Board Members

Mayor Lora congratulated the re-elected board members on behalf of the City Council and the City of Passaic. He said the City Council is looking forward to working with the Board. He congratulated President Schratz and Vice President Rodriguez on their re-election.

Ms. Sanchez thanked everyone for their continuous support, also thanked the community for coming out to vote and re-electing her.

Mr. Rodriguez thanked everyone for their support, his fellow commissioners in re-electing him as Vice President. Thanked the Mayor for his leadership and support. He will continue to support the community, and the student. Thanked all the voters that re-elected him.

Mr. Van Rensalier thanked his running mates for their support in going out to campaign for this election, very proud of both of them. He also thanked all the voters that came out and made it possible for him to get re-elected. He thanked all the former and current Board Members for their continuous support and friendship. He thanked Board Attorney, Mr. Brisman for his many years of counsel and Mayor Lora for his continuous support and leadership.

Ms. Schratz expressed how grateful, thankful and honored she is to be able to serve once again as the President. She thanked her fellow Board Members for their trust in her and her leadership. We are looking forward to opening up our schools in a very safe manner. She also thanked Mayor Lora, City Council and his entire administration for their leadership, partnership with the Passaic Board of Education.

Ms. Capursi congratulated all of the re-elected Board Members, and for the re-election of President Schratz and Vice President Rodriguez. The past year has been a rough year for all of us. We are looking forward to working alongside you both and your leadership.

Mr. Van Rensalier congratulated President Schratz and Vice President Rodriguez; you both have done a great job. Acknowledge Ms. Infante's retirement. Her service was immeasurable and thanked her for always going over and beyond. Wished her the best in her new endeavors.

Mr. Soto congratulated President Schratz, and Vice President Rodriguez thank you for your work and leadership.

April 26, 2021

Mr. Miller congratulated both President Schratz and Vice President Rodriguez for their professionalism. Thanked them both for their hard work and leadership during these hard difficult times.

Mr. Carrera extended his congratulations to both President Schratz and Vice President Rodriguez. Looking forward to working beside his fellow Board Members, we have a lot of work ahead of and I am proud to be a part of this team.

Ms. Flores congratulated the re-elected Board members, President Schratz and Vice President Rodriguez for their re-election. We have a challenging year ahead of us, and hope we can work together as a team to keep building on what we already have.

Ms. Sanchez congratulated both President Schratz and Vice President Rodriguez on their re-election, very happy to be working under your leadership. You both have demonstrated a very strong leadership during COVID. Looking forward to working together with you.

H. Public Participation

President Schratz said the public was invited to participate by submitting questions and comments via the web link.

Mr. Brisman shared that there were two questions posted to the link in Spanish and translated below:

Edwin Garcia, 65 Blaine Street, Passaic, NJ

A quick congratulations on the election and the passing of the budget. The fact that you all ran unopposed is a testament to the great job, hard work, and dedication you all exude. Thank you to Christina Schratz for your leadership as President, and Danny Rodriguez for your leadership as vice-president over the last year. I look forward to seeing what the future has in store for our district under all of your watchful eyes and leadership.

S. Rey, 260 Gregory Avenue, Passaic, NJ

Good Evening Board Members, While I applaud the board on taking steps towards reopening ESY, there are still many, many unanswered questions. Some of the same unanswered questions I have mentioned the past 2 board meetings and received no follow up. Today, my child's case manager asked me if they would attend ESY. Unfortunately, she was given no information about what has been done to the school, what safeguards are in place or what are the procedures for special education. There has been little to no information provided to the public or staff about the environment that they will be entering in. Transparency builds trust. Furthermore, it is not realistic to expect a child to jump right back into going 5 days a week, particularly when the district hasn't been able to reopen all year long. a hybrid model should be made available. Using ESY/ special needs children as a test model for September isn't ethical. Then to have the expectation of a child to complete virtual therapies at the end of the their day and on their " home time" isn't practical. If a child has multiple therapies, that could easily carry them into a longer day then regular school. Therapies shouldn't have to be sacrificed due to poor planning. A hybrid model with proper safety nets, complete walk throughs by a 3rd party, and well thought out procedures would allow children the opportunity to transition, allow remote days to be used for therapies during school hours, and allow parents and children to have a hint of normalcy as you and other families to enjoy summer. Most importantly, this will provide some reassurance of safety for everyone with the goal of reopening 5 days a week in September.

Motion to close Public Portion:

Moved: Mr. Rodriguez Seconded: Mr. Miller

Public Portion closed at 6:44 p.m.

Ms. Capursi	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes

Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Ms. Schratz	Yes
Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. VanRensalier	Yes

Vote: 9-0

I. Executive Session

Recommends that the Passaic Board of Education meets in Executive Session on April 26, 2021, via remote means, to discuss personnel matters.

Motion to go into Executive Session:

Moved: Mr. Miller Seconded: Ms. Capursi

Ms. Capursi	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes

Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Ms. Schratz	Yes
Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. VanRensalier	Yes

Vote: 9-0

Reconvene from Executive Session at 8:05 p.m.

Roll Call -- Board Secretary

Ms. Capursi	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes

Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Ms. Schratz	Yes
Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. VanRensalier	Yes

J. Announcement of Next Regular Public Meeting

President Schratz said that the next Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., through remote means posted on the District Website at www.passaicschools.org.

K. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Miller
Seconded: Mr. Rodriguez

Ms. Capursi	Yes
Mr. Carrera	Yes
Ms. Flores	Yes
Mr. Miller	Yes
Mr. Rodriguez	Yes

Ms. Sanchez	Yes
Ms. Schratz	Yes
Mr. Soto	Yes
Mr. VanRensalier	Yes

Voice Vote: 9-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm

Recorded by:

Ryan A. Bowman
Ryan A. Bowman
Interim School Business Administrator
Interim Board Secretary