

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
11/18/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

INSTRUCTION (6)	OPERATIONS (7)	ADMINISTRATION (5)
Elizabeth Volz – Chair	Chris Esgro – Chair	June Longley – Chair
Ray Cibo	Michele Ricci	Ben Stephens
Ryan Hughes	Ray Cibo	Stacie Tattersdill

PUBLIC NOTICE OF MEETING OR WORK SESSION

Public notice of this meeting or work session has been made in accordance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Law of 1975.

Advanced public notice of this meeting was given January 8, 2020 (As amended on 3/16/20). Notice including the time, date and place of the meeting.

Said public notice has been made as follows:

Notice has been posted in the Board of Education Office, Carpenter Street and Bowe Boulevard, Glassboro, NJ and **on our website for the webinar link.**

Notice has been communicated to the following newspapers:

- a. South Jersey Times
- b. Courier Post

Notice has been filed with the Clerk of the Borough of Glassboro

Flag Salute

General

Good evening and thank you for your participation this evening.

I want to express my sincerest thanks to the administrators, teachers, support staff, parents/guardians, and the students for resuming in-person instruction this week. Ensuring the continuity of learning is critically important during this time of great stress for families, educators, and students. From all indications, we experienced good attendance rates at each building based on accounting of those students opting for in-person instruction. However, we are seeing a 12% increase in the number of students moving to virtual over the last week, with more request coming in.

The District’s Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools has been implemented with careful attention to ensuring the Standards for Establishing Safe and Healthy Conditions for Learning are being applied. We will continue to abide by the advice of local health officials to determine the safest course of action based on local circumstances, which will change as the public health landscape evolves. Please understand that the health and safety of students and staff continues to

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
11/18/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

be our number one priority and has guided and will continue to guide all decisions of the Board and Administration.

Over the past few weeks, I have fielded emails from teachers, parents, and students. Some advocating for remaining in a virtual status, others encouraging a hybrid approach. We have afforded parents the opportunity to select the option that works best for them. A recurring theme in the communications that I have received was the credibility of feedback by users regarding their daily health screening. We depend upon everyone in the school community to take responsibility, report accurately, and ensure support of the safety and health of all involved. We have since implemented a Health Screening Pledge to encourage parents to fully support our efforts.

We were advised that PowerSchool has released a new health screening app. We are looking into moving student health screening from rSchool to PowerSchool. If so, staff will be directed to use Google Docs. The Superintendent will send out specific details for implementation. Until full implementation, please continue using rSchool for daily screening.

I have also received communication from parents and students about homecoming activities. I want to thank Principal Stowman-Burke and everyone involved for working collaboratively with all stakeholders and the student government association to schedule and conduct virtual homecoming activities including various competitions, the powder puff, and homecoming. Congratulations to Julianna Menna for being elected by her peers as the Homecoming Queen.

Yesterday, the Mayor of Glassboro announced the implementation of reduced staffing procedures throughout the Borough of Glassboro municipal buildings to help reduce the risk of the potential further spread of the COVID-19 virus. Like the Borough, we have been working closely with the Office of Emergency Management, to continue our path to in-person instruction, while ensuring controls are in place to mitigate any potential threats.

In order to ensure success, please be mindful of the following:

- Everyone must complete the daily health screening, as required. If a staff or student is ill, they must remain at home.
- Please practice social distancing, wear a face covering, wash your hands, and be safe.
- Parents opting for in-person instruction may opt for virtual instruction. However, the district is adopting restrictions for students who opted for virtual instruction to join the in-person cohort until the start of the next marking period (Feb 1), provided we receive 14 calendar days' notice of such intent. (This is being considered for a first reading – see policy 1648.02).

To mitigate risks associated with the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday, the administration is recommending the district break from in-person instruction during the week following the Thanksgiving covering November 30 through December 4, 2020. This one week return to virtual learning will allow time to assess individual health and enable for resumption of in-person instruction on December 7, 2020. I would like to entertain a motion to approve the recommendation.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
11/18/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

As it relates to specific agenda items, during tonight's meeting, the board of education will be considering approval of the 2021-2022 pre-K 3 and 4 operational plan, which includes a partnership with Head Start for concurrent enrollment. We will be voting on consideration of a new electronic order system.

As many are aware, Mr. Cusack has announced his retirement effective January 31, 2021. He was scheduled to provide his annual athletic report tonight but was unable to make the meeting. A copy of the report is included in the agenda.

On behalf of the Glassboro Board of Education, I want to thank him for his 19 years of service to the district. Throughout the years, I have witnessed Mr. Cusack's personal involvement in district activities beyond his duties as the athletic director. He has led the charge to coordinate and recognize outstanding achievement of Glassboro graduates through his participation on the GHS Sports Hall of Fame Committee. We wish him well on his retirement.

Tonight, we will be considering approval of the superintendent's recommendation of his successor, Mr. Christina Lynch. We will also be adopting onboarding procedures for new hires, ratifying annual salary adjustments for non-affiliated staff, and various other considerations.

During this past month, the New Jersey School Boards Association, in collaboration with the School Business Administrators and Superintendent's Association held its annual Workshop. Many of the BOE members and administrators attended the Virtual event. In fact, there were more than 6,000 participants, who were able to access more than 100 sessions and nearly 140 exhibitors. The training provided was outstanding and since it was virtual, BOE members have the opportunity to revisit the sessions through the association's website.

