

Minutes of **Tuesday, April 14, 2015, Public Board Meeting** of the Orange Board Of Education held at 7:30 p.m., at the Administrative Building 451 Lincoln Avenue, Orange, New Jersey.

Ms. Patricia Arthur presiding over tonight's meeting.

Mr. Abdul-Shabazz Ashanti
Mr. E. Lydell Carter (**absent**)
Mrs. Paula Desormes (**absent**)
Mrs. Marion Graves-Jackson
Ms. Cristina Mateo
Mr. Jeffrey Wingfield
Mrs. Patricia Arthur

ROLL CALL: (5) PRESENT (2) ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT:

- Mrs. Belinda Scott-Smiley, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent for Operations/Human Resource Services
- Dr. Paula E. Howard, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
- Mr. Adekunle O. James, School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary
- Mr. Akindele Ayodele, Assistant School Business Administrator/ Assistant Board Secretary
- Mr. Melvin Randall, School Board Attorney with the firm of Love & Randall

In conformance with the **Board of Education Policy 1120-1 and Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231**, this is to announce that this Public Board Meeting of the Orange Board of Education is being convened with adequate notice. Notice of this meeting has been posted at the Administrative Office, filed with the City Clerk's Office of the City of Orange Township and delivered to the Orange Transcript and the Star Ledger.

The City of Orange Township Board of Education encourages the participation and input from members of the public at its board meetings. However, in accordance with Board Policy, verbal attacks against individual staff members or members of the Board are not permitted. Persons are encouraged to address the Board regarding comments relating to agenda items or issues concerning the educational process. The Board of Education thanks you for your cooperation.

FLAG SALUTE

The following Orange Preparatory Academy Student will lead the Public in performing the Flag Salute:
Taiwo Odunowo

PRESENTATIONS

Allergic to Average

Students of Orange Preparatory Academy

Superintendent Report

Dr. Paula Howard, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

BOARD COMMENTS

- Roll Call was performed by Mr. James at 7:35pm followed by the Flag Salute and a short presentation by students of Orange Preparatory Academy. Awards and recognition were bestowed upon the Students of the Month.

BOARD MINUTES

Closed Meeting – March 10, 2015
Public Meeting – March 10, 2015
Board of School Estimate Meeting – March 27, 2015
District Strategic Planning Meeting – March 30

BOARD RESOLUTIONS

**A15-006 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THREE (3) YEAR CONTRACT
NEGOTIATION AGREEMENT/SALARY GUIDE BETWEEN
THE ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND ORANGE
ADMINISTRATORS & SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION
(OASA) FOR 2015-2016, 2016-2017 AND 2017-2018
SCHOOL YEARS**

WHEREAS, the members of the Orange Administrators and Supervisors Association have ratified the terms and conditions as agreed upon with the Orange Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education has agreed to the terms and conditions of the Association's contract for the three-year period of July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2018, as per the attached memorandum; and

WHEREAS, that the Orange Board of Education hereby approves the agreement which reflects the three-year salary guide percentage increase is **2.35%**, for Year #1 2015-2016, **2.30%** for year #2 2016-2017 and year #3 2017-2018 is **2.30%** for the Orange Administrators and Supervisors Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a new administrator's salary guide will be amicably developed between both parties. Also for Secondary and Elementary Schools administrators, a new guide will be developed whereby; the Principals and Assistant Principals guides at the secondary levels will be modified to include the currently being received additional annual 5% (of the current 14-15 guide amount) and the \$3000 stipend for Principals and the \$2000 stipend for Asst. Principals as per the settlement agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of this approved agreement and the proposed guide when developed to be placed on file with the Human Resource and Business Department at the Administrative Office of the Orange Board of Education.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0) NAY

C15-023 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PAYMENT OF BILLS FOR MARCH 2015

WHEREAS, the Orange School District request the payment of the attached detailed bills for March 2015, whose totals are summarized as follows:

<u>FUNDS</u>	<u>CHECKS</u>	<u>BILLS</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
Fund 11 - General Current Expense	\$1,252,055.07	\$1,329,005.53	\$2,581,060.60
Fund 12 - Capital Outlay	140,793.20	2,459.00	143,252.20
Fund 15 - Whole School Reform	80,059.68	144,729.40	224,789.08
Fund 20 - Special Revenue Funds	156,334.55	582,125.89	738,460.44
Grand Total	\$1,629,242.50	\$2,058,319.82	\$3,687,562.32

