



**ORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES**

PASSAIC BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Passaic, New Jersey 07055

Tuesday, April 26, 2022  
6:04 p.m.

**AGENDA:**

**A. Call to Order**

Commissioner Schratz called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. She called on the Board Secretary, Mr. R. Aaron Bowman, 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.

**B. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**C. Election Results – Tuesday, April 19, 2022**

Mr. Bowman announced the following Annual School Board Election results:

**UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS SUMMARY – Unofficial Results by Board of Elections**

| <b>2022-2023 Tax Levy Question</b> | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Local Tax Levy \$16,818,577        | 640        | 116       |

| <b>Candidates for Three Year Seat</b> | <b>Votes</b> |                   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Maryann Capursi                       | 642          | <u>Re-Elected</u> |
| Craig Miller                          | 643          | <u>Re-Elected</u> |
| Patricia Abril Barrales-Garcia        | 645          | <u>Elected</u>    |
| Diomedes Minaya                       | 183          |                   |

**D. Oath of Office for Re-Elected and New Board Members**

Mayor Hector C. Lora administered the oath of office to the following board members:

- Maryann Capursi
- Craig Miller
- Patricia Abril Barrales-Garcia

Mayor Lora congratulated the re-elected and newly elected board members and addressed all board members on what it means to be elected.

**E. Roll Call**

|   |
|---|
| <p>Board Members Present:</p> <p>Ms. Barrales-Garcia, Ms. Maryann Capursi, Mr. Horacio Ray Carrera, Mr. Craig Miller, Mr. L. Daniel Rodriguez, Ms. Sanchez, Ms. Schratz, Mr. Arthur Soto, and Mr. Ronald Van Rensalier.</p> <p>Also Present: Ms. Sandra Montañez-Diodonet, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Jeffrey Truppo, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Stefania Duarte, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. R. Aaron Bowman, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. Miguel Frias, Director of Human Resources and Mr. Yaacov Brisman, Board Attorney.</p> |
|---|

**F. Organization Items**

**1) Election of the Office of President**

Commissioner Schratz nominated Commissioner Rodriguez for the position of President.

Motion to Approve: Ms. Schratz  
Second: Mr. Van Rensalier

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Commissioner Barrales-Garcia | Yes |
| Commissioner Capursi         | Yes |
| Commissioner Carrera         | Yes |
| Commissioner Miller          | Yes |
| Commissioner Rodriguez       | Yes |
| Commissioner Sanchez         | Yes |
| Commissioner Schratz         | Yes |
| Commissioner Soto            | Yes |
| Commissioner Van Rensalier   | Yes |

Commissioner Rodriguez was elected for the position of President.

**2) Election of the Office of Vice President**

Commissioner Miller nominated Commissioner Sanchez for the position of Vice President.

Motion to Approve: Mr. Miller  
Second: Mr. Capursi

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Commissioner Barrales-Garcia | Yes |
| Commissioner Capursi         | Yes |
| Commissioner Carrera         | Yes |
| Commissioner Miller          | Yes |
| President Rodriguez          | Yes |
| Commissioner Sanchez         | Yes |
| Commissioner Schratz         | Yes |
| Commissioner Soto            | Yes |
| Commissioner Van Rensalier   | Yes |

Commissioner Sanchez was elected for the position of Vice President.

**3) Resolution Setting the Annual Meeting Schedule – Passaic Board of Education – 2022-2023 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**  
**2022-2023 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 2022-2023 School Year:

|                |                           |  |                  |
|----------------|---------------------------|--|------------------|
| <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>April 26, 2022</i>     | <i>Annual Board<br/>Organization Meeting</i> | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>May 9, 2022</i>        | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>May 23, 2022</i>       | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>June 27, 2022</i>      | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>July 25, 2022</i>      | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>August 29, 2022</i>    | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>September 26, 2022</i> | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>October 24, 2022</i>   | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>November 21, 2022</i>  | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>December 19, 2022</i>  | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>January 30, 2023</i>   | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>February 27, 2023</i>  | <i>Regular Public Meeting</i>                | <i>6:00 p.m.</i> |
| <i>Monday</i>  | <i>March 27, 2023</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, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, with exception to the August 29, 2022 meeting which will be held at Muhammad Ali School No. 23 and the February 27, 2023 meeting which will be held at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School No. 6, 85 Hamilton Avenue, Passaic, New Jersey.

