

Atlantic City Board of Education
Public Hearing
May 6, 2025 – 5:00PM

Call To Order Mr. Steele, President

Roll Call: Mr. Bailey, Ms. Bridgers, Mr. Chowdhury, Mr. Johnson, Mr. McKinley, and Mr. Steele

Dr. Small, Dr. Hyman, Mr. Rose, Ms. Morris, Mrs. Ricketts, Ms. Saunders, and Mrs. Riley.

Statement of Notice

A notice of the public hearing was sent to the Press of Atlantic City, mailed to the City Clerk, posted to the district's website and the bulletin board of the Citi Center Building at 1300 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401 on April 26, 2025.

Flag Salute Mrs. Ricketts led those assembled in the flag salute.

Vision & Mission Statement

Vision: Atlantic City Public Schools and members of the community believe in the development of the whole child. Together we are committed to providing a nurturing, safe and stimulating environment for all students to continuously learn and grow.

Mission: All students will be actively engaged and supported as they learn and grow on the journey to become independent, life-long learners equipped for the 21st Century.

Budget Presentation – Mrs. Celeste Ricketts, Business Administrator

Mrs. Ricketts presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing the 2025/2026 school year budget, programs, capital projects, superintendent goals, historical revenue trends, and historical expenditure trends was discussed.

Public Comment - None

Atlantic City Board of Education
Public Hearing
May 6, 2025 – 5:00PM

GOODS & SERVICES 1 – 2

1. Be it resolved by the Atlantic City Board of Education to adopt the 2025/2026 budget, as required, by the New Jersey Department of Education process in the following sums:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
General Fund	\$ 289,992,841	\$73,000,000
Grants	\$ 18,952,783	
Debt Service	\$ 5,008,957	\$ 4,573,975
Total Proposed Budget	\$ 313,954,581	

2. Be it resolved by the Atlantic City Board of Education to approve the 2025/2026 budget and local tax levy / revenue:

Local Tax Levy / Revenue	\$73,000,000
Local Tax Levy	\$4,573,975
Total Local Tax Levy / Revenue	\$77,573,975

GOODS & SERVICES 1 – 2

On a motion made by Ms. Bridges and seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Atlantic Board of Education voted to approve Goods and Services 1-2. At the call of the roll the vote was as follows Mr. Steele-yes, Mr. Bailey,-yes, Ms. Bridges –yes; Mr. Chowdhury-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes; Mr. McKinley yes;. Of the six members present, six voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

AMEND THE AGENDA TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Ms. Bridges and seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Atlantic Board of Education voted to Amend the Agenda to go into Executive Session. At the call of the roll the vote was as follows Mr. Steele-yes, Mr. Bailey,-yes, Ms. Bridges –yes; Mr. Chowdhury-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes; Mr. McKinley yes;. Of the six members present, six voted in the affirmative. The motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

On a motion made by Ms. Bridgers and seconded by Mr. Johnson, the Atlantic Board of Education went into closed session at 5:40pm for approximately 15 minutes to discuss litigated matters.

Atlantic City Board of Education
Public Hearing
May 6, 2025 – 5:00PM

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF ATLANTIC CITY RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and
WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the City of Atlantic City has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and
WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Board of Education will reconvene at the conclusion of closed session at approximately p.m. this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the City of Atlantic City will go into closed session, for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon:); Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;

Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body;

Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law; Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer:- Workers' Compensation, Personnel Matters and Litigation.

Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under *South Jersey Publishing*, 124 N.J. 478, the employee(s) nature of discussions are employment requirements/modifications.

Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally

affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution. I, Celeste Ricketts, Board Secretary do hereby certify the above to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of the City of Atlantic City at their meeting held on April 15, 2025..

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Ms. Bridgers the Atlantic City Board of Education voted to return to open session at 5:55 pm.

Atlantic City Board of Education
Public Hearing
May 6, 2025 – 5:00PM

AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

GOODS AND SERVICES

3. Approve the arbitration settlement between the Atlantic City Board of Education and the Atlantic City Education Association secretary pay for substitute calls in the amount of \$3,960.

On a motion made by Ms. Bridges and seconded by r. Bailey, the Atlantic Board of Education voted to approve Goods and Services 3. At the call of the roll the vote was as follows Mr. Steele-yes, Mr. Bailey, yes, Ms. Bridges –yes; Mr. Chowdhury-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes; Mr. McKinley yes;. Of the six members present, six voted in the affirmative. The motion carried

Adjourn

On a motion made by Mr. Bailey and seconded by Mr. Johnson the meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm