

ABSECON BOARD OF EDUCATION
Organization Meeting
Tuesday, January 8, 2019 - 7:00 PM
Library Media Center

A. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm in the Media Center of the Marsh School by the Board Secretary, Ms. Tina Maruca.

B. FLAG SALUTE

C. SUNSHINE LAW

Ms. Maruca announced that the meeting is being held in compliance with the Sunshine Law, in that a notice was posted with the City Clerk, and on the Bulletin Board in the City Hall, and the newspapers were notified.

Ms. Maruca announced that a mechanical device will be used to record these proceedings.

D. OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEW BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

The Board Secretary administered the Oath of Office to the following: Ms. Marczyk.

E. ROLL CALL

Board Members	Present	Absent	Administration	Present
Mr. Cottrell	X		Tina Maruca	X
Mr. Rynkiewicz	X		Dr. Daniel Dooley	X
Ms. Wallace		X		
Ms. Law	X			
Ms. Marczyk		X		
Mr. Neal	X			
Dr. Grites	X			

THE ABSECON BOARD OF EDUCATION USES A “CONSENT AGENDA” PROCEDURE.

F. Election of President - Nominations were opened for President of the Board. Mr. Neal nominated Dr. Thomas Grites, seconded by Mr. Cottrell, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote. Dr. Grites, Abstain. Dr. Grites was elected President of the Board of Education.

Ms. Maruca, Board Secretary, turned the meeting over to the newly elected Board President for further business.

G. Election of Vice President - Nominations were opened for Vice President of the Board. Mr. Cottrell nominated Mr. Eric Neal, seconded by Ms. Wallace, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote. Mr. Neal, Abstain. Mr. Neal was elected Vice President of the Board of Education.

H. Code of Ethics for School Board Members - Dr. Grites moved to adopt the Code of Ethics for school board members contained within the amendment to the School Ethics Act, C.178, and P.L.2001. The Board Members discussed and signed an acknowledgement of receipt of the Code of Ethics.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Cottrell, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

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- I. Meeting Dates, Times and Place - Dr. Grites moved to set the Board of Education Meeting Dates, Times, and Place as per the attached schedule.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Cottrell, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

- J. Distribution of Meeting Dates, Times, and Place - Dr. Grites moved to approve the following as notification of yearly schedule of meetings:

The Press of Atlantic City
The Current
City Clerk of Absecon
Post on the Bulletin Board in the Absecon City Hall
Post in the Office of the Board Secretary of the Absecon Board of Education
Absecon Board of Education Website

The motion was seconded by Mr. Neal, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

K. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT REPORT

- ★ Superintendent Report: Reflection on December 21, 2018 - Dr. Dooley addressed the events of the lockdown on December 21, 2018 and thanked staff and parents. Meetings are being held with staff, admin and police to share thoughts regarding the events that day and learn from each other. As a community in the face of adversity we showed what we are capable of doing. Dr. Dooley thanked the PTO for funding a breakfast for the school staff yesterday morning. To thank the Absecon City police, as Tuesday, January 15, 2019 is National Police Officer Appreciation day, a luncheon, funded by the PTO, will be provided at the police station.

L. PERSONNEL

1. Resignation - Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, Dr. Grites moved to approve Haley Sykes as a Title I Instructor, not to exceed 3 hours per week, for the 2018-2019 school year. She will be compensated at \$40 per hour.
(20-231-100-101-03-2000)

The motion was seconded by Ms. Law, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

- M. Appoint Special Legal Counsel - Dr. Grites moved to ratify the agreement for special legal services by Porzio, Bromber, and Newman, PPC as special legal counsel, for the period January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019, at an hourly rate of \$365 per hour for senior attorneys, \$255 per hour for associate attorneys, and \$145 per hour for paralegal in conjunction with the feasibility study approved by the Board, October 24, 2017.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Cottrell, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

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N. Appoint of Committee Members for 2019 - Dr. Grites appointed the following committee members:

Fiscal Affairs:	Chairperson:	Christopher Cottrell
	Member:	John Rynkiewicz
Educational Policies:	Chairperson:	Raquel Law
	Member:	Linda Wallace
	Member:	Megan Marczyk
Negotiations:	Chairperson:	John Rynkiewicz
	Member:	Thomas Grites
	Member:	Eric Neal
Policy Review:	Chairperson:	Raquel Law
	Member:	Linda Wallace
Facilities Committee:	Chairperson:	Eric Neal
	Member:	John Rynkiewicz
Superintendent's Evaluation:	Chairperson:	Eric Neal
New Jersey School Board Association Representative:		Christopher Cottrell
New Jersey School Board Delegate Assembly Representative:		Christopher Cottrell

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O. AGENDA COMMUNICATION - None

P. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Meeting was opened to the public at 7:45 pm.

- **Robert Broomhead**, AEA President, addressed the events of the lockdown that took place on December 21, 2018. He thanked the students and parents, both those locked-down in the building and outside of the building. Mr. Broomhead thanked the police department for recognizing a threat and acting on it. In addition, he thanked Ms. Reed, Mr. Giardina, Mr. Burns, and Dr. Dooley for their communication with the police and staff.
- **Jennifer Auer**, 220 Mill Road, commented she was one of the parents in the building during the December 21, 2018 lockdown and it was good that so many parents were inside to see how things were handled and know how their children were kept safe.
- **Laura Oliver**, 1 Tremont Avenue, commented she was one of the parents outside the building during the December 21, 2018 lock down. She was very impressed with how the school administration managed the situation and kept everyone safe. Ms. Oliver thanked Dr. Dooley.
- **Dr. Dooley**, Superintendent, said there will be a second meeting with police and administration on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, at 8:30 am to discuss the events as they happened on December 21, 2018 as a way to debrief the people who played various roles in the event. A Google document will be posted on the website so others can share thoughts and learn from information posted.
- **Ed Soltzy**, 157 Webb Road, wanted to commend the staff, administration, and police for the actions they took on December 21, 2018 to manage the lockdown at the school.

Meeting was closed to the public at 9:55 pm.

Q. NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE - January 29, 2019

R. EXECUTIVE SESSION - Mr. Cottrell moved to adopt the following resolution at 8:00 pm: BE IT RESOLVED by the Absecon Board of Education that, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-1 et seq.) it shall enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel, negotiations, potential litigation and other matters of attorney client privilege. The information discussed can be disclosed to the public only upon formal written request to the board secretary at the next work, special or regular meeting to determine if the time and circumstances would be appropriate to disclose the information discussed. At the conclusion of this session the Board of Education will reconvene the regular portion of the meeting and action may, or may not, be taken.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Law, and unanimously carried by a roll call vote.

On a motion by Mr. Cottrell, seconded by Mr. Neal, and unanimously carried by a voice vote, the Executive Session was declared closed at 9:40 pm.

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- S. ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Mr. Cottrell, seconded by Mr. Neal, and unanimously carried by a voice vote, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Maruca
Board Secretary