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education hereby approves the total payment of district bills in the amount of **\$3,687,562.32**

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**C15-024 RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE BOARD SECRETARY'S
REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2015**

WHEREAS, the School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, hereby submits the Board Secretary's Financial Report for the month of February 2015.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education, after review of such report, hereby accepts the February 2015 Board Secretary's Financial Report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this report be on file in the Business Office

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**C15-025 RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE TREASURER OF SCHOOL
FUNDS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2015**

WHEREAS, under statute regulations the Treasurer of School Funds is required to reconcile bank accounts and the Board Secretary Report and said reports have been submitted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education hereby accepts the Treasurer of School Funds Report for the month of February 2015.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**C15-026 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S
MONTHLY CERTIFICATION OF BUDGETARY MAJOR
ACCOUNT/FUND STATUS FOR FEBRUARY 2015**

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.3(3), we (the Board) certify that as of February 2015, after review of the Board Secretary's Financial Report (appropriate sections) and upon consultation with appropriate Official, to the best of our knowledge, no major account of funds has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6:20-1.13(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education, hereby approves its Monthly Certification of Budgetary Major Account/Fund Status, as indicated above.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0) NAY

**C15-027 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS (FUND
11) FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Orange School District requires budgetary transfers to meet the encumbrances for the 2014-2015 school year, as per the attached.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education hereby approves the Transfer of Funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2014-2015 budget be adjusted accordingly.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0) NAY

**C15-028 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS (FUND
12) FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Orange School District requires budgetary transfers to meet the encumbrances for the 2014-2015 school year, as per the attached.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education hereby approves the Transfer of Funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2014-2015 budget be adjusted accordingly.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0) NAY

**C15-029 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS (FUND
15) FOR THE 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

WHEREAS, the Orange School District requires budgetary transfers to meet the encumbrances for the 2014-2015 school year, as per the attached.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education hereby approves the Transfer of Funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2014-2015 budget be adjusted accordingly.
Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.
ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**D15-004 RESOLUTION FOR THE ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION APPLYING FOR THE 21st
CENTURY GRANT**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Education offers the 21st CCLC Program that is a limited competitive grant program open to all public or private agencies including, local education agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education qualifies to be the Lead Agency for this grant, and

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education has collaborated with Montclair State University to provide a program to provide participating students with academic enrichment opportunities that complement the regular school day and to improve school attendance and academic performance while also developing positive student behavior and engaging relationships with caring adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED for the Orange Board of Education to submit an application applying for the 21st Century Grant.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.
ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**D15-005 RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR THE NORTH JERSEY
EDUCATIONAL INSURANCE FUND GRANT (NJEIF), A
FUND WITHIN THE NEW JERSEY SCHOOL BOARDS
ASSOCIATION INSURANCE GROUP**

WHEREAS, the North Jersey Educational Insurance Fund Grant (NJEIF), a fund within the New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group has consider the Orange School District as being currently eligible to receive a grant in the amount of **\$ 24,772.96** through the New Jersey School Board Association Insurance Group (NJSBAIG) 2015-2016 for School Facility Safety Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the available grants are payable to qualifying member school districts during the July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 policy term. The grant program is intended to provide funds toward plant safety, building security, safety equipment and training; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education of the Orange School District hereby grant approval to the Superintendent of Schools and

School Business Administrator to apply for 2015-2016 Safety Grant Program funds in the amount of **\$24,772.96** on behalf of the Orange School District.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

E15-012 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP, DIVISION OF RECREATION, TO UTILIZE BELL STADIUM TO HOST THEIR TRACK & FIELD PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Orange Township, Division of Recreation is requesting to utilize the following:

BELL STADIUM

TRACK & FIELD PROGRAM

Monday, April 6, 2015 – Thursday June 4, 2015 (Monday – Thursday)

5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

June 6, 2015 – June 13, 2015 (Saturdays)

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education, hereby approves the request of the City of Orange Township, Division of Recreation, as indicated above and with the condition that all Board of Education events take precedence over the City of Orange Township, Division of Recreation's usage and pending the signing of the Request to Use Facilities form.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