On Friday, November 13, 2020, I attended the State Associations Board of Directors meeting as the delegate for Gloucester County. During the meeting, we approved the Association's sterling audit report, discussed challenges facing districts during the Pandemic, and efforts to halt action on Senate Bill 2843, also known as the "coaches bill" which would have granted automatic and unreasonable multi-year contracts. Due to the swift manner in which the bill was introduced, I and many other members submitted personal letters to Senator Sweeney requesting he reject the bill that was scheduled for a vote on 10/29/20. A copy of my letter is included in the agenda along with a resolution of the board of education to affirm our position regarding the matter, which I move for approval.

On Saturday, November 21, 2020, Ms. Ricci and I will be participating in the New Jersey School Boards Association semi-annual delegates assembly. The Delegates Assembly is the major policymaking body of the Association. Each Board of Education across New Jersey is represented by one voting delegate. During this meeting, the DA will consider a resolution from the Lodi BOE (Bergen County), requiring BOE members to resign their position before becoming a candidate for a board seat different from the seat they currently hold. We support the resolution. A copy of the DA handbook is available in the NJSBA website.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
11/18/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

During last month's meeting, I discussed the implementation of our long-range strategic plan. I want to thank Ms. Jody Rettig for coordinating efforts with the New Jersey School Boards Association, who will serve as the facilitator, and the many volunteers who registered to participate in the process. Our first Strategic Planning session will be held tomorrow, Thursday, November 19, 2020. We will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m. The session will be held virtually. Follow-up meetings are scheduled for November 30, December 14, January 11, and January 25. Our goal for the Strategic Plan is to:

- Create a common vision for the district to guide future decision making
- Empowers stakeholders by engaging them in the planning process
- Promote visionary leadership among the participants
- Adopt a plan that provides the vision, beliefs, mission, goals, and strategies of the district for the next 5 years.

I want to thank those who volunteered to participate. We will share the plan once adopted by the district and provide an annual update on progress.

Lastly, I want to congratulate Mrs. Elizabeth Volz and Mr. Ben Stephens in being reelected to the Glassboro Board of Education and welcome Mrs. Lizabeth Stoll Roth, our newly elected member. All will be sworn in during our January 2021 reorganization meeting. I also want to congratulate all of the local, county, state, and national elected officials, wish them well and look forward to the promise of nonpartisan collaboration to lead our communities and our nation into the future.

Thank you.

Board Committee Reports/Action Items

1. Instruction (Ms. Volz, Chair)

1.A.1.a Digital Divide Discretionary Grant – I applaud the recommendation to reallocate funds from Hotspots to additional laptop.

1.C.1 MAP Assessments – Clarify that the assessments conducted in the fall 2020 will become the benchmark. Also, will winter and spring assessments be scheduled and conducted to measure progress. Do you see the “summer or COVID” slide that you would have based on the fall benchmark assessments? Please explain.

1.F.2 ESEA Grant Carryover – Please provide a general overview of the strategies being considered for ESEA Title I through IV carryover.

1.G.5 New ELA, SS, and Science Curriculum – Information Item - The link in the attachment does not work. Please affirm no action is being requested at this point. As noted during the committee, please provide assurance of applying the requirements of district regulation 2510 when making a recommendation for curricula materials.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
11/18/20
GLASSBORO BOARD OF EDUCATION

1.G.7 – Inclement Weather – Remote Instruction – Information Item - Since DOE permits for the use of virtual instruction, I ask that the administration review and update district policy # 8210 and 8220 regarding the school day and school year, and bring to the board for a first reading next month

2. Operations (Mr. Esgro, Chair)

2.D.h&i Treasurer's Reports – There is no treasurer's report on the agenda for July and August 2020. Please Clarify.

2.D.i. Food Service P&L – Please explain the “Client Offset” noted on page 4 of the reports. Please ensure we have a reconciliation of prior year costs by the end of the years.

2.D.2 Authorized Transfers for July 2020 – Please clarify why the extensive list of transfers and why they sum does not reconcile to \$0. It appears to me that we either received a major increase in funding or we are just catching up on budget creation.

2.E.1 rSchool Work Order System – I was able to participate in a Demo today conducted by Mr. David Huitz of rSchool. I like the system, its reasonably priced, and will allow for all staff to use the application to submit maintenance work orders while also enabling for the development of preventative maintenance schedules. I would recommend drafting a district regulation #7410 (Maintenance & Repair) outlining the administration of use of the Work Order system.

2.F.3.a LED Sign – GHS. Clarify whether the Code Enforcement Office approved the sign. Also clarify if we have an updated design with the new logo identity for the district. The sign in the design is using the old logo.

3. Administration (Ms. Longley, Chair)

- CSA to introduce hire recommendations.

Old Business

New Business

District Policy 7520 – Loan of School Equipment needs to be reviewed and Regulations adopted for the issuance of Chromebooks, to incorporate administration, accounting, and deposit of student laptop fees. Consideration should be given to purchase supplemental insurance with those funds to protect parents against liability of loss or damage.

Explore the rSchool building scheduling module.