

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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting of :** December 6, 2010

**Call of the Meeting:** Reorganization Meeting

**Members Present:** Dara Ware Allen, Mark Brentley, Jean Fink,  
Sherry Hazuda, William Isler, Floyd McCrea,  
Thomas Sumpter, Theresa Colaizzi

**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 6, 2010**

**AGENDA**

**ROLL CALL**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND CONDUCT GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Temporary Organization**

1. Election of Temporary President
2. Election of Temporary Secretary

**Permanent Organization**

- |                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Election of President       | <b>Roll Call</b> |
| 2. Election of Vice Presidents | <b>Roll Call</b> |

<b>Election of Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries and Setting of Bonds</b>	<b>Roll Call</b>
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<b>Election of School Treasurer and and Setting of Bonds</b>	<b>Roll Call</b>
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<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	<b>Roll Call</b>
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We are an equal rights and opportunity school district.

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

**RESOLVED**, That Mark Roosevelt, 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 Ira Weiss, Esquire, Christopher M. Berdnik, Peter J. Camarda, and Pamela R. Capretta be elected Assistant Secretaries of the Board of Public Education in addition to their other duties as Solicitor, Chief Financial Official/Chief Operations Officer, Executive Director of Budget Development, Management and Operations and Director of Finance 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 TREASURER AND SETTING OF BOND**

**RESOLVED**, That Margaret Lanier, 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.

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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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PITTSBURGH BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION  
REORGANIZATION MEETING  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2010  
5:35 P.M.  
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - BOARD ROOM

- - -

BEFORE:

THERESA COLAIZZI, BOARD PRESIDENT  
THOMAS SUMPTER, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT  
WILLIAM ISLER, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT  
DR. DARA WARE ALLEN  
MARK BRENTLEY  
JEAN FINK  
SHERRY HAZUDA  
FLOYD McCREA  
SHARENE SHEALEY

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ALSO PRESENT:

DR. LINDA LANE	DR. PAULETTE PONCELET
MR. MARK CAMPBELL	MR. IRA WEISS
MR. PETER J. CAMARDA	MR. DERRICK LOPEZ
MR. FRANK KAISER	MS. LISA FISCHETTI
DR. JERRI LYNN LIPPERT	DR. BARBARA RUDIAK
MS. JODY SPOLAR	DR. CHRISTIANNA OTUWA
DR. JEANNINE FRENCH	

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REPORTED BY: EUGENE C. FORCIER  
PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER

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412-281-0189

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**ORIGINAL**

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 MS. COLAIZZI: Good evening, ladies and  
3 gentlemen. I would like the call the December 6th,  
4 2010 Pittsburgh Board of Education organizational  
5 meeting to order.

6 Would you please rise so that we may salute  
7 the flag.

8 (Salute to the flag.)

9 MS. COLAIZZI: I'd like to make sure that  
10 everyone please puts their cell phones or pagers on  
11 vibrate, or turns them off.

12 I would also like to remind my colleagues  
13 that immediately following this meeting we need you to  
14 stay very close in this room so that we could have a  
15 picture taken.

16 This evening is the annual Board election  
17 of officers, and any other business that is to be  
18 brought before the Board.

19 Mr. Weiss, may we please have a roll call.

20 MR. WEISS: Dr. Allen?

21 DR. ALLEN: Present.

22 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

23 MR. BRENTLEY: Here.

24 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

25 MS. FINK: Here.

1 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Hazuda?  
2 MS. HAZUDA: Here.  
3 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?  
4 MR. ISLER: Present.  
5 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?  
6 MR. McCREA: Here.  
7 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey?  
8 MS. SHEALEY: Here.  
9 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?  
10 MR. SUMPTER: Present.  
11 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?  
12 MS. COLAIZZI: Here.  
13 MR. WEISS: All members present.  
14 MS. COLAIZZI: Thank you, Mr. Weiss.  
15 The first order of business is to elect a  
16 temporary president and temporary secretary.  
17 Is there a motion on the floor for a  
18 temporary president?  
19 Mr. Isler.  
20 MR. ISLER: Dr. Allen.  
21 MS. COLAIZZI: Is there any other?  
22 DR. ALLEN: (Inaudible.)  
23 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes, you may.  
24 Dr. Allen.  
25 DR. ALLEN: I'd like to nominate Miss Fink.