E15-013 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF ZUMBA FITNESS, TO UTILIZE ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL GYM TO HOST THEIR ZUMBA CLASSES

WHEREAS, Zumba Fitness is requesting to utilize the following:

ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL GYM

ZUMBA CLASSES

**Wednesday, April 15, 2015 – Wednesday July 30, 2015
(Monday, Wednesday, Thursday)**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education, hereby approves the request of Zumba Fitness, as indicated above and with the condition that all Board of Education events take precedence over Zumba Fitness' usage and pending the signing of the Request to Use Facilities form, Hold Harmless Agreement, and Proof of Insurance.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**E15-014 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF THE CITY OF
ORANGE TOWNSHIP, DIVISION OF RECREATION, TO
LINCOLN AVENUE SCHOOL GYM TO HOST THEIR
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHEERING COMPETITION**

WHEREAS, the City of Orange Township, Division of Recreation is requesting to utilize the following:

LINCOLN AVENUE SCHOOL GYM
ELECEMENTARY SCHOOL CHEERING COMPETITION
Saturday, April 25, 2015
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education, hereby approves the request of the City of Orange Township, Division of Recreation, as indicated above and with the condition that all Board of Education events take precedence over the City of Orange Township, Division of Recreation's usage and pending the signing of the Request to Use Facilities form.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**F15-012 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DISTRICT-WIDE
WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES**

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education seeks to expand educational opportunities by providing alternative non-traditional experiences.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board Of Education approves the Workshops/Conferences as per attached summary.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

F15-013 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE DISTRICT-WIDE FIELD TRIPS

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education seeks to expand educational opportunities by providing alternative non-traditional experiences.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education approves the field trips as per the attached summary.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**F15-014 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL
CALENDAR**

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education annually approves the School Calendar for the ensuing school year; and

WHEREAS, the the 2015-2016 school calendar has been collaboratively developed by the Orange Board of Education and the Orange Administrators, Supervisors, Association and the Orange Education Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education, hereby adopt the calendar for the 2015-2016 school year.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

**F15-015 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION TO PROCESS AN
INVOLUNTARY DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATION
FOR EMPLOYEE #1020**

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education has employed a teacher, Employee #1020 at Orange Preparatory Academy; and

WHEREAS, the teacher, Employee #1020 is an active member of the Teachers Pension Annuity Fund in an unpaid status; due, to her unpaid leave of absence, since January 5, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the teacher, Employee #1020 has 16.6 years of Service Credit, meeting the minimum service credit requirement; and,

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education is of the opinion that the teacher, Employee #1020 is totally and permanently disabled and no longer can perform her assigned duties based on the documentation supplied by the professionals retained by the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is unable to provide an alternative to the covered position with duties capable of being performed by said teacher, Employee #1020; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has consented to the processing of the Involuntary Disability Retirement application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education that the Superintendent or his proper designee may process an Involuntary Disability Retirement application for the teacher, Employee #1020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to all parties involved in the administration of this action.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

G15-014 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE IDENTIFICATION OF THREE (3) ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES AROUND THE CLEVELAND STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR ACQUISITION BY THE NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NJSDA) FOR THE CONSTRUCTION/EXPANSION OF THE SCHOOL SITE

WHEREAS, the Orange Board of Education, Public School District, in connection with the Five-Year Long-Range Facilities Plan, has been requested by the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (NJSDA) to identify additional land/properties around the Cleveland Street Elementary School, as listed below:

<u>Block Numbers</u>	<u>Lot Numbers</u>	
704	10	351 Cleveland Street, Orange, NJ
704	11	349 Cleveland Street, Orange, NJ
704	12	347 Cleveland Street, Orange, NJ

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education hereby approves the identification of the above mentioned land/properties and authorizes the NJDOE/NJSDA to complete the transaction on behalf of the District.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

G15-015 RESOLUTION TO APPROVE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES MANUAL AND RULES IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.A.C. 18A:18A, ET.SEQ. AS RECOMMENDED BY THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the Business Office of the Orange Board of Education is required by the Department of Education to put in place certain measures and procedures to help improve its internal control for related expenditures pursuant to N.J.A.C. 18A:18A, et. Seq.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Orange Board of Education supports the Business Office and officially approves and adopt these ongoing mandates and administrative regulations of the Standard Operating Procedures Manual found in the Business Office section of the District website.

