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

MINUTES

Meeting of: August 19, 2009

Call of the Meeting: Special Legislative Meeting

Members Present: Mark Brentley, Jean Fink, Sherry Hazuda, William Isler, Floyd McCrea, Thomas Sumpter and Randall Taylor

Member Absent: Theresa Colaizzi

The following matters were received and acted upon.

Actions taken are recorded following the reports.
ROLL CALL

Education Report

1. Adjustment to 2009-10 School Calendar.

2. Ratification of a report to the state regarding school configurations for the 2009-10 school year.
Adjustment to 2009-10 School Calendar for All Schools

WHEREAS, the Board of Education adopted the School Calendar ALA/2009-10 for the Accelerated Learning Academies at the Legislative Meeting of January 21, 2009, Committee on Education Item #26; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education adopted the School Calendar 2009-10 for all schools except the Accelerated Learning Academies at the Legislative Meeting of January 21, 2009, Committee on Education Item #27; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent is recommending an adjustment in the 2009-10 School Calendar for ALL schools in light of the G-20 Summit that will be held in Pittsburgh September 24 and 25, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has determined that travel disruptions will make it untenable to plan to have normal school days on September 24 and 25, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the District is committed to ensuring that students do not lose any instructional time as a result of potential travel disruptions on September 24 and 25, 2009; and

WHEREAS, the Administration has collaborated as appropriate with the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers regarding an adjustment to the 2009-10 School Calendar; and

WHEREAS, the District will develop a plan to support the selection of Pittsburgh CAPA as a Pittsburgh Summit Venue site for either September 24 or September 25, 2009 that includes a selection process for students and staff who are agreeable to participating in the event that the White House is planning.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

• All schools will be closed on Thursday, September 24 and Friday, September 25, 2009.

• All schools will be open on November 3, 2009 and February 2, 2010, dates which had previously been scheduled as days off due to staff professional development.

• The Superintendent is directed to designate four dates where the staff day will be extended beyond the school day in order to accommodate four three-hour professional development sessions for staff in 2009-10.
# Pittsburgh Public Schools District Calendar

**FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR COMMENCING September 3, 2009**

**Revised 8/17/2009**

### AUGUST/SEPTEMBER, 2009

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- **LABOR DAY**
- **VACATION DAY**

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- **VETERAN'S DAY**
- **THANKSGIVING BREAK**

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- **Half School Day**

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- **School Vacation Day**
- **PPS Employee Vacation Day**
- **School Month Ends**
- **Pupil Only Vacation Days**
- **Elementary only**
- **Middle only**
- **Secondary only**
- **Report Card Dates**
- **School Board Meetings** (dates are subject to change due to holidays or schedule conflicts)

- **Schedule**
  - Bi-Weekly
  - Teachers
  - 12-Month

- **Pay Date**

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Standard Evening School (September 16, 2009 - January 25, 2010; February 10, 2010 - June 7, 2010)
# Pittsburgh Public Schools District Calendar

**FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR COMMENCEING** September 3, 2009  
**Revised 8/17/2009**

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**NEW YEAR'S DAY** 1 2

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**Half school day**

**RED Dates** - School Vacation Day

**GREEN Dates** - All PPS Employee Vacation Day

**BLUE Dates** - School Month Ends

**T** - Pupil Only Vacation Days
   - Elementary only
   - Middle only
   - Secondary only

**R** - Report Card Dates

**g** - School Board Meets (dates are subject to change due to holidays or schedule conflicts)

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**SPRING VACATION**

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**SPRING VACATION**

### Standard Evening School

- **September 16, 2009 - January 25, 2010:**
- **February 10, 2010 - June 7, 2010**

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**Schedule**  
**Pay Date**

- Bi-Weekly
- Teachers
- 12-Month

Information as of: 4/17/2009 2690
Pittsburgh Public Schools District Calendar
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR COMMENCING September 3, 2009
Revised 8/17/2009

MAY, 2010

SUN MON TUE WED THURS FRI SAT

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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

JULY, 2010

SUN MON TUE WED THURS FRI SAT

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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

MEMORIAL DAY
30 31

JUNE, 2010

SUN MON TUE WED THURS FRI SAT

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

AUGUST, 2010

SUN MON TUE WED THURS FRI SAT

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28 29 30 31

Half school day

RED Dates - School Vacation Days
GREEN Dates - All PPS Employee Vacation Days
BLUE Dates - School Month Ends
T - Pupil Only Vacation Days
  1 - Elementary only
  M - Middle only
  S - Secondary only
R - Report Card Dates
B - School Board Meets (dates are subject to change due to holidays or schedule conflicts)