1 MS. COLAIZZI: There are two nominations on  
2 the floor.

3 Are there any more?

4 I would like to close those nominations at  
5 this time.

6 I need a motion to close the nominations.

7 MR. ISLER: So move.

8 MS. COLAIZZI: Second?

9 MS. SHEALEY: Second.

10 MS. COLAIZZI: Thank you.

11 All those in favor?

12 MR. ISLER: Aye.

13 MS. COLAIZZI: Wait a moment.

14 MR. WEISS: To close nominations.

15 MS. COLAIZZI: Oh, I'm sorry.

16 All those in favor?

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

18 MS. COLAIZZI: Opposed, same sign.

19 (No response.)

20 MS. COLAIZZI: Thank you.

21 Okay. We are going to take a roll call on  
22 the two individuals that are up for temporary  
23 president.

24 Mr. Weiss.

25 MR. WEISS: Okay. When I call the Board



1 member's name, please indicate your vote by the name  
2 of the candidate.

3 Dr. Allen?

4 DR. ALLEN: Mrs. Fink.

5 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

6 MR. BRENTLEY: Dr. Allen.

7 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

8 MS. COLAIZZI: Mrs. Fink.

9 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

10 MS. FINK: This is awkward.

11 Okay. Mrs. Fink.

12 MS. COLAIZZI: Mrs. Hazuda?

13 MS. HAZUDA: Mrs. Fink.

14 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

15 MR. ISLER: Dr. Allen.

16 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

17 MR. McCREA: Mrs. Fink.

18 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey?

19 MS. SHEALEY: Mrs. Fink.

20 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpster?

21 MR. SUMPSTER: Dr. Allen.

22 MS. COLAIZZI: It appears that Mrs. Fink  
23 has six votes, she is the temporary president.

24 MR. BRENTLEY: Mr. Weiss, can I just ask a  
25 quick question for clarification.

1                   Was there supposed to be an acceptance,  
2 once the nomination is made, or is it not necessary,  
3 or formal acceptance?

4                   MR. WEISS: Well, again, if the person  
5 declines, they should indicate there, but there is no  
6 acceptance necessary.

7                   MR. BRENTLEY: All right. Thank you.

8                   MS. COLAIZZI: Right here.

9                   MS. FINK: Okay. Good.

10                   Do we have a motion on the floor for a  
11 temporary secretary?

12                   Mrs. Colaizzi.

13                   MS. COLAIZZI: I'd like to nominate  
14 Mr. Brentley.

15                   MR. BRENTLEY: I won't accept. I decline.

16                   MS. FINK: Could we have another  
17 nomination, please.

18                   MR. ISLER: Dr. Allen.

19                   MS. FINK: Anyone else?

20                   MR. ISLER: Move to close nominations.

21                   MS. SHEALEY: Second.

22                   MS. FINK: All in favor?

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

24                   MS. FINK: Okay.

25                   Since there are no other candidates, I

1 believe I can declare by acclamation that Dr. Allen is  
2 our temporary secretary?

3 MR. WEISS: Yes.

4 MS. FINK: Okay.

5 Dr. Allen, you are our temporary secretary.

6 Okay. All right. At this point we would  
7 like to ask for nominations for president.

8 Mrs. Colaizzi.

9 MS. COLAIZZI: I'd like to nominate  
10 Sherry Hazuda.

11 MS. FINK: Do we have any other nominations  
12 for president?

13 MR. ISLER: Move to close.

14 MS. COLAIZZI: Second.

15 MS. FINK: All in favor?

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

17 MS. FINK: Hearing no other nominations  
18 coming forward, Mrs. Hazuda is now the new Board  
19 president.

20 MR. WEISS: You will have to ask for a roll  
21 call, because there should be -- so I will call the  
22 roll on Mrs. Hazuda.

23 MS. FINK: All right. That will work.

24 MR. WEISS: You indicate your vote for her,  
25 or --

1 MR. BRENTLEY: Mr. Weiss.

2 MR. WEISS: Yes.

3 MR. BRENTLEY: Am I allowed to make a few  
4 comments; would that be appropriate now?

5 MR. WEISS: You can.

6 MR. BRENTLEY: I just want to explain my  
7 vote.

8 I will be voting no for Miss Hazuda.

9 I believe that the District needs to move  
10 in a new direction.

11 Over the last five years, I believe that we  
12 have had some challenges that we did not respond to  
13 correctly. My vote will be a no vote.

14 I'm standing for those poor students who  
15 have been victimized over the last five years by the  
16 administration.

17 Our new incoming president, unfortunately,  
18 voted for some of those questionable things in the  
19 poor communities, and so I will be voting no.

20 I will put a challenge out to the incoming  
21 leadership, that it is important that we recognize a  
22 diversity.

23 It is important that we find a way to  
24 include those Board members who are here, who actually  
25 have children in the District. It is important as

1 well.

2                   And so, as we continue to do things,  
3 unfortunately race continues to play a mayor part.

4                   There are other forces, outside this  
5 conference room here, continue to play a heavy part in  
6 the leadership of this Board, and unfortunately our  
7 children continue to be victimized, and stuck in the  
8 middle.

9                   So my vote will be a no vote, it will  
10 represent those struggling families and communities  
11 who have been targeted over the last year, by this  
12 administration, and the incoming leadership as well as  
13 the outgoing leadership of this Board.

14                   MS. FINK: Shall we now have a roll call?

15                   MR. WEISS: We will proceed to call the  
16 role on the nomination of Mrs. Hazuda.

17                   Dr. Allen?

18                   DR. ALLEN: Yes.

19                   MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

20                   MR. BRENTLEY: No.

21                   MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

22                   MS. COLAIZZI: Sherry Hazuda.

23                   MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

24                   MS. FINK: Mrs. Hazuda.

25                   MR. WEISS: Mrs. Hazuda?

1 MS. HAZUDA: Mrs. Hazuda.

2 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

3 MR. ISLER: I'm voting in the affirmative,  
4 correct, for the nomination?

5 MR. WEISS: Yes.

6 MR. ISLER: Yes.

7 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

8 MR. McCREA: Mrs. Hazuda.

9 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey?

10 MS. SHEALEY: Yes.

11 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?

12 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

13 MR. WEISS: Okay. Mrs. Hazuda is elected  
14 by an 8 to 1 vote, she is now the president.

15 (Applause.)

16 MS. FINK: All right. At this point we are  
17 calling for nominations for first vice president.

18 DR. ALLEN: I would like to nominate  
19 Tom Sumpter.

20 MR. McCREA: I would like to nominate  
21 Sharene Shealey.

22 MS. FINK: Do we hear any other  
23 nominations?

24 May I have a motion to close nominations?

25 MS. COLAIZZI: So move.

1 MR. ISLER: Second.

2 MS. SHEALEY: Second.

3 MS. FINK: Thank you.

4 All in favor?

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

6 MS. FINK: Okay.

7 MR. WEISS: We will proceed to call the  
8 vote, please indicate your vote by candidate.

9 Mr. Brentley?

10 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes, I would like to make  
11 some comments.

12 My vote for this position of the first vice  
13 president will also be a no vote.

14 Both candidates, over the last year, have  
15 voted in the affirmative on questionable initiative --  
16 initiatives, costly initiatives, and initiatives that  
17 have been targeted in the poor neighborhoods, which  
18 some research has now been able to show that it is  
19 failing, and continue to fail.

20 I am disappointed in their votes over the  
21 last year, in terms of not speaking up for those folks  
22 who don't have a voice, especially those coming from  
23 their communities.

24 And so it would concern me to have either  
25 of these candidates in such a very, very important

1 position, and when and if they are elected, I have  
2 serious concerns about the future of poor children,  
3 especially African American children in this District,  
4 in terms of questionable votes, questionable  
5 initiatives, and not giving access to the same kind of  
6 education and opportunities that we see in certain  
7 pockets.

8           So I note my no vote simply represents a no  
9 on how they have voted and responded to the poor  
10 children of this community, and I would be voting no  
11 on this vote as well.

12           Thank you.

13           MR. WEISS: I will proceed to call the  
14 vote, again indicate your vote by the name of the  
15 candidate.

16           Dr. Allen?

17           DR. ALLEN: Tom Sumpster.

18           MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

19           MR. BRENTLEY: Would it be appropriate to  
20 say no, Mr. Weiss, or neither; how should I  
21 professionally do it?

22           MR. WEISS: I think you say neither.

23           MR. BRENTLEY: Neither.

24           MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

25           MS. COLAIZZI: Sharene Shealey.



1 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

2 MS. FINK: Sharene Shealey.

3 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Hazuda?

4 MS. HAZUDA: Can I pass?

5 MR. WEISS: You really need to vote in the  
6 order of the roll call, Mrs. Hazuda.

7 MS. HAZUDA: Tom Sumpter.

8 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

9 MR. ISLER: Miss Shealey.

10 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

11 MR. McCREA: Sharene Shealey.

12 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey?

13 MS. SHEALEY: Sharene Shealey.

14 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?

