

September 27, 2013

**BRIDGETON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING**

September 27, 2013

The special executive session meeting of the Bridgeton Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Board President, Angelia Edwards. Board Members present were Ms. Angelia Edwards, Mr. Ricardo Perez, Ms. Barbara Taylor-Holmes, Mrs. Brenda Dellaquilla, Mrs. Mary Peterson and Mr. Kenny Smith-Bey Jr. Mr. Albert Morgan, Mr. Curtis Edwards and Mr. James Williamson were absent. Also in attendance was Dr. Thomasina Jones, Superintendent, Mrs. Nicole M. Schoener, School Business Administrator, Mr. Nedd Johnson, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Terrell Everett, Human Resources Director. Prayer was offered by Ms. Edwards.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT**

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. Bridgeton Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of the Bank Street Administration Building and mailed to the City Clerk of Bridgeton, The Evening News, Bridgeton, Radio Station WSNJ, Bridgeton on September 24, 2013.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion by Mrs. Dellaquilla and second by Mr. Smith Bey approving the following Resolution for Executive Session:

Whereas, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231 PL 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances: and

Whereas, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the City of Bridgeton, County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of and action upon hereinafter specified subject matters.
2. The nature of the subject matters to be discussed is:
  - a) Discussion of Goals and Mission of Board of Education
  - b) Matters of Personnel related to the District Organizational Structure
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above stated subject matters will be made public when appropriate.
4. This Resolution will take effect immediately.

**Motion carried, roll call vote was 6-0.**

**11180**

**September 27, 2013**

The Board began discussions on the statement of purpose and the mission statement. Dr. Jones explained the purpose of mission statements and provided guidance regarding how to prepare a statement. The group worked on developing personal mission statements for their role on the Board; everyone shared their thoughts and statements. Next, the Board examined corporate mission statements provided by the Superintendent. The mission statement for Bridgeton Public was then reviewed and the board discussed changes based on the shared personal mission statements. Each member contributed ideas and together, the board revised the mission statement which will be presented at a future meeting.

Meeting concluded at 9:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole M. Schoener  
School Business Administrator

September 28, 2013

**BRIDGETON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING  
September 28, 2013**

The special executive session meeting of the Bridgeton Board of Education was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by the Board President, Angelia Edwards. Board Members present were Ms. Angelia Edwards, Mr. Ricardo Perez, Ms. Barbara Taylor-Holmes, Mrs. Brenda Dellaquilla, Mrs. Mary Peterson and Mr. Kenny Smith-Bey Jr. Mr. Albert Morgan, Mr. Curtis Edwards and Mr. James Williamson were absent. Also in attendance was Dr. Thomasina Jones, Superintendent, Mrs. Nicole M. Schoener, School Business Administrator, Mr. Nedd Johnson, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Terrell Everett, Human Resources Director. Prayer was offered by Ms. Edwards.

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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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**Motion carried, roll call vote was 6-0.**

**September 28, 2013**

Dr. Jones led the group in a series of activities in understanding the cultural makeup of our school system. The following statistics were revealed with conversation over what was expected and what the data shows occurring:

The Bridgeton School district is comprised of the following distributions:

- Boys 50% Girls 50%
- White – 7%
- Black – 29%
- Latino – 63%
- Native American-.3%
- Asian – .1%
- Multiculture - .6%

Classified Students – 9% of the district population

- 67% boys and 33% girls
- White – 10%,
- Black-41%,
- Latino-46%,
- Native American-0,
- Asian – 1%,
- Multicultural-2%

Mobility Rate – 27%

Free -89%

Reduced – 5%

Paid – 6%

There are 984 employees of which 531 are teachers.

Staff ethnicity is as follows:

- White – 66%
- Black – 21%
- Latino-11%
- American Indian – 1%
- Asian - .5%
- Multiculture - .5%
- Bilingual – 14%

The Board did a carousel walk to review test data, culture surveys, discipline and HIB data.

Dr. Jones led discussion regarding the information that was presented in the survey results and how that correlated with the mission of the board. She shared that everything that we do should be with the goal of children come first in mind and should relate back to the mission of our district.