Standard Evening School (September 16, 2009 - January 25, 2010; February 10, 2010 - June 7, 2010)
Pittsburgh Public Schools Accelerated Learning Academy (ALA) Calendar
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR COMMENCING August 24, 2009
Revised 8/17/2009

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- Half school day
- RED Dates - School Vacation Day
- GREEN Dates - All PPS Employee Vacation Day
- BLW Dates - School Month Ends
- T - Pupil Only Vacation Days
- R - Report Card Dates
- S - School Board Meets (dates are subject to change due to holidays or schedule conflicts)

Standard Evening School (September 16, 2009 - January 25, 2010; February 10, 2010 - June 7, 2010)
# Pittsburgh Public Schools Accelerated Learning Academy (ALA) Calendar

**FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR COMMENCING August 24, 2009**

**Revised 8/17/2009**

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- **NEW YEAR'S DAY** 1, 2
- **MLK DAY** 10, 11, 12, 13
- **SPRING VACATION** 21, 22, 23

### February, 2010

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- **Half School Day**
- **Half School Day**

### March, 2010

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- **SPRING VACATION**
- **SPRING VACATION**

### April, 2010

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- **School Board Meets**
- **School Board Meets**

**RED Dates** - School Vacation Day

**GREEN Dates** - All PPS Employee Vacation Day

**B.E.E. Dates** - School Month Ends

**T** - Pupil Only Vacation Days

**R** - Report Card Dates

**H** - School Board Meets (dates are subject to change due to holidays or schedule conflicts)

**Schedule**

- Bi-Weekly

- Teachers

- 12-Month

**Standard Evening School** (September 16, 2009 - January 25, 2010; February 10, 2010 - June 7, 2010)

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Page 2 of 3  
Information as of: 3/31/2009
Pittsburgh Public Schools Accelerated Learning Academy (ALA) Calendar
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR COMMENCING August 24, 2009
Revised 8/17/2009

### MAY, 2010

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**MEMORIAL DAY**

### JULY, 2010

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**Independence Day**

### JUNE, 2010

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**School Vacation Days**

### AUGUST, 2010

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**School Board Meeting Dates (subject to change due to holidays or schedule conflicts)**

Standard Evening School (September 16, 2009 - January 25, 2010; February 10, 2010 - June 7, 2010)

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**Half school day**

**GREEN Dates - All PPS Employee Vacation Day**

**BLUE Dates - School Month Ends**

**T - Pupil Only Vacation Days**

**R - Report Card Dates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Pay Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bi-Weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
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<td>12-Month</td>
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</table>
Submission of 2009-10 School Configuration Changes to Pennsylvania Department of Education

WHEREAS, the Board of Education approved the configuration change of Pittsburgh Miller African Centered Academy from a PreK-8 to a PreK-5 beginning with 2009-10 school year and approved that students at Pittsburgh Miller African Centered Academy PreK-8 in grades 6-8 will be reassigned to University Prep 6-12 at Milliones at its Legislative Meeting of October 22, 2008, Committee on Education Item #46; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education approved the configuration change of Pittsburgh Vann (Robert L. Vann) school from a K-8 to a PreK-5 school beginning with the 2009-10 school year and that students in grades 6-8 who would have been assigned to Pittsburgh Vann be reassigned to University Prep 6-12 at the Milliones facility at its Legislative Meeting of October 22, 2008, Committee on Education Item #48; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education authorized the request to open a new 6-12 school focused on University Preparation (University Prep) at the Milliones facility, which will be re-opened, and that the school be phased in beginning with grade 9 for the 2008-09 school year at its Legislative Meeting of February 27, 2008, Committee on Education, Item #49; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education at its Legislative Meeting of June 25, 2008, Committee on Education Item #66 approved an amendment to relocate Pittsburgh Schenley grades 10, 11 and 12 and to establish Pittsburgh Schenley as a 10-12 school at the Reizenstein facility beginning with the 2008-09 school year, and to have the school be reduced by one grade per year and remain at the Reizenstein facility until its last class graduates in 2010-11; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education authorized the opening of a new 6-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) focused magnet school at the Frick facility, which will be phased in beginning with grades 6-9 for the 2009-10 school year at its Legislative Meeting of June 25, 2008, Committee on Education Item #63; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education authorized the opening of a new 6-12 International Baccalaureate school focused on language and culture that would be phased in beginning with grades 6-10 for the 2009-10 school year and be located at the Reizenstein facility at least through the 2011-12 school year at its Legislative Meeting of June 25, 2008, Committee on Education Item #64; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education authorized the opening of a new 6-12 CAPA school, merging the Pittsburgh CAPA 9-12 and Rogers CAPA as a 6-12 facility downtown Pittsburgh for the 2009-10 school year at its Legislative Meeting of July 23, 2008, Committee on Education Item #81; and
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The Superintendent is directed to submit the 2009-10 school configuration changes and school closings information in accordance with the Department of Education Policy, which includes the following:

Grade configuration updates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Code</th>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>New</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7872</td>
<td>Pittsburgh Miller K-8</td>
<td>K-8</td>
<td>PreK-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>7875</td>
<td>Pittsburgh Vann K-8</td>
<td>K-8</td>
<td>K-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>8026</td>
<td>Pittsburgh University Prep 6-12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6-10</td>
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<td>0425</td>
<td>Pittsburgh Schenley</td>
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New schools for the 2009-2010 School Year and their grade configurations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>New</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh Science &amp; Technology Academy</td>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>Grades 6-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Baccalaureate 6-12</td>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>Grades 6-10</td>
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The merging of the following schools:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Code</th>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>New</th>
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<tr>
<td>6080</td>
<td>Rogers CAPA</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>7103</td>
<td>Pittsburgh HS Ctr/Prfm Arts</td>
<td>9-12</td>
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The closing of the following schools with the 2009-2010 school year:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>School Code</th>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>6030</td>
<td>Frick International Studies</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Program replaced with the International Baccalaureate 6-12 School</td>
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<tr>
<td>6080</td>
<td>Rogers CAPA</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Program being merged with Pittsburgh HS Ctr/Prfm Arts.</td>
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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

PITTSBURGH BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2009
6:08 P.M.
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - BOARD COMMITTEE ROOM

BEFORE:

THOMAS SUMPTER, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
WILLIAM ISLER, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
MARK BRENTLEY
JEAN FINK
SHERRY HAZUDA
FLOYD McCREA
RANDALL TAYLOR

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

THERESA COLAIZZI

ALSO PRESENT:

MR. MARK ROOSEVELT
DR. PAULETTE PONCELET
MR. IRA WEISS
MR. FRANK G. CHESTER
MS. CAROL BARONE-MARTIN
DR. LINDA LANE
MR. LAWRENCE BERGIE
MR. PETER J. CAMARDA
MS. JULIA STEWART
MS. LISA FISCHETTI

REPORTED BY: MELISSA L. FENSTER
PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER

COMPUTER-AIDED TRANSCRIPTION BY
MORSE, GANTVERG & HODGE, INC.
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
412-281-0189

ORIGINAL
MR. SUMPTER: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the Special Legislative Meeting, August 19, 2009.

I'm going to ask that we please stand to salute the flag.

(Flag saluted.)

MR. SUMPTER: Mr. Weiss, can we have a roll call?

MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Here.

MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

MRS. FINK: Here.

MR. WEISS: Ms. Hazuda?

MS. HAZUDA: Here.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Present.

MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

MR. McCREA: Here.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?

MR. SUMPTER: Present.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Here.

MRS. COLAIZZI: Mrs. Colaizzi?

Mrs. Colaizzi is absent.
Seven present, one absent.

MR. SUMPTER: Thank you, Mr. Weiss.

On this evening's agenda we have two items. One is adjustment to the 2009-2010 school calendar, and the second item is ratification of a report to the state regarding school configurations for the 2009-2010 school year. We'll take each item separately.

The adjustment to the 2009-2010 school year for all schools, now therefore, be it resolved, all schools will be closed on Thursday, September 24th and Friday, September 25, 2009.

All schools will be open on November 3, 2009 and February 2, 2010, dates which had previously been scheduled as days off due to staff professional development. The Superintendent is directed to designate four dates where the staff day will be extended beyond the school day in order to accommodate four three-hour professional development sessions for staff in 2009-2010.

The chair will entertain a motion for approval of this resolution.

MR. McCREA: So moved.

MR. ISLER: Second.
MR. SUMPTER: It's been moved and seconded. Is there any discussion?