BE, IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all district employees should abide by the protocol and procedures as directed by the Standard Operating Procedures Manual.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

G15-016 RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE BOARD HEARING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ON STUDENT S.B. AS A NON-RESIDENT STUDENT OF ORANGE AND NOT QUALIFIED FOR IN-DISTRICT EDUCATION IN THE ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, student **S.B.** was brought before the Orange Board of Education Hearing Committee charged with violating the Board's Policy pertaining to residency; and

WHEREAS, based upon the credible testimony, it was determined that the evidence was adequate to sustain the charges; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, upon an independent review of evidence, and consideration of the evidence and testimony offered by the parents, and based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Orange Board of Education hereby finds that student **S.B.** is not a resident of the City of Orange and is therefore not entitled to a free education from the Orange Board of Education.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

G15-017 RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE BOARD HEARING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ON STUDENT A.M. AS A NON-RESIDENT STUDENT OF ORANGE AND NOT QUALIFIED FOR IN-DISTRICT EDUCATION IN THE ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, student **A.M.** was brought before the Orange Board of Education Hearing Committee charged with violating the Board's Policy pertaining to residency; and

WHEREAS, based upon the credible testimony, it was determined that the evidence was adequate to sustain the charges; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon an independent review of evidence, and consideration of the evidence and testimony offered by the parents, and based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Orange Board of Education hereby finds that student **A.M.** is not a resident of the City of Orange and is therefore not entitled to a free education from the Orange Board of Education.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

G15-018 RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE BOARD HEARING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION ON STUDENT J.M. AS A NON-RESIDENT STUDENT OF ORANGE AND NOT QUALIFIED FOR IN-DISTRICT EDUCATION IN ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, student **J.M.** was brought before the Orange Board of Education Hearing Committee charged with violating the Board's Policy pertaining to residency; and

WHEREAS, based upon the credible testimony, it was determined that the evidence was adequate to sustain the charges; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that upon an independent review of evidence, and consideration of the evidence and testimony offered by the parents, and based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Orange Board of Education hereby finds that student **J.M.** is not a resident of the City of Orange and is therefore not entitled to a free education from the Orange Board of Education.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.
ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

H. Case Numbers

Home Instruction Cases
#'s 693, 694, 696, 696, 697

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.
ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

Out-of-District Placement Cases
#'s 306280

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.
ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

H.I.B Cases
Substantiated
#s none

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Abdul Shabazz Ashanti.
ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Ralph (Teacher) narrated the case of a teacher in New York that was terminated because of a poem written by his students. He said administrators making decisions in the District should be careful in their decision making with teachers and the community they are serving. He wants Ms. Zuniga to go unpunished for requesting her students to write a get-well letter.
- Dwight Holmes wanted to find out, from the board members that went to the conference, about what they learned and how that will impact students learning. Ms. Arthur addressed his concerns.

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- Annette Austin (20 Collins St., Newark) narrated the case of her students about social justice stating that teachers speaking up about social justice is not wrong. She touched on the case of James and the US prison system.
- Arlene Blow expressed her support for the suspended teacher. She said it was wise for teachers to use different tools to encourage the learning of their students. She said the teacher should be given the opportunity to resign as the worst case scenario.
- Lisa Davis (Orange Resident) said that she stands for justice, stating that people are here today because of sacrifices of their forefathers. She supports the suspended teacher, and wants her pardoned.
- Mr. Douglas Tucker expressed his support for the teacher stating that Abdul Jamal was convicted for a crime he did not commit and that the teacher should not be made a scape goat for doing something good.
- Shekira Aminad expressed support for the teacher and stated that she should not be remanded. She said courageous educators should be encouraged and not suppressed.
- Dwyne Hartford (Non-Profit Advocate) stated that as colored people, we should be sincere and not terminate the teacher for speaking the truth.
- T.J. Wittaker (Teacher at S. Orange) expressed support for Ms. Zuniga, stating that she was teaching students how to be compassionate.
- Dawn Hayes expressed support for Ms. Zuniga and stated she was teaching compassion to her students. She also expressed disappointment in the social justice system.
- Lawrence (President of the People's Organization for Progress) stated that Marilyn Zuniga is his hero stating that Zuniga should not be terminated and that she should be restored to her job. He suggested that the case should be deliberated upon more and that she should not be made to lose her job.
- Carolyn W. said that what Zuniga did is not new stating that compassionate letters are sent on a daily basis. She said she made a mistake and should be forgiven.
- Hakim Buchanan stated that history is written by vanquished and expressed support for Zuniga and said she should be forgiven.
- Kahdijah White expressed that she was appalled at what the district is doing. She said that the Fraternal Order of Police pressuring the district is not good and that the district should not yield, but restore the job of the teacher.