15 MR. SUMPTER: Tom Sumpter.

16 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey is elected on a  
17 5-3-1 vote.

18 MR. BRENTLEY: Did Jean vote?

19 MR. ISLER: Yes.

20 MR. WEISS: Everyone voted.

21 So, Miss Shealey is the first vice  
22 president.

23 (Applause.)

24 MS. FINK: Okay. We will now take  
25 nominations for second vice president.

1 Mr. Isler.

2 MR. ISLER: I nominate Mr. Sumpter.

3 MS. FINK: Do I hear any other nominations?

4 MR. ISLER: Move to close.

5 MS. COLAIZZI: Second.

6 MS. FINK: All in favor?

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

8 MS. FINK: Since we have no other  
9 candidates, we can declare by acclamation, Mr. Sumpter  
10 to be second vice president?

11 MR. WEISS: Yes.

12 We ought to have a roll call. I will call  
13 the roll.

14 MS. FINK: All right. Call the roll.  
15 Whatever.

16 MR. BRENTLEY: Mr. Weiss?

17 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley.

18 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

19 My comments are the same that are shared  
20 for the first vice president, for this candidate,  
21 Mr. Sumpter.

22 My challenge again is that we need to hear  
23 a voice advocating for all; a voice advocating for  
24 especially poor children.

25 These positions are very, very powerful,

1 very, very key in terms of helping those who need  
2 help, and I have not heard that over the last year  
3 from my colleague in the position of first vice  
4 president.

5 My fear is it will be the similar kinds of  
6 leadership, in the second, in his role as the second  
7 vice president, and so it concerns me, especially for  
8 those children who are unable to speak for themselves,  
9 and those parents who have been victimized over the  
10 last year by the style of leadership.

11 So I will be voting no, as well, on this  
12 position.

13 MR. WEISS: Okay.

14 There is one candidate, I would ask for a  
15 yes or no vote. This is on the nomination of  
16 Mr. Sumpter, second vice president.

17 Dr. Allen?

18 DR. ALLEN: Yes.

19 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

20 MR. BRENTLEY: No.

21 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

22 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

23 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

24 MS. FINK: Yes.

25 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Hazuda?

1 MS. HAZUDA: Yes.

2 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

3 MR. ISLER: Yes.

4 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

5 MR. McCREA: Yes?

6 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey?

7 MS. SHEALEY: Yes.

8 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpster?

9 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

10 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpster is elected on an  
11 8-1 vote.

12 (Applause.)

13 MR. WEISS: The newly elected president  
14 will now assume the chair.

15 MS. HAZUDA: Okay. Now I have the script.  
16 Oh, I do have it, thank you.

17 I will now read the resolution for election  
18 of secretaries and assistant secretaries and setting  
19 of bonds.

20 (Mrs. Hazuda read from prepared material.)

21 MS. HAZUDA: Mr. Weiss, may we have a roll  
22 call.

23 MR. WEISS: Since this is a resolution, we  
24 ought to have a motion.

25 MR. ISLER: So move.

1 MS. COLAIZZI: Second.

2 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler moves, and  
3 Mrs. Colaizzi seconds.

4 We will have a roll call.

5 Dr. Allen?

6 DR. ALLEN: Yes.

7 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

8 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

9 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

10 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

11 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

12 MS. FINK: Yes.

13 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Hazuda?

14 MS. HAZUDA: Yes.

15 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

16 MR. ISLER: Yes.

17 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

18 MR. McCREA: Yes.

19 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey?

20 MS. SHEALEY: Yes.

21 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpter?

22 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

23 MR. WEISS: The resolution's approved  
24 unanimously.

25 MS. HAZUDA: Thank you.

1           MR. BRENTLEY: Okay. Mr. Weiss, just a  
2 simple legal question, with the absence of  
3 Mark Roosevelt, the transition, would it require  
4 another vote with the new, or incoming Superintendent  
5 to replace that, or are we electing for the position,  
6 to fill that, not necessarily the person?

7           MR. WEISS: At such time as the Board  
8 appoints a successor to Mr. Roosevelt, the Board will  
9 then need to pass a resolution relating to that  
10 individual.

11           But statutorily, the Superintendent is the  
12 secretary in a District of the First Class A, so  
13 that's why it is written the way it is.

14           As I say, at some point in the near future,  
15 when an appointment is made, there will be a mandatory  
16 resolution so that the then Superintendent will be  
17 reflected as the secretary.