MR. TAYLOR: Excuse me. Are we talking about the --

MR. SUMPTER: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: I just have a question. I think what I heard in the media is the make up dates, November 3rd?

MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

MR. BRENTLEY: Have you checked, Doctor -- if I'm not mistaken, I think that's the general election.

MR. SUMPTER: Yes, it is.

DR. LANE: That's correct, it is.

MR. BRENTLEY: You also have to keep in mind that quite a few of our schools are used as polling places.

Has anyone checked out the impact of schools being opened or being re-adjusted and how that would play on the election process for the day?

DR. LANE: Yes, Mr. Brentley, we did consider that, and we are going to obviously have to have means that we would keep members of the public that might be using the school separate
from students; and, of course, we'll have to make
those adjustments in the schools that do serve as
polling places.

MR. BRENTLEY: Okay. Well, I am very
concerned about that, Doctor, because, you know,
the county and some of these relationships go
back 10 and 15 years with the polling places. I
just really wish we would have walked through
that first to make sure that everything's going
to be smooth on that particular day because I'm
not sure how it will change.

Some of the schools I think we would
normally have -- or some of the schools would
normally be closed and just be available for
election.

So I'll support it, but please get back to
me as soon as possible letting me know and then
checking with the county. I believe it is
Mr. Razilio, Jim in the Allegheny County Election
Division I believe that handles those locations
so that we can make sure that if we're going to
be in school.

Also, if there's an opportunity for some of
our high schools or middle schools if there's a
learning opportunity there we can work with the
county and maybe let some of our kids either participate in the process or observe the process and somehow we can kind of expose some of our students, so I think it's a wonderful opportunity for those schools.

Thank you.

MR. SUMPTER: Point well taken.

Mrs. Fink?

MRS. FINK: There was a time when schools where polling was taking place were open; and in many instances, schools would arrange something that day, a day-long field trip for instance. They would take the kids to the zoo or to the Science Center or, you know, a whole variety of places.

The other thing that would happen, which was a good thing, was that the PTOs in the schools would have an opportunity to make some money with bake sales and what have you, and that was a very nice idea. It was a good money maker for the school, so it does have its advantages.

I don't have a problem with having it that day. I think that depending on the building and how the configurations are set up, you want to watch that you don't have all kind of people
walking through the building; but other than
that, you know, it has its advantages.

And, also, I remember a time when high
school kids in civics classes would go and get
poll watcher certificates, and they would
actually go to the polls and sit there and
observe for a period of time, maybe four hours or
whatever, but that was also part of their lesson
plan for that day.

So it does have its advantages, and there's
probably a lot more things that some of our
creative teachers could think of to do on that
day.

DR. LANE: Thank you, Mrs. Fink.

And Dr. Rudiak reminded me that the schools
were open for the primary in May, and we had no
problems, so the schools are familiar with
procedures to make sure that the public and the
students are properly separated.

MR. SUMPTER: Any other comments or
discussion?

Mr. McCrea?

MR. McCREA: We worked long and hard on
this on the Safety Committee. I approached the
Superintendent several weeks ago, and I said I'm
scared for the children's safety. That's why
this amendment is in here, this Legislative
Meeting is taking place tonight.

I want to thank the staff for stepping up
to the plate and working out the logistics
because it was a nightmare trying to come up with
just these
two days off and how to compensate for it, so
thank you for a job well done.

MR. SUMPTER: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Yeah. Dr. Lane, I was -- I am
a bit concerned about the closing of all the
schools.

I certainly agree, Mr. McCrea, that CAPA
being Downtown should, and I think we should also
encourage our charters that are located Downtown,
but I still have to get some clarification on why
have all the schools are being closed. I had
heard on the news yesterday I think schools in
West Mifflin and other ones are talking about
closing.

So I'm a little bit bewildered by that, and
I don't want a band wagon effect to start taking
place that people, you know, feel we have to do
something which is very important, which is close
our schools, so it says on here determined travel
disruptions will make it untenable for normal
school days.

Now, we know a lot of students don't ride a
bus. They walk to school, and then we have
some -- and to be honest with you, I do think we
have very few bus or van transportation that even
goes through Downtown, so I'm really wondering --

And, again, I may not be accurate about
that, but I'm still thinking of our communities,
east south and west. There are some schools
where children are transported that are three and
four miles away from Downtown, so that's the part
I was just a little bit wondered because that's
an important thing to close, you know, our
schools.

