

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

MINUTES

Meeting of: December 1, 2003

Call of the Meeting: Board Organization

Members Present: Mr. Brentley, Mrs. Colaizzi, Mr. Dowd,
Mrs. Fink, Mr. Isler, Mr. Matthews,
Mr. McCrea, Mr. Romaniello, Sr.
Mr. Taylor

Present 9.

Members Absent: Absent 0.

The following matters were received and acted upon.

Actions taken are recorded following the reports.

THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15213
Administration Building
341 South Bellefield Avenue

December 1, 2003

AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO NEWLY ELECTED DIRECTORS – *The Honorable Kevin Sasinoski,
Judge of the Common Pleas
Court of Allegheny County*

District 2 – Dr. Patrick Dowd

District 4 – Mr. William Isler

District 6 – Mr. Daniel M. Romaniello, Sr.

District 8 – Mr. Mark Brentley, Sr.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND CONDUCT GENERAL BUSINESS

Temporary Organization

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Election of Temporary President | Roll Call |
| 2. Election of Temporary Secretary | Roll Call |

Permanent Organization

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Election of President | Roll Call |
| 2. Election of Vice Presidents | Roll Call |

Election Of Secretary And Assistant Secretaries And Setting Of Bonds	Roll Call
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Election Of School Treasurer And Assistant School Treasurer And Setting Of Bonds	Roll Call
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Election Of School Controller And Deputy School Controller And Setting Of Bonds	Roll Call
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New Business	Roll Call
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We are an equal rights and opportunity school district.

**ELECTION OF SCHOOL TREASURER
AND SETTING OF BOND**

Resolved, That Richard M. Fees, Treasurer of the City of Pittsburgh, be elected School Treasurer and that bond for the office be set at \$250,000, the bond to be furnished at the cost of the Board.

Resolved Further, That Margaret Lanier be elected Assistant School Treasurer and that bond for the office be set at \$250,000, the bond to be furnished at the cost of the Board.

**ELECTION OF SECRETARY AND
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES AND SETTING OF BONDS**

RESOLVED, That John W. Thompson, Ph.D. be elected as Secretary of the Board of Public Education in addition to his other duties as Superintendent of Schools, without additional salary, and that bond for the office be set at \$250,000, the bond to be furnished at the cost of the Board.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That Stephanie L. Royal, Richard R. Fellers, Peter J. Camarda be elected Assistant Secretaries of the Board of Public Education in addition to their other duties as Solicitor, Chief Operations Officer, Executive Director of Budget Development and Management, and that bonds for the offices be set at \$250,000 each, the bonds to be furnished at the cost of the Board.

**ELECTION OF SCHOOL CONTROLLER AND
DEPUTY SCHOOL CONTROLLER
AND SETTING OF BONDS**

RESOLVED, That Thomas Flaherty, having been elected Controller of the City of Pittsburgh as certified by the Allegheny County Bureau of Elections on November 4, 2003 for a four year term from the first Monday in January, 2004 to the first Monday in January, 2008, now be elected Controller of the School District of Pittsburgh for the same term and at an annual salary of \$15,651.60 in accordance with the provisions of the Public School Code of 1949 as amended.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That Ronald Schmeiser be appointed Deputy School Controller for the same term as the School Controller set forth above.

RESOLVED FINALLY, That statutory faithful performance bonds of \$25,000 for the School Controller and \$10,000 for the Deputy School Controller respectively be furnished by recognized bonding companies at the cost of the School District.

1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
 2 - - -
 3 PITTSBURGH BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
 4 BOARD ORGANIZATION MEETING
 5 MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2003
 6 5:36 P.M.
 7 ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - BOARD ROOM

8 - - -
 9 BEFORE:
 10 WILLIAM ISLER, BOARD PRESIDENT
 11 RANDALL TAYLOR, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
 12 JEAN FINK, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
 13 MARK BRENTLEY
 14 THERESA COLAIZZI
 15 PATRICK DOWD
 16 ALEX MATTHEWS
 17 FLOYD MCCREA
 18 DANIEL ROMANIELLO, JR.

19 - - -
 20 ALSO PRESENT:
 21 DR. JOHN W. THOMPSON DR. ANDREW KING
 22 MRS. JODY SPOLAR MS. STEPHANIE ROYAL
 23 MR. PETER J. CAMARDA MR. RICHARD R. FELLERS
 24 MRS. PAT CRAWFORD DR. DWIGHT E. MOSLEY
 25 MR. PHIL PARR MRS. ERNESTINE REED
 26 MS. LORRAINE TYLER DR. DELPHINA BRISCOE
 27 DR. JUDITH SIMMONS

28 - - -
 29 REPORTED BY: EUGENE C. FORCIER
 30 PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER
 31 - - -
 32 COMPUTER-AIDED TRANSCRIPTION BY
 33 MORSE, GANTVERG & HODGE, INC.
 34 PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
 35 412-281-0189
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1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
 2 MS. FINK: Could we please have the meeting
 3 come to order. Mr. McCrea will be joining us by
 4 telephone, as he had to work tonight.

5 I would like to call this meeting to order.
 6 Page 1

6 would everyone please stand for the Pledge
7 of Allegiance.

8 (Salute to the flag.)

9 MS. FINK: Now I would like our solicitor,
10 Miss Royal, to please introduce our judge for the
11 evening.

12 MS. ROYAL: Good evening, everyone, and
13 welcome to the organization meeting of the Board of
14 Public Education of the School District of Pittsburgh.

15 Tonight, the oath of office will be given
16 by the Honorable Kevin Sasinoski, Judge of the Common
17 Pleas Court of Allegheny County.

18 Judge Sasinoski.

19 HON. SASINOSKI: Thank you.

20 Thank you.

21 Madam President, Superintendent, ladies and
22 gentlemen, it's an honor to be invited this evening to
23 administer the oath of office.

24 On behalf of all of the families of the
25 City of Pittsburgh, I wish to thank you for the public

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1 service that the new members, and some who are
2 continuing on in their service on the Board, will
3 make, in which they will render, as members of the new
4 term, as members of the Pittsburgh Public School
5 Board.

6 I wish you every success in fulfilling the
7 challenges which lie ahead.

8 would the following Board members to be,
9 please come forward.

10 Mr. Mark Brentley.

11 Mr. Patrick Dowd.
12 Mr. William Isler.
13 And Mr. Daniel Romaniello.
14 Gentlemen, if you would, would you please
15 raise your right hands, and repeat after me.
16 (Oath administered to the newly elected
17 directors.)
18 HON. SASINSOKI: Thank you.
19 And congratulations.
20 (Applause.)
21 MS. FINK: I'm sure everyone has something
22 they would like to say, and I think the appropriate
23 time to do that would be after we have the elections.
24 So, for right now, may we have the roll
25 call, please, Miss Royal.

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1 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?
2 MR. BRENTLEY: Here.
3 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?
4 MS. COLAIZZI: Here.
5 MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?
6 DR. DOWD: Present.
7 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
8 MS. FINK: Here.
9 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
10 MR. ISLER: Present.
11 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
12 MR. MATTHEWS: Present.
13 MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
14 MR. MCCREA: Here.
15 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?

Page 3

16 MR. ROMANIELLO: Here.
17 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
18 MR. TAYLOR: Present.
19 MS. ROYAL: All nine members of the Board
20 of Directors are present.
21 MS. FINK: Then our first order of business
22 will be a nomination for our temporary president.
23 Mr. Isler.
24 MR. ISLER: Mrs. Fink, I would like to
25 nominate Mr. Matthews.

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1 MR. TAYLOR: Second.
2 MS. FINK: Do we have any other
3 nominations, for temporary president?
4 If not, then nominations are closed.
5 And seeing as how there is no contest,
6 Mr. Matthews will become the temporary president.
7 All in favor?
8 (Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)
9 MS. FINK: Now, we have nominations for the
10 temporary secretary.
11 MR. TAYLOR: I would like to nominate
12 Mrs. Colaizzi.
13 MS. COLAIZZI: Thank you.
14 MR. ISLER: Second.
15 MS. FINK: All in favor?
16 (Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)
17 MS. FINK: Okay.
18 Mr. Matthews, will you please take my seat.
19 MR. MATTHEWS: I'm back.
20 All right. The first order of business is

21 for the election of officers.

22 we would like to have requests for
23 nominations for president at this time.

24 Mr. Taylor.

25 MR. TAYLOR: I nominate Mr. William Isler.

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1 MR. ROMANIELLO: Second.

2 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Isler has been moved and
3 properly seconded.

4 Any other nominations?

5 Is there a motion to close nominations?

6 MR. ROMANIELLO: So move.

7 MR. TAYLOR: Second.

8 MR. MATTHEWS: The motion has been made and
9 properly seconded to close nominations.

10 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

11 (Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.

12 MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. MATTHEWS: Any abstentions?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. MATTHEWS: The motion carries.