Motion to Approve: Mr. Miller  
 Second: Ms. Schratz

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Commissioner Barrales-Garcia | Yes |
| Commissioner Capursi         | Yes |
| Commissioner Carrera         | Yes |
| Commissioner Miller          | Yes |
| President Rodriguez          | Yes |
| Vice President Sanchez       | Yes |
| Commissioner Schratz         | Yes |
| Commissioner Soto            | Yes |
| Commissioner Van Rensalier   | Yes |

**G. Comments from Board Members**

| Board Member                 | Comment   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Commissioner Miller          | Mr. Miller thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President.   |
| Commissioner Capursi         | Ms. Capursi thanked the public for the opportunity to serve and for being re-elected. She thanked Mayor Lora for administering the oath of office. She thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President. |
| Commissioner Schratz         | Ms. Schratz thanked the board and the public for the opportunity to serve as former President. She congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President.   |
| Commissioner Van Rensalier   | Mr. Van Rensalier thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President.  |
| Commissioner Carrera         | Mr. Carrera thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President.  |
| Commissioner Barrales-Garcia | Ms. Barrales-Garcia thanked the public for the opportunity to serve and for being elected. She congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President.   |

**Comments from Board Members (Continued)**

| Board Member                     | Comment   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Vice President Sanchez           | Ms. Sanchez thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez on his appointment as President. She expressed her eagerness to serve as Vice President.  |
| President Rodriguez              | Mr. Rodriguez thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Ms. Sanchez on her appointment as Vice President. He also congratulated elected commissioners. He expressed his eagerness to serve as President. He thanked Mayor Lora for his example of leadership. |
| Commissioner Soto (via Zoom)     | Mr. Soto thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President. He thanked Mayor Lora for coming and for his example of leadership.   |
| Mayor Lora                       | Mr. Lora thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President. He also congratulated the elected commissioners.  |
| Superintendent Montañez-Diodonet | Ms. Montañez-Diodonet thanked Ms. Schratz for her service as former President and congratulated Mr. Rodriguez and Ms. Sanchez on their appointments as President and Vice President. She also congratulated the elected commissioners.  |

**H. Public Participation**

President Rodriguez invited members of the public to participate:

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Name/Address:</b>     | Juan Arroyo, 18 Scoles Pl., Passaic, NJ 07055  |
| <b>Question/Comment:</b> | Mr. Arroyo congratulated the re-elected and newly elected board members and expressed his desire to see new commissioners serving the community.   |
| <b>Name/Address:</b>     | Jesus G. Velez, 6 Peach St., Apt. 11, Passaic, NJ 07055  |
| <b>Question/Comment:</b> | Mr. Velez posed question(s) and made comment(s) regarding the existing flag policy, as it pertains to the raising of the Pride flag.   |
| <b>Name/Address:</b>     | Camila Perez, 65 Aycrigg Ave., Passaic, NJ 07055   |
| <b>Question/Comment:</b> | Ms. Perez posed question(s) and made comment(s) regarding the existing flag policy, as it pertains to the raising of the Pride flag.   |
| <b>Response:</b>         | President Rodriguez informed public participants that an answer and/or statement will be issued at the May 9 <sup>th</sup> meeting regarding their request(s) to raise the pride flag in June. |

Motion to close Public Participation:

Moved: Mr. Van Rensalier  
 Seconded: Ms. Sanchez

Voice Vote: 9 Yes

Public participation closed at 7:14 p.m.

**I. Announcement of Next Regular Public Meeting**

President Rodriguez announced that the next Regular Public Meeting of the Passaic Board of Education will be held on Monday, May 9, 2022 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.

**J. Adjournment**

President Rodriguez requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Van Rensalier  
 Seconded: Ms. Sanchez

Voice Vote: 9 Yes

**Meeting ended at 7:17 p.m.**

Recorded by:

Mr. R. Aaron Bowman  
 School Business Administrator  
 Board Secretary