And so I was just wondering why we feel
there would be travel disruptions when there are
students who again walk and there are students
whose travel plans take them nowhere near the
Downtown area.

MRS. FINK: The teachers do. It could be
difficult for all the faculty to get to their
teaching locations if we have a number of
closures, buses. They're talking about maybe
there won't be T service. You know, that could really disrupt the educational process.

MR. TAYLOR: It could, but I think just for those two days I think we could request of our staff that they would be inconvenienced as far as leaving for work, to and from work earlier. I mean, I think again closing the schools is a far more serious matter than a teacher may have to leave for school a half an hour earlier or something and detour around the Downtown area, so I understand that point.

I mean, I intend to support this. I just wanted to really get a clarification because again to me closing our schools is a very important step that I don't take lightly.

DR. LANE: We don't take it lightly either, Mr. Taylor. We've talked long and hard about this and to be very honest with you held out a long time before we came to this conclusion because it certainly was important to us not to close schools, but there are a couple things I would like to point out.

First of all, yes, we are closing schools, but we are revising our calendar. We're not just not having school for two days, and I think
that's an important thing because we had thought, well, we could use our two snow days, but I don't think we can go forward on the assumption that it will not snow in Pittsburgh this winter. That probably wouldn't be true, so we felt we had to make up the time and figure out how to do that.

In regard to your comment about students and transportation, 5,000 of our students are transported by Port Authority and 2,500 of those 5,000 actually transfer buses in Downtown Pittsburgh every day. We have 800 yellow buses that move 18,000 students, and the magnet students in our District come from all over the city as I'm sure you're aware. Then we have students that attend some special CTE classes during day that are transported during the school day.

So there's quite a bit of transportation and because of the geography of Pittsburgh, a lot of it does go Downtown.

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you.
MR. SUMPTER: Any other comments or questions on the motion?
Mr. Brentley?
MR. BRENTLEY: I just also wanted to
mention, Doctor, my comments earlier were for
the -- an election day with the new changes for
our schools to kind of make something out of it,
but I also want to ask again if you would put on
your extra thinking cap for the high schools for
the actual event. I just think it's a once in a
lifetime.

And, yes, they're drumming up on how
negative this could be in terms of its impact,
possible violence, but the flip side to that is
the First Lady will be here.

The First Lady has committed to coming to
CAPA, and, you know, Doc, I believe that what we
can do you know --

You know, with the things the First Lady
has been involved with in the past, if we put a
program together using our big billboard on the
side, you know, focus on the women of Pittsburgh
and to recognize some of those trail blazers in
the past with Michelle, with the different hats
that she wears as a mother and as a First Lady
and a wife, et cetera, I think we can put a
program together with some of our students that
would be top notch, but also get our other
students involved.
Are we allowed to video record it? Are we allowed to print invitations where our kids can have something that can say we were there, we had hands-on, and it was really important.

So, I mean, I have some suggestions that I'll share with you later, but I'm just asking for something so unique and so different that it would make a lasting impression on the First Lady.

MR. SUMPTER: Seeing no more questions or comments, Mr. Weiss, could we have a roll call?

MR. WEISS: This is on No. 1.

Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

MRS. FINK: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Ms. Hazuda?

MS. HAZUDA: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

MR. MCCREA: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?

MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor?
MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

MR. WEISS: The item is approved seven to zero.

MR. SUMPTER: The second item that is coming before us is the ratification of a report to the state regarding school configurations for the 2009-2010 school year.

The Superintendent is directed to submit the 2009-2010 school configuration changes and school closings information in accordance with the Department of Education policy, which includes the following: Grade configuration updates, new schools for 2009-2010 school year and their grade configurations, the merging of the following schools and the closing of the following schools with the 2009-2010 school year.

Each Board member has a list of the schools before them. All of these measures have been previously voted on by the Board and approved, and this is carrying out the policy of the Department of Education of submitting that information to that agency.

The Chair will entertain a motion for acceptance.
MR. ISLER: So moved.

MS. HAZUDA: Second.

MR. SUMPTER: It has been moved and seconded that this report be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Is there any discussion?

Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Yes, I have a question.

And, Doctor, I will respectfully abstain from this item. In the second whereas and it mentioned in the final sentence I believe that the students 6-8 who would have been assigned to Pittsburgh-Vann be re-assigned to the University Prep 6-12 at Milliones. That entire paragraph is what I raised some concerns before.

That entire community, Doctor, we have done nothing more than play musical chairs with either the structure of the schools, changing of the students, and this here we're doing it exactly again, and I don't know what else to say other than stand up on the table to say that this community needs to be treated just like the other communities where they have less confusion and less changes and they have some stability.

How do we ever expect the community to ever
regroup, and so I am just a little tired of it, but I will not be supporting it. And it doesn't matter if we talked about it before in the past, but here we are again.

Now, can you tell me what is the number that we have to date in Milliones building?

DR. LANE: I think Mr. Lopez probably can give you a more accurate number.

Can you, Mr. Lopez?

MR. LOPEZ: Derrick Lopez, assistant superintendent for secondary schools.

At this point in time, we have 388 students that are actually registered at Milliones for the fall in Grades 6 through 10.

MR. BRENTLEY: And that's including the forcing of the Vann School students or the re-assigning them?

MR. LOPEZ: The re-assignment of the Miller students in Grades 6-8 and the re-assignment of the Vann students 6-8 will result in there being 388 students at the Milliones facility this coming year.

MR. BRENTLEY: Okay. So those parents or those two schools did not have a choice? It said here they are just re-assigned there?
MR. LOPEZ: That's exactly right, sir, but they also were a part of a -- many more of them were a part of a Summer Connections program with the University of Pittsburgh, and there were many outreach efforts with those parents and the students so that they were -- their transition has been very smooth.

MR. BRENTLEY: Well, I appreciate that, but the point is we pride ourself on choice, having a choice; and if we're locking these parents out of being able to choose, then that's not fair.

We did the same thing last year with some of these students, and it don't -- we're not going to get into it.

Doc, you're an educator. Both of you are educators. How do you ever expect anyone to succeed when you make these kinds of changes?

And now as a parent, it almost gives the impression, well, oops, we made this move to create Millionites. We build it, but they didn't come, so now we have to force people in it, and those students should have a right or those parents should have a right.

So I am disappointed, but I want to ask you again please consider poor neighborhoods and
please consider those neighborhoods who are in need. They need stability, and this here is not helpful at all, so I'll just respectfully abstain from this on the entire item.

MR. SUMPTER: Any other comments or questions on this motion to submit a report to the Pennsylvania Department of Education?

Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Have we done this with other ones because I haven't really seen this one before? Have we done this? I haven't seen us do this. Okay.

And, Mr. Brentley, also keep in mind Pittsburgh-Miller students also were assigned to that experimental program.

I only had one question, Dr. Lane, about the groups of schools as we have K-5, 6-12.

Is it true that our middle schools performed academically better than any of those? If you took out one group in the system, that our middle schools performed better than our K-5s, our ALAs, our K-8s, our 6-12s?

DR. LANE: I would want to check the data to make sure of that. I suspect that might be true simply because of the eighth grade
performance, and the middle schools because it is
only three grades, their performance obviously --
that eighth grade would weigh very heavily as
one-third of the school, but I can certainly --
we can certainly get that information for you.

MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Sumpter, I request again
that we can get a further discussion because
again we've had a great debate about the merits
or lack thereof of our middle schools, and many
people believe that our middle schools are doing
the best academically in the system right now.

And so I request again as we have that
as part of that broader discussion about the
school-by-school data also I would like to have a
discussion, further discussion about our
school-by-school data.

Thank you.

MR. SUMPTER: You're welcome. That will be
taken into consideration.

Seeing no more comments or questions on the
motion before us, the approval of submitting the
report to the Pennsylvania Department of
Education, Mr. Weiss?

MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Abstain.
MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

MRS. FINK: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Ms. Hazuda?

MS. HAZUDA: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

MR. McCREA: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?

MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

MR. WEISS: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Abstain.

MR. WEISS: This vote is five in favor, two abstentions.

MR. SUMPTER: Thank you, Mr. Weiss.

That is the agenda for this Special Legislative Meeting.

At this point, I'll entertain a motion for adjournment.

MR. ISLER: So moved.

MR. McCREA: Second.

MR. SUMPTER: This meeting is adjourned.

(Thereupon, at 6:19 p.m., the Special Legislative Meeting was concluded.)
C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

I, Melissa L. Fenster, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing twenty (20) pages are a true and correct transcript of my stenotypy notes taken of the Special Legislative Meeting held in the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education, Administration Building, Board Room, on Wednesday, August 19, 2009.

Melissa L. Fenster, Court Reporter