

**RAHWAY BOARD OF EDUCATION
CAUCUS MEETING AGENDA
RAHWAY 7TH & 8TH GRADE ACADEMY**

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023 - 6:00 P.M.

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. ROLL CALL

Ms. Allen
Mr. Antisz
Mr. Garay
Mrs. Giacobbe
Ms. Moteiro
Mrs. Raysick
Mr. Toma
Mr. White
Mr. Robson

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Any discussion held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public as soon as practicable. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at the conclusion of the closed session.

V. RECONVENING ROLL CALL:

VI. STATEMENT ON OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT:

Public notice of this meeting, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, was given by the Board Secretary on January 25, 2023, by sending notices to the Home News Tribune, The Union County LocalSource, TAP Into, the City Clerk of Rahway, the Rahway Public Library, and by posting the notices on the Bulletin Board outside the Board of Education office on the second floor of the 7th and 8th Grade Academy.

VII. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS:

VIII. REPORTS FROM LIAISONS & ASSIGNMENTS

Schools:

High School:	Ms. Allen/Mr. Garay	7-8 Gr. Academy:	Mr. Toma
Cleveland:	Mr. White	Franklin:	Mrs. Giacobbe
Madison:	Mrs. Raysick	Roosevelt:	Mr. Antisz
ACE:	Ms. Allen/Mr. Garay	Preschool:	Ms. Moteiro

Affirmative Action: Mrs. Raysick

City Council: Ms. Allen

State and County Boards:

Union County: Mr. Toma, Alt.: Mr. Robson

New Jersey: Mr. Robson, Alt.: Mr. Toma

Union County Educational Services Comm.: Ms. Moteiro

Great Schools NJ: Ms. Allen

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Cast of "Lion King," Grover Cleveland School's Drama Club to perform at the March 21, 2023, Board of Education Meeting held at Rahway High School's Performing Arts Center.

2. Report of Student Services, February, 2023:

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
Pre-referral Meetings	17	64
Referrals Received	12	98 (+47 pending 21-22)
Preschool	(6)	40 (+12 pending 21-22)
Referrals Completed	13	108
Non-classifications	1	8
Classifications	8	78
No Evaluation	4	22
Referrals Pending		37
Preschool		(14)
Reevaluations Completed	19	169
Declassifications	2	6
Continuations	17	163
Annual Reviews	77	332
Transfers Received	5	52
Transfers Out	5	46
Residency Checks	4	59
Residency Drops	7	32
Truancy Drops	2	7
Surveillances	4	39
Consultations	3	33
Public Transport Checks	1	5
Meetings with Counselors	4	25

X. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION

XI. PUBLIC COMMENTS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

Note on public comment at BOE meetings: Board Policy #1120, adopted on December 20, 2016, provides for public participation in Board of Education meetings. Such participation is governed by the following rules:

1. A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, address, and group affiliation, if applicable;
2. According to BOE policy, each statement made by a participant shall be limited to three minutes' duration. If necessary, the presiding officer may extend the limit to five minutes;
3. No participant may speak more than once on the same topic until all others who wish to speak on that topic have been heard;
4. All statements, questions, or inquiries shall be directed to the presiding officer and any questions or inquiries directed by a participant to another Board member shall be redirected to the presiding officer who shall determine if such statement, question, or inquiry shall be addressed by the presiding officer on behalf of the Board;
5. The Board will not receive printed materials from the public during public meetings. The public may submit printed materials by addressing them to the Board Secretary, Rahway Board of Education, PO Box 1024, Rahway, NJ 07065;
6. Public participation at board meetings is intended to allow individual members of the public to address the Board on issues of public concern. The public comment period is an opportunity for the Board to listen to citizen concerns, but not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session or a "cross examination" between the public and individual members. While all comments made by the public will be taken under advisement, the Board will not respond to comments made by the public.

XII. MINUTES

Motion to approve of the following minutes:

February 7, 2023	Caucus Meeting
February 21, 2023	Regular Meeting

XIII. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Chair – Najah Allen

Members – Carlos Garay, Timothy Antisz, Alt.: Joseph Toma

XIV. PERSONNEL

Chair – Shanna Raysick

Members – Najah Allen, Laura Giacobbe, Alt.: Sean White

The Superintendent recommends:

1. Motion to accept the retirement resignation of Martha Perasso, Speech Language Specialist, effective July 1, 2023.
2. Motion to extend the unpaid child rearing leave of absence for Employee #5744, High School Alternative Center Teacher, through the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.
3. Motion to authorize a long-term substitute teacher assignment for Nancy Emmer at Franklin School covering for Employee #5112, for the period February 27 through June 21, 2023, at a per diem rate of \$200.00.
4. Motion to authorize a long-term substitute teacher assignment for Ingrid Romero at Roosevelt School covering for Employee #6071, for the period February 27 through June 13, 2023, at a per diem rate of \$200.00.
5. Motion to appoint Kelsey Kozick as a Full-Time Preschool Paraprofessional at the Academy effective April 1, 2023, or sooner, for the 2022-2023 school year, Step 1 of the Assoc. Degree Paraprofessional Salary Guide, at the rate of \$16.61, 6 hours per day, plus a \$2,000 annual pensionable payment for earned Bachelor's Degree, pending the successful completion of pre-employment requirements. (Replaces E. Suarez)
6. Motion to appoint Craig Ludington as a Full-Time Common Area Paraprofessional at the High School effective April 1, 2023, or sooner, for the 2022-2023 school year, **Step 3** of the Assoc. Degree Paraprofessional Salary Guide, at the rate of **\$17.36**, 8 hours per day, plus a \$2,000 annual pensionable payment for earned Bachelor's Degree, pending the successful completion of pre-employment requirements. (D. Harris)
7. Motion to authorize after-hours work for IT Department Support Staff on an as needed, rotating basis, to provide technology services for Board Meetings or other evening events as requested; compensation determined by the individual's hourly rate:

Robert Bliss

Charles Murphy

Adrian Dominguez

Joseph Welch

8. Motion to add the following name to the 2022-2023 Substitute Custodian List, pending the successful completion of pre-employment requirements:

Ishmael Capers

9. Motion to accept the resignation of Veronica Dominguez, Preschool Teacher, effective July 1, 2023.
10. Motion to accept the retirement resignation of Adriane Mosiello, Preschool Paraprofessional at Grover Cleveland School, effective July 1, 2023.
11. Motion to add Taylor Ruffino and Veronique Pereira to Madison School's After School tutoring sessions at the negotiated hourly, funded through Title 1.

XV. EDUCATION/CURRICULUM

Chair – Joseph Toma

Members –Shanna Raysick, Najah Allen, Alt.: Jennifer Moteiro

The Superintendent recommends:

1. Motion to adopt the 2023-2024 School Calendar, as attached.
2. Motion to approve the HIB Report for the month of February, 2023.
3. Motion to terminate the placement of Student #18817 at Mount Carmel Guild Academy, effective March 9, 2023; student no longer resides in Rahway.
4. Motion to approve the placement of Student #17130 at Regional Achievement Academy, Tinton Falls, NJ, for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year, at a yearly tuition rate of \$59,955.00, prorated to the effective date of February 24, 2023, plus an estimated transportation cost of \$104.67 per day.
5. Motion to approve the following fundraiser activities, no door-to-door selling, subject to adherence to the COVID-19 State-mandated restrictions in effect at the time of the fundraiser:

Grover Cleveland School:

School-wide sale of Spirit Wear from March through June 2023; proceeds to support student activities.

High School:

Let's Talk About It Club to sell "Lucky to Have You" candy grams after school from March 8 through March 15, 2023; proceeds to be used to support club activities.

CLAW and LLD Program to create a Donors Choose account from March through June, 2023; proceeds to support program activities.

Math National Honor Society sell tickets to judge to a "Pie-off" on March 15, 2023; proceeds to be used for honor society activities.

PTO to sell tickets for a Pocketbook Bingo on May 12, 2023; proceeds to be used toward Class of 2023 end of year activities.

Roosevelt School:

PBSIS to sell scented pens and dough from March through June, 2023; proceeds to be used toward end of year activities.

Academy:

Drama Club to solicit sponsor advertisements for Moana Playbill from March 8 through March 29, 2023; proceeds to be used for production expenses.

Drama Club to sell refreshments at the production of Moana from March 31 – April 2, 2023; proceeds to be used for production expenses.

Madison School:

School-wide sale of student-decorated puzzle pieces from April 1 – April 30, 2023; proceeds to be donated to Autism Awareness.

Franklin School:

PTA to sell tickets to a Pushcart Players Performance of “Lift Every Voice”, on March 21, 2023; proceeds to be used for PTA sponsored activities.

XVI. FINANCE/FACILITIES

Chair – Timothy Antisz

Members –Sean White, Carlos Garay, Alt.: Laura Giacobbe

The Superintendent recommends:

1. Motion to approve the Bills List through February 21, 2023.
2. **Motion to approve the submission of an amendment to the ESEA Consolidated Application to include additional funds, and to accept the funds as follows:**

Title I SIA	\$20,000
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3. Motion to approve payment #001 to Mark Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$113,680.00 for the Elevator & Storage Area Addition at Madison Elementary School.
4. Motion to approve payment #006 to Open Systems Integrators, Inc. in the amount of \$69,583.04 for PA & Clock Upgrades at the following (6) Schools: Rahway High School, 7th & 8th Grade Academy, Franklin Elementary School, Grover Cleveland Elementary School, Madison Elementary School, and Roosevelt Elementary School.
5. Motion to approve the Resolution awarding the Security Vestibule Addition, Facade Replacement and Other Improvements at the Rahway 7th & 8th Grade Academy Project

Contract to The Bennett Company, Inc. (Base Bid plus ALT-1 through ALT-6) in the total amount of \$9,147,000.00:

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Rahway Board of Education (“Board”) publicly advertised the Security Vestibule Addition, Facade Replacement and Other Improvements at the Rahway Academy Project (“Project”); and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2023, the Board held a public bid opening for the award of a contract for the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board received four (4) bids which were opened at the public bid opening; and

WHEREAS, the lowest numerical bid was submitted by The Bennett Company, Inc. with a base bid amount of eight million nine hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars (\$8,967,000.00), plus sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) for ALT-1, plus twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) for ALT-2, plus fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for ALT-3, plus fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for ALT-4, plus thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) for ALT-5, plus forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) for ALT-6, and a deduct of fifty thousand dollars (-\$50,000.00) for ALT-7 which also included both a general project and permit allowances with the requirement that all unused allowance money be credited back to the Board at the conclusion of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board Architect has reviewed the bid submissions and has recommended that it is in the best interest of the Board to award a contract for the base bid amount as well as all of the alternates (ALT-1, ALT-2, ALT-4, ALT-5 and ALT-6), except ALT-7; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that The Bennett Company, Inc., 148 Dayton Avenue, Passaic, NJ 07055 to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with the provisions of the Public School Contracts Law, *N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1, et. seq.*, the Board hereby awards the contract for the Security Vestibule Addition, Facade Replacement and Other Improvements at the Rahway Academy Project to The Bennett Company, Inc., 148 Dayton Avenue, Passaic, NJ 07055 in the total amount of nine million one hundred forty-seven thousand dollars (\$9,147,000.00), which includes the base bid amount of eight million nine hundred sixty-seven thousand dollars (\$8,967,000.00), plus sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) for ALT-1, plus twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) for ALT-2, plus fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for ALT-3, plus fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for ALT-4, plus thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) for ALT-5 and forty thousand dollars (\$40,000.00) for ALT-6, which also includes Project and Permit allowances as specified in the Project Manual to be used for unforeseen conditions and for other work the Board deems appropriate for this Project with the requirement that all unused allowance money will be credited back to the Board at the conclusion of the Project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon receipt of the signed contract by The Bennett Company, Inc., 148 Dayton Avenue, Passaic, NJ 07055 and the receipt of the insurance information, performance and payment bonds, and other required documentation, the Business Administrator is authorized to return the bid securities to the remaining bidders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Business Administrator is authorized to execute the contract on behalf of the Board with The Bennett Company, Inc., 148 Dayton Avenue, Passaic, NJ 07055 totaling nine million one hundred forty-seven thousand dollars (\$9,147,000.00) for the Project.

6. Motion to approve the following resolution regarding the Tentative Budget for the 2023-2024 School Year:

**Rahway Board of Education
Adoption of the Tentative Budget for School Year 2023-2024**

BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget be approved for the 2023-2024 school year using the 2023-2024 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit to the Executive County Superintendent for approval in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-5 and 18A:7F-6:

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Revenues</u>	<u>Debt Service</u>	<u>Total</u>
2023-2024 Total Expenditures	\$87,052,381	\$9,201,327	\$3,816,215	\$100,069,923
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$40,445,916	\$9,201,327	\$793,546	\$50,440,789
Taxes to be raised	\$46,606,465	\$0	\$3,022,669	\$49,629,134

And, to advertise said tentative budget in the The Star Ledger in accordance with the form suggested by the New Jersey Department of Education and according to law;

AND a public hearing on the budget for the 2023-2024 school year will be held at the Rahway 7th & 8th Grade Academy on May 2, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Maximum Travel

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.3, a board of education must establish a maximum dollar limit for travel expenditure, as defined in N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.1 et. seq.,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget a maximum travel expenditure in the amount of \$51,500 for the 2023-2024 school year. The maximum travel expenditure amount for the 2022-2023 school year is \$51,500, of which \$6,201 has been spent and \$0 is encumbered to date.

Travel and Related Expense Reimbursement

The Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district;

AND, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board;

AND, a board of education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30);

AND, travel and related expenses not in compliance with the N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 but deemed by the board of education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms;

BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7 as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education includes in the tentative budget travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A Subchapter 7, to a maximum expenditure of \$1,500 for each staff and board member for the 2023-2024 school year.

The School Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall track and record these costs to ensure that the maximum amount is not exceeded

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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XVIII. GENERAL BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

XIX. BOARD MEETING DATES

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at RHS 6:00 p.m. Executive, 7:00 p.m. Public Session

Caucus Meeting: Tuesday, April 4, 2023 6:00 p.m. Executive, 7:00 p.m. Public Session

Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 6:00 p.m. Executive, 7:00 p.m. Public Session

XX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

2023-2024

Notes

July 23

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

STUDENT CONTACT DAYS:
 September 18 March 19
 October 21 April 17
 November 17 May 20
 December 16 June 12
 January 21
 February 19

August 23

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Teachers = 185 days
 Paras = 181
 Student Contact Days = 180

Sept. 1 - Teachers Report - PD
 Sept. 4 - CLOSED - Labor Day
 Sept. 5 - Students Report
 Sept. 25 - CLOSED - Yom Kippur

September 23

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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October 23

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29	30	31				

November 23

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December 23

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31						

January 24

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February 24

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March 24

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31						

April 24

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28	29	30				

May 24

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 24

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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July 24

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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27	28	29	30	31		

August 24

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Jan. 1 - CLOSED - New Years' Day
 Jan. 15 - CLOSED - MLK, Jr.'s day
 Feb. 12 - No School - Staff PD
 Feb. 19 - CLOSED - Presidents' Day
 March 11 - No School - Staff PD
 March 29 - CLOSED- Good Friday
 April 1-5 No School - Spring Break
 May 24 - Tentative Unused Snow Day
 May 27 - CLOSED - Memorial Day
 May 28 - Tentative Unused Snow Day
 June 14 - Early Dismissal - All Grades
 June 17-18 - Early Dismissal - All Grades
 June 18 - 180th Student Contact Day