

**Atlantic City Board of Education
Public Hearing
May 4, 2021 – 6:00pm**

Call to order President Mr. Steele called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

Roll Call Mr. Advena, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Byard, Mr. Chowdhury, Mr. Devlin, Mr. Herbert, Mr. Hossain, Mr. Islam, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Steele.

Noted for the record: Mr. Herbert and Mr. Hossain experience difficulty in getting into the Zoom meeting.

Also Present Mr. Caldwell, Ms. Morris, Ms. Yahn, Mrs. Ricketts, Ms. Saunders, Mrs. Riley, Mrs. Brown and Ms. Wallace

Statement of Notice

A notice of the public hearing was published in the Press of Atlantic City, mailed to the City Clerk and posted on the bulletin board of the Citi Center Building at 1300 Atlantic Avenue, Atlantic City, New Jersey 08401 on April 28, 2021.

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

Vision & Mission Statement

Vision: The Atlantic City District recognizes the urgency to provide resources to improve instruction through exemplary and diverse practices which are monitored and analyzed through student achievement data. The District has the expectation that all students will achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all grade levels.

Mission: In order to meet the needs of all students, the District is committed to increasing student learning and improving teaching in the core academic subjects by using instructional strategies aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all grade levels. Parents will be active partners and key stakeholders with the Atlantic City School District to support their student's intellectual, emotional, physical and social growth.