17 The nomination is for Mr. William Isler to
18 be president.

19 Roll call.

20 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

21 MR. BRENTLEY: Abstain.

22 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

23 MS. COLAIZZI: Mr. Isler.

24 MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?

25 DR. DOWD: Mr. Isler.

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1 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
2 MS. FINK: Mr. Isler.
3 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
4 MR. ISLER: Mr. Isler.
5 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
6 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Isler.
7 MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
8 MR. MCCREA: Mr. Isler.
9 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
10 MR. ROMANIELLO: Mr. Isler.
11 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
12 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Isler.
13 MS. ROYAL: Eight votes in favor of
14 Mr. Isler. Mr. Isler is the new Board president.
15 (Applause.)
16 MR. MATTHEWS: Congratulations, Mr. Isler.
17 MR. ISLER: Thank you.
18 MR. MATTHEWS: Now we move for requests for
19 nominations for first vice president.
20 Nominations are now open.
21 MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.
22 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.
23 MR. ISLER: I would like to nominate
24 Mr. Taylor.
25 MR. ROMANIELLO: Second.

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1 MR. MATTHEWS: It has been moved and
2 properly seconded for Mr. Taylor.
3 Any other nominations for first vice

4 president?

5 Seeing none, can we have a motion to close
6 nominations.

7 MS. FINK: Move nominations be closed.

8 MR. ISLER: Second.

9 MS. MATTHEWS: The motion has been made and
10 properly seconded.

11 All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

12 (Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

13 MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. MATTHEWS: Any abstentions?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. MATTHEWS: The motion carries.

18 The nomination is for first vice president
19 of Mr. Randall Taylor.

20 Roll call.

21 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

22 MR. BRENTLEY: Abstain.

23 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

24 MS. COLAIZZI: Mr. Taylor.

25 MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?

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1 DR. DOWD: Mr. Taylor.

2 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

3 MS. FINK: Mr. Taylor.

4 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

5 MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.

6 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

7 MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Taylor.

8 MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?

9 MR. MCCREA: Mr. Taylor.
10 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
11 MR. ROMANIELLO: Mr. Taylor.
12 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
13 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Taylor.
14 MS. ROYAL: Eight votes in favor of
15 Mr. Taylor, who is the new first vice president of the
16 Board.
17 (Applause.)
18 MR. MATTHEWS: Congratulations, Mr. Taylor.
19 Moving on, we have a request for
20 nominations for the second vice president.
21 DR. DOWD: I nominate Mrs. Fink.
22 MR. MATTHEWS: Mrs. Fink.
23 MR. ISLER: Second.
24 MR. MATTHEWS: It has been moved and
25 properly seconded.

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1 Any other nominations, for request for
2 second vice president?
3 Seeing none, is there a notion to close
4 nominations?
5 MR. ISLER: So move.
6 MS. COLAIZZI: Second.
7 MR. MATTHEWS: Motion has been made and
8 properly seconded.
9 All those in flavor signify by saying aye.
10 (Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.
11 MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed?
12 (No response.)
13 MR. MATTHEWS: Any abstentions?

14 (No response.)
15 MR. MATTHEWS: The motion carries.
16 The nomination is for Mrs. Jean Fink, for
17 second vice president.
18 Roll call.
19 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?
20 MR. BRENTLEY: Abstain.
21 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?
22 MS. COLAIZZI: Mrs. Fink.
23 MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?
24 DR. DOWD: Mrs. Fink.
25 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

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1 MS. FINK: Mrs. Fink.
2 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
3 MR. ISLER: Mrs. Fink.
4 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
5 MR. MATTHEWS: Abstain.
6 MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
7 MR. MCCREA: Mrs. Fink.
8 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
9 MR. ROMANIELLO: Abstain.
10 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
11 MR. TAYLOR: Mrs. Fink.
12 MS. ROYAL: Six votes in favor of
13 Mrs. Fink, for second vice president. Mrs. Fink is
14 the next second vice president of the Board.
15 (Applause.)
16 MR. MATTHEWS: And at this time, I would
17 like to ask the officers, Mr. William Isler, the new
18 president of the Pittsburgh public Board of

19 Education -- Mr. Isler.

20 MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Matthews.

21 MR. MATTHEWS: No, you need to come up
22 here.

23 I don't easily give up my seat, but --

24 MR. ISLER: We have additional elections to
25 take place, for the secretary, the assistant

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1 secretary, the election of school treasurer, and the
2 election of school controller.

3 And, Miss Royal, you are going to have to
4 help me.

5 Thank you.

6 For the election of secretary and assistant
7 secretaries and setting of bonds.

8 (Mr. Isler read from prepared material.)

9 MR. ISLER: may we have a motion, please.

10 MS. COLAIZZI: Motion.

11 MR. MATTHEWS: So move. Second.

12 MS. ISLER: It has been duly moved and
13 seconded.

14 May we have a roll call, please.

15 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

16 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

17 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

18 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

19 MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?

20 DR. DOWD: Yes.

21 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

22 MS. FINK: Yes.

23 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

24 MR. ISLER: Yes.
25 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

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1 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.
2 MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
3 MR. MCCREA: Yes.
4 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
5 MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.
6 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
7 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.
8 MS. ROYAL: The election of the secretary
9 and assistant secretaries have been made, nine votes
10 in favor of those offices.

11 MR. ISLER: Congratulations, ladies and
12 gentlemen.
13 Election of school treasurer and setting
14 the bonds.

15 (Mr. Isler read from prepared material.)

16 MR. ISLER: may we have a motion for
17 approval, please.

18 MS. COLAIZZI: Motion.

19 MS. ISLER; And a second?

20 MS. FINK: Second.

21 MR. ISLER: It has been moved and
22 seconded.

23 Could we have roll call, please.

24 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

25 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

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1 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

2 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

3 MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?
4 DR. DOWD: Yes.
5 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
6 MS. FINK: Yes.
7 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
8 MR. ISLER: Yes.
9 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
10 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.
11 MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
12 MR. MCCREA: Yes.
13 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
14 MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.
15 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
16 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.
17 MS. ROYAL: Nine votes in favor of the
18 election of the school treasurer and assistant school
19 treasurer.
20 MR. ISLER: congratulations to the ladies
21 and gentlemen.
22 The final resolution, I believe, is for the
23 election of the school controller and deputy school
24 controller and setting of bonds.
25 (Mr. Isler read from prepared material.)

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1 MR. ISLER: Nay we have a motion for
2 approval.
3 MS. COLAIZZI: Motion.
4 MR. MATTHEWS: Second.
5 MR. ISLER: so moved. It has been moved
6 and seconded.
7 Can we have a roll call, please.

8 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

9 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

10 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

11 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

12 MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?

13 DR. DOWD: Yes.

14 MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

15 MS. FINK: Yes.

16 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

17 MR. ISLER: Yes.

18 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

19 MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

20 MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?

21 MR. MCCREA: Yes.

22 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?

23 MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.

24 MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

25 MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

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1 MS. ROYAL: Nine notes in favor of the
2 election of the school controller and deputy school
3 controller.

4 MR. ISLER: At this time, we will entertain
5 any new business.

6 Is there any new business to be brought
7 before the Board?

8 I would like to tell my fellow Board
9 members, and I am hoping the Superintendent and staff
10 can conform to this, that we do have a Business
11 Affairs Committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow
12 night, I would like to go ahead and have a discussion

13 on the current school budget, since we have two new
14 school directors, I think it is appropriate that we
15 begin a discussion with the Board in whole.

16 Can we do that, Dr. Thompson?

17 DR. THOMPSON: So done.

18 MR. ISLER: Thank you, very much.

19 So we will be meeting tomorrow night at
20 5:30; is that the scheduled time, sir?

21 DR. THOMPSON: Yes, sir.

22 MR. ISLER: Thank you, very much.

23 I want to thank my fellow Board members,
24 for electing me.

25 I don't know if any of the other new Board

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1 members would like to say anything, but I think that
2 Mrs. Fink said that we would reserve that to the end
3 of the meeting.

4 Dr. Dowd, Mr. Romaniello, do you have
5 anything you want to say?

6 MR. ROMANIELLO: I would just like to thank
7 everybody, everybody who helped me get to this office.

8 I would like to thank my wife, and my
9 children, my father, and my -- and everybody else, who
10 helped me.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 DR. DOWD: I, too, would like to thank
14 everyone who is here, and not here, who worked so very
15 diligently in this last campaign, and I would also
16 like to thank the Board members for really coming
17 together this evening, I think it is a good sign, so

18 thank you as well, and thank you to my wife, Lennie.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. ISLER; Dr. Thompson.

21 DR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Isler.

22 I would like to congratulate all of the new

23 Board members, and to all of our new officers, and we

24 want to make sure that the staff, and the School

25 District is committed to our vision to work with you,

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1 to make this a world class School District, and we are

2 looking forward to working with you on a daily,

3 hourly, minute basis.

4 Thank you, very much.

5 MR. ISLER: You may regret you said the

6 minutely basis, Dr. Thompson, but I do want to thank

7 you, and all of the Board members.

8 I think that it is time that we all put our

9 differences aside, that we pledge to do the most that

10 we can for the children of this District, and that we

11 make sure --

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. ISLER: -- that there is no -- no

14 district that is any better than the Pittsburgh City

15 Schools.

16 And I want to thank you all, thank

17 everybody that is here. There is a reception

18 immediately following.

19 If there is no other business before the

20 Board, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

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22 (Thereupon, at 8:55 p.m., the Legislative

Page 15

23 Meeting was concluded.)

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C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

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I, Eugene C. Forcier, the undersigned, do hereby
certify that the foregoing eighteen (18) pages are a
true and correct transcript of my stenotypy notes
taken of the Board Organization Meeting held in the
Pittsburgh Board of Public Education, Administration
Building, Board Room, on Monday, December 1, 2003.

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Eugene C. Forcier, Court Reporter

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