- Lewisky expressed support for Ms. Zuniga
- Jennifer Wager expressed support for Zuniga stating that she was teaching her students compassion and the district should think about the message being sent to the kids.
- Tarrid Tucker (Essex County College Student) expressed his support for Ms. Zuniga stating that the district should not suppress people doing good things in the society, that she was teaching compassion and should be forgiven.
- Fortune Smith stated that he experienced bullying from a teacher and that teacher did not lose her job, asking why a teacher teaching compassion is being punished.
- Ryan Harrison (Teacher at Forest) expressed support for Zuniga, that she was overzealous, that she made a mistake and should be forgiven.
- Mark Turlor (Professor of Theology) expressed support for Zuniga stating that she should be reinstated.

DONALDSON HEARING

- Board Attorney Mr. Randall requested Ms. Marilyn Zuniga to present her case to the board according to her request to be heard in public. She said her role as a teacher is not limited to the classroom, stating that she worked on various community projects. She further stated that she informed her students about Mumia Abdul Jamal, who was very ill and that the students offered to send get well letters to him. Ms. Zuniga said she realized she made a mistake of sharing the information on social media and requested the board to forgive her and give her the opportunity of going back to the classroom because she loves her students very much.
- There were shouts from some of the public members that she must be reinstated. The situation was becoming chaotic and board members decided to go into closed session.

Motion to adjourn Public Session and go into a Second Closed Session
Moved by Marion Graves Jackson. Seconded by Jeffrey Wingfield.
ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0) NAY

SECOND CLOSED SESSION

- Board members had discussions and the Deputy Superintendent briefed Mr. Lee (Superintendent), who was not in attendance at the April 14, 2015 meeting, via phone conversation, regarding HR resolutions. Mr. Lee recommended to table portions of the HR resolutions.

Motion to adjourn Second Closed Session and go into a Second Public Session

Moved by Marion Graves Jackson. Seconded by Jeffrey Wingfield.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

SECOND PUBLIC SESSION

- The board reconvened for a second Public Session. At that time the board attorney (Mr. Randall) briefed the Public about the board decision to postpone the Donaldson Hearing.

HUMAN RESOURCE AGENDA

- ☐ Leaves of Absences
- ☐ Separations: Retirements/Resignations/Suspensions
- ☐ Appointments
- ☐ Stipends
- ☐ Transfers
- ☐ For the Record

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Marion Graves Jackson.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

DISTRICT MEETINGS

- ☐ Next scheduled meetings are as follows:

Public

- Facilities Committee Meeting – Monday, March 2, 2015 at 2:30 p.m., 451 Lincoln Avenue.
- Next Public Board Meeting – Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 7:30 p.m., Orange Preparatory Academy, 400 Central Avenue.
- Curriculum Committee Meeting – Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 5:00 p.m., 451 Lincoln Avenue.

Closed

- Human Resource Committee Meeting – Monday, March 9, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

BOARD COMMENTS

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Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and in conformance with the Board of Education Policy 1120-1 **and Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231**, this is to announce that the Orange Board Of Education will hold its next regularly scheduled **Meeting on May 12, 2015** Closed Session at 5:30 p.m. and Public Session at 7:30 p.m. It is expected that the discussion undertaken in the closed session board meeting can be made public at the time official action is taken or when its confidentiality is no longer required.

Motion to adjourn Public Session.

Moved by Jeffrey Wingfield. Seconded by Marion Graves Jackson.

ROLL CALL: (5) YEA (0)NAY

APPROVAL DATE: May 12, 2015

ATTESTED TO BY:

**School Business Administrator/
Board Secretary**

