

**CAMDEN CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
2021 VIRTUAL REORGANIZATION MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2021 - 5:30 P.M.
APPROVED 1-5-21**

(Ms. Whidbee is allowed into the meeting in order to provide comments as a previous board member)

- I. MEETING OPENED BY SUPERINTEDENT W/PRESIDENT’S STATEMENT
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE BY INTERIM BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
(FLAG ON SCREEN)**

Superintendent welcomes the public and provides the translation services phone number.

Superintendent acknowledges the service of former board member Yolanda Whidbee.

Superintendent turns meeting over to Interim Business Administrator, Margaret McDonnell

Pledge of Allegiance is recited by all

- II. ELECTION RESULTS – INTERIM BA MARGARET MCDONNELL**

The Interim BA announces the results of the Annual School Board Election of 11/03/2020.

The results of the Annual School Board of Election November 3, 2020 are as follows:

Elected three (3) Members of the Board of Education for a three (3) year term commencing this evening and expiring January 2024.

Wasim Muhammad	<u>9121 Votes</u>
Clayton Gonzalez	<u>8793 Votes</u>
Karen Merricks	<u>6760 Votes</u>

The Oath of Office was administered to newly elected board members by the Interim Business Administrator in the following order.

COMMENTS WERE MADE FROM NEWLY ELECTED AND CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

- III. MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER BY INTERIM BA MARGARET MCDONNELL**

ROLL CALL

Ms. Atwood	P	Mr. Leyba-Martinez	P
Mr. Custis	P	Ms. Merricks	P
Mrs. Gillespie	P	Mr. Muhammad	P
Mr. Gonzalez	P	Mr. Nelson	P

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IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Call for a motion to open the floor to nominate candidates

Motion made by: Falio Leyba-Martinez

Seconded by: Karen Merricks

Motion Passed to open the floor for nominations.

A. Advisory Board President

Interim BA asks for nominations for Board President.

Board Member Falio nominated Mr. Wasim Muhammad for President.

There were no other nominations made. Motion to close nominations requested by Interim BA.

Motion made by: N’Namdee Nelson

Seconded by: Elton Custis

ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE NOMINATION OF WASIM MUHAMMAD

Ms. Atwood	Y	Mr. Leyba-Martinez	Y
Mr. Custis	Y	Ms. Merricks	Y
Mrs. Gillespie	Y	Mr. Muhammad	Y
Mr. Gonzalez	Y	Mr. Nelson	Y

The vote was unanimous. Mr. Muhammad is declared Advisory Board President

B. Vice President of the Advisory Board

Interim BA requests Motion to open nominations for Vice President of the Advisory Board of Education.

Motion made by: Nyemah Gillespie to nominate N’Namdee Nelson

Seconded by: Elton Custis

No other nominations were made.

Interim BA asked for a Motion to close nominations.

Roll Call Vote on the Vice President of the Advisory Board of Education

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ROLL CALL

Ms. Atwood	Y	Mr. Leyba-Martinez	Y
Mr. Custis	Y	Ms. Merricks	Y
Mrs. Gillespie	Y	Mr. Muhammad	Y
Mr. Gonzalez	Y	Mr. Nelson	Y
		Vacancy	

Unanimous, Mr. Nelson is declared Vice President of the Advisory Board of Education.

V. BOARD COMMITTEES – SHARED BY GENERAL COUNSEL SAM PRICE

Board is establishing the following Board of Education Committees.

Name of Committee	Type
Teaching, Learning & Student Supports	Standing
Policy & Governance	Standing
Finance & Operations	Standing
Long Term School Planning (LTSP)	Ad Hoc

Ms. Price indicated that the Board President will appoint chairs of the committees at a later time.

VI. ADOPTION OF THE BOARD MEMBER CODE OF ETHICS:

Code of ethics read by Interim BA

1. I will uphold and enforce all laws, state board rules and regulations, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes should be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
2. I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools which meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex or social standing.
3. I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
4. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
5. I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action which may compromise the board.
6. I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.

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- 7. I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. But in all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its schools.
- 8. I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- 9. I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- 10. I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on such complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

Motion made by Custis
 Seconded by Gillespie

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT THE MOTION

Ms. Atwood	Y	Mr. Leyba-Martinez	Y
Mr. Custis	Y	Ms. Merricks	Y
Mrs. Gillespie	Y	Mr. Muhammad	Y
Mr. Gonzalez	Y	Mr. Nelson	Y
		Vacancy	

VII. PUBLIC PORTION – FACILITATED BY GENERAL COUNSEL SAM PRICE

Rules for public comment period read by Ms. Price.

Three call in commenters, one written comment Julio Montanez, III. There was difficulty connecting the call in commenters. No one was able to be heard.