18           MR. BRENTLEY: So, it is similar to the  
19 position on the Pittsburgh Promise, and that is, the  
20 seat will always be held for whoever is the  
21 Superintendent, to be a Board member, and this is the  
22 same with this position here as well. So really, it  
23 is a moot point then.

24           MR. WEISS: That's correct.

25           MR. BRENTLEY: So then that person would

1 automatically be, it wouldn't require a vote.

2 MR. WEISS: Well, it requires a vote, but  
3 you are right, it is the position, not the person.

4 MR. BRENTLEY: Got it. Good enough. Thank  
5 you.

6 MS. HAZUDA: Thank you.

7 I will now read the resolution for election  
8 of school treasurer.

9 (Mrs. Hazuda read from prepared material.)

10 MS. HAZUDA: Can I have a motion?

11 MR. ISLER: So move.

12 MS. COLAIZZI: Second.

13 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler moved, and  
14 Mrs. Colaizzi seconded.

15 MS. HAZUDA: Mr. Weiss, may we have a roll  
16 call.

17 MR. WEISS: Dr. Allen?

18 DR. ALLEN: Yes.

19 MR. WEISS: Mr. Brentley?

20 MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

21 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Colaizzi?

22 MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

23 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Fink?

24 MS. FINK: Yes.

25 MR. WEISS: Mrs. Hazuda?

1 MS. HAZUDA: Yes.

2 MR. WEISS: Mr. Isler?

3 MR. ISLER: Yes.

4 MR. WEISS: Mr. McCrea?

5 MR. McCREA: Yes.

6 MR. WEISS: Miss Shealey?

7 MS. SHEALEY: Yes.

8 MR. WEISS: Mr. Sumpster?

9 MR. SUMPTER: Yes.

10 MR. WEISS: Unanimously approved.

11 MS. HAZUDA: Is there any new business to  
12 be brought before the Board?

13 MR. ISLER: Move to adjourn.

14 MS. SHEALEY: Second.

15 MS. HAZUDA: Can I talk?

16 MR. WEISS: Do you want to make a  
17 statement?

18 MS. HAZUDA: Yes.

19 MR. WEISS: I think Mrs. Hazuda should make  
20 her statement, before adjournment.

21 MS. HAZUDA: Okay?

22 MR. WEISS: Sure. Go ahead.

23 MS. HAZUDA: Okay.

24 First of all, I would like to thank  
25 Mrs. Colaizzi very much for her leadership in the past



1 two years, in helping us work together in a positive  
2 manner.

3 I want to thank all of you for the  
4 confidence you are showing in me tonight, by electing  
5 me the next president of the School Board.

6 I promise you it will be an exciting year,  
7 and I will be tapping into each and every one of you,  
8 because the talents that are on this Board are  
9 unbelievable, and if we can get the synergy that each  
10 of you has to offer, in collaboration with our  
11 administration, we can only go better and deeper and  
12 further.

13 You know, I -- in reflecting the last --  
14 since the three years I have been on the Board, when  
15 we got the news of Mark Roosevelt leaving us, it was  
16 sort of like being hit by James Harrison. You know,  
17 it is like -- and you get up, and you say, "What  
18 happened?" And, "Jeez, did that hurt."

19 But, I want to thank the Superintendent.  
20 It did hurt. It hurts his leaving. But I want to  
21 thank him for all he has done for the progressive work  
22 and the movement he has taken us forward, and I wish  
23 him and Dorothy well in their new adventures in Ohio.  
24 I am sure he will be very successful at Antioch  
25 College.

1 I look forward to working with our new  
2 Superintendent, when that decision is finalized.

3 I ask staff, please stay with us, trust us,  
4 collaborate with us, because it's going to be -- as I  
5 said, it's going to be an exciting year, and we have a  
6 lot of work to do, and we look forward to it.

7 There are nine people sitting at this end  
8 of the table, and I am not excluding you, but the nine  
9 elected officials, and we are all here for the kids in  
10 the Pittsburgh area.

11 You know, I have four children who are  
12 graduates, all of them, of the Pittsburgh Public  
13 Schools.

14 I got my degree from Robert Morris College  
15 when I was 48 years old. I was a single parent, I had  
16 kids in college, in high school, in middle school, and  
17 I remember sitting at the dining room table, and my  
18 daughters' doing their homework, and putting them to  
19 bed, and I would start my homework at Robert Morris.  
20 I was tired.

21 What we are offering our children is the  
22 opportunity to not be 48 year old single parents  
23 finally getting their bachelor's degree.