The Superintendent made recommendations for programs and staffing needs in order to move in the direction of achieving our mission.

First, Dr. Jones explained that based on the data, we continue to struggle in the area of LAL and we need a director who will have a reading focus and can drive the LAL curriculum so that our students achieve. In order to accomplish this, she suggests that we utilize the funding from the science supervisor position.

**September 28, 2013**

The data shows that the science scores have decreased drastically and this area was previously handled by the math curriculum director. Next, Dr. Jones and the business administrator discussed the loss of classroom space for the preschool program for the current year. The funding for the program could possibly be adjusted in the current year, but the next year revenue would definitely be adjusted by this decreased population. It was shared that the current year budget was dependent on over \$250,000 of carryover funds to support the program. There are currently three administrators involved with that program: principal, assistant principal, and director. It is felt that to limit the effect on the overall program the best way to address the funding decrease and the instability of carryover is to eliminate the director position and those responsibilities be divided between the principal and assistant principal. Finally, the Superintendent discussed the implementation of PARCC (partnership for assessment of readiness for college and careers), the new teacher and administrator evaluation system and how critical the technology system is to the successful implementation of these mandates. Mr. Johnson shared his experience from prior districts of having staff on hand to immediately correct network issues and system issues which caused a problem with technology. He explained that we currently rely on outside vendors for correction of system problems. Mrs. Schoener shared that there is approximately \$600,000 budgeted in purchased outside services in the area of technology. It was expressed that some of these contractual obligations will not be able to be eliminated; for example, the agreement with the software provider for Edu-Met (accounting, payroll, HR) and for Genesis (student database) will have to remain. However, if the district employed a technology system oriented position as described, the cost could be covered by the elimination of outside contracts, estimating approximately half of the budgeted services could be removed. To accomplish this, Dr. Jones recommends that the board eliminate the director of technology position which requires an education background and a principal certificate. In turn, it is proposed to hire a position that focuses specifically on technology infrastructure. The recommendations were made that the science and early childhood positions be implemented effective June 30<sup>th</sup> and that the technology position be effective for January as it is in the critical path of the implementation of the evaluation system and PARCC. After discussion by the board, they determined that the effective date of the elimination of all of these positions should be the same; so they stated when the agenda items are proposed for a vote, they should all have an effective date of elimination of December 30, 2013.

Lunch Break from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.

Dr. Jones reviewed the merit goals that were approved by the Executive County Superintendent. Mr. Johnson provided information on the TeachNJ Act. The Board reviewed the prior QSAC scores and the improvement plan for curriculum and instruction. Mr. Johnson shared information from the RAC team and the improvement plans for the focus schools.

Meeting concluded at 3:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole M. Schoener  
School Business Administrator

September 29, 2013

**BRIDGETON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING  
September 29, 2013**

The special executive session meeting of the Bridgeton Board of Education was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Board President, Angelia Edwards. Board Members present were Ms. Angelia Edwards, Mr. Ricardo Perez, Ms. Barbara Taylor-Holmes, Mrs. Brenda Dellaquilla, Mrs. Mary Peterson and Mr. Kenny Smith-Bey Jr. Mr. Albert Morgan, Mr. Curtis Edwards and Mr. James Williamson were absent. Also in attendance was Dr. Thomasina Jones, Superintendent, Mrs. Nicole M. Schoener, School Business Administrator, Mr. Nedd Johnson, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Terrell Everett, Human Resources Director. Prayer was offered by Ms. Edwards.

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**Motion carried, roll call vote was 6-0.**

11185

**September 29, 2013**

The Board reviewed the mission statement they created over the weekend.

There was a brief discussion of the personnel recommendations and the importance of maintaining the confidentiality of executive session items until such time as action is taken. It was felt that this information needed to be shared with the members of the board that were not able to be present at the retreat, so the board directed the Superintendent to bring the information to the next board meeting. They did however concur that the Superintendent could present the new job description for the director of curriculum of LAL for approval on the October agenda.

No action was taken.

Meeting concluded at 10:35 am

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicole M. Schoener  
School Business Administrator