VIII. BOARD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The interim BA presented the following for approval:

- 1. **Approve the Board compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:**
 WHEREAS, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 of the Laws of 1975, requires adequate notice of all public meetings and specified the manner in which the same shall be accomplished and requires the publication of the time, date and place of said meetings; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the City of Camden, in the County of Camden and the State of New Jersey, that the Notice attached hereto and made a part hereof, shall be published and posted by the Secretary in accordance with said Act and given to any person requesting same in accordance with said Act.
- 2. **Approve the Board of Education meetings for the 2021 Calendar year including the 2022 Reorganization Meeting.** Notice is hereby given by the Camden Advisory Board of Education, Camden County, New Jersey, that the regular monthly meetings of the Advisory Board of Education shall be held at 5:30 P.M., on the following dates, occurring the fourth Tuesday of every month, unless change otherwise noted due to holidays, district closings or mandated trainings. All meetings will be virtual.

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Board Meeting Dates

January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, May 25, June 15, July 27, August 24,
September 28, October 19, November 23, December 21
2022 Reorganization Meeting - January 5, 2022

Members of the public are cordially invited to attend any or all of the aforesaid meetings.

3. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve all existing Policies and Procedures.

Motion made by Nelson and seconded by Custis

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ROLL CALL VOTE on the Motion to approve policies and procedures

Ms. Atwood	Y	Mr. Leyba-Martinez	Y
Mr. Custis	Y	Ms. Merricks	Y
Mrs. Gillespie	Y	Mr. Muhammad	Y
Mr. Gonzalez	Y	Mr. Nelson	Y
		Vacancy	

Motion passed.

IX. OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The interim BA reviewed the official appointments and professional services for approval for the balance of the 2020-2021 school year:

Official Depositories of District Funds

TD Bank

Bank Accounts/Authorized Check Signers for Accounts:

Account Name	Required Signatures	Authorized Signers
a. General/Warrant	1. State District Superintendent 2. Business Administrator	Katrina T. McCombs Margaret McDonnell
b. Payroll Account	1. State District Superintendent 2. Business Administrator	Katrina T. McCombs Margaret McDonnell
c. Agency	1. State District Superintendent 2. Business Administrator	Katrina T. McCombs Margaret McDonnell
d. Govt. Employees/Trust Acct.	1. Business Administrator	Margaret McDonnell
e. Food Service	1. State District Superintendent 2. Business Administrator	Katrina T. McCombs Margaret McDonnell
f. CCSD Student Activities	1. State District Superintendent 2. Business Administrator	Katrina T. McCombs Margaret McDonnell
g. Official Publications		District Website Al Dia & Courier Post
h. School Board Secretary		Margaret M. McDonnell
i. 504 Officer		Renee Wickersty
j. Health and Safety Officer		Renee Wickersty
k. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability (HIPAA)		Renee Wickersty
l. HCS Right to Know Officer		Scott Krisanda

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OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES continued

- | | |
|---|--|
| m. Indoor Air Quality Control Officer | Scott Krisanda |
| n. Integrated Pest Management Coordinator | Scott Krisanda |
| o. Adhera Officer | Scott Krisanda |
| p. Affirmative Action Officer | Kim Buell-Alvis |
| q. Public Agency Compliance Officer | Margaret M. McDonnell |
| r. Architect/Engineer | Remington & Vernick |
| s. Chief Medical Physician | Dr. Edmund Decker |
| t. Insurance Broker of Record, Property & Casualty | Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. |
| u. Insurance Broker of Record-Dental | Brown & Brown Insurance |
| v. Qualified Purchasing Agent:
<i>And establish \$44,000 bid threshold pursuant to NJS18A:18A-3a</i> | Maureen Dougherty |
| w. Custodian of Records | Margaret M. McDonnell |
| x. Special Education Transportation &
Vocational Transportation & PL 192-193 Services: | Camden County Educational
Services Commission |

Recommend that the Board of Education approve the Official Appointments and Professional Services.

Motion to approve by: N’Namdee Nelson

Seconded by: Elton Custis

Roll call vote on the motion:

ROLL CALL VOTE on the Motion to approve policies and procedures

Ms. Atwood	Y	Mr. Leyba-Martinez	Y
Mr. Custis	Y	Ms. Merricks	Y
Mrs. Gillespie	Y	Mr. Muhammad	Y
Mr. Gonzalez	Y	Mr. Nelson	Y

MOTION PASSED.

Due to technical difficulties, caller Ms. Irrizarry was asked to present her comments in written format so board members can be made aware.

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Board President requested comments from the Board Members before adjournment.

Board Members gave remarks.

The Superintendent gave closing remarks.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Recommend that the Board of Education adjourn the January 5, 2021 Reorganization Meeting.

Motion made by: Nyemah Gillespie
Seconded by: Elton Custis.

ROLL CALL made by an all in favor vote.

MOTION PASSED.

MEETING ADJOURNED.