24 And that is what we need to keep focused  
25 on, giving our kids every opportunity to just blossom

1 into the people that they are meant to be, so that  
2 when they do finish their years in high school, they  
3 have been so exposed to what's out in the world, that  
4 they can be successful college graduates, and  
5 representatives of not only the Pittsburgh Public  
6 Schools, but all of our city.

7                   And, so, getting back to my James Harrison  
8 analogy, I want to say that we have everything in  
9 place here in Pittsburgh. We have a great game plan.

10                   Mark Roosevelt drafted a top-notch  
11 team. The game is being executed as we speak, and  
12 will continue to go forward, and like Mr. Harrison, we  
13 are going to have an all pro year.

14                   Now, the only problem I see, in this whole  
15 deal, is how can we get the NFL to donate all of  
16 James Harrison's fines to the Pittsburgh Promise,  
17 because if we can do that, we are good to go.

18                   And on that note, the meeting -- oh, okay.

19                   MR. BRENTLEY: Madam President, I just want  
20 to make one request of you, publicly, and that is,  
21 going back to the point that you made about there are  
22 nine Board members, and I just want to remind you that  
23 there are nine Board members, nine personalities, nine  
24 districts, nine sets of concerns.

25                   And so throughout the year, when some of us

1 come through with concerns that may be different from  
2 others, that I would ask that you and your leadership  
3 would be respectful of those -- that particular Board  
4 member, not cut his or her microphone off, and not  
5 directed to be turned down, not over talk them, not  
6 have side bars when they are discussing, all of these  
7 issues are very important to the School District.

8           And so, I'm only asking that because while  
9 we are here with different elected positions among us,  
10 we all stand equally as elected members, representing  
11 particular communities.

12           There are some communities that have been  
13 hit harder, they hurt just a little bit more. And so  
14 when those concerns come, not only is it my job, but  
15 it is my duty to bring it to the attention of this  
16 Board, and I would ask that the new leadership would  
17 be mindful of that, and allow Board members to be  
18 individuals, and to be different.

19           And more importantly, that when Board  
20 members share information that may not be in line with  
21 everyone else, that you don't cut him or her off for  
22 discussion, you don't not include them in Board  
23 meetings, you don't cut off their cell phones, you  
24 allow them to be members of the Board, and you allow  
25 them to represent their community.

1                   Finally, the most important thing of all,  
2 as elected Board members, I think every month I have  
3 to remind someone in the public that I am a volunteer.  
4 We do this for free, and people still don't believe  
5 that we put the time in and do the kinds of things  
6 that we do.

7                   So I'm hoping that your leadership would be  
8 mindful of that, allow us all an opportunity to share  
9 our concerns, and allow us all an opportunity, and  
10 leadership opportunities within this District.

11                   Thank you.

12                   MS. HAZUDA: Thank you for your issues, and  
13 I will make the commitment to you that I will treat  
14 everyone with respect, just as that I expect everyone  
15 in this room to be treated with respect.

16                   So thank you for bringing that up.

17                   Mrs. Colaizzi.

18                   MS. COLAIZZI: Thank you, Madam Chair.

19                   If I may, for just a moment, I need to  
20 express that I am hoping that with the new elected  
21 Executive Committee, that the work that the previous  
22 Executive Committee, and the work that this Board has  
23 been working on, will continue.

24                   It is extremely important that the work  
25 that we have started, and even as far back as to when

1 I got on this Board, continues down the road that it  
2 is going.

3           It is a very important task that we are set  
4 out to do.

5           And I believe that this District has so  
6 much to offer our children in this city, and so much  
7 to offer the city, that people do not recognize.

8           I am more than supportive of all three of  
9 you, and the rest of this Board, and the work that we  
10 shall continue to do.

11           I will be there for anything and everything  
12 that anyone needs.

13           And if there is anything that you need to  
14 tap into me for, all you have to do is ask.

15           So I will always be there.

16           And I thank everybody, for their support.

17           MS. HAZUDA: Thank you, Mrs. Colaizzi.

18           Mr. Sumpter.

19           MR. SUMPTER: Thank you, Mrs. Hazuda.

20           My hope and desire is that in the future,  
21 our Board organization process is more transparent  
22 among Board members; that we have a healthy discussion  
23 and communication among Board members, regarding the  
24 Board organization.

25           As many tough decisions as we have to make,



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

I, Eugene C. Forcier, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing twenty-seven (27) pages are a true and correct transcript of my stenotypy notes taken of the Organizational Meeting held in the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education, Administration Building, Board Room, on Monday, December 6, 2010.



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Eugene C. Forcier, Court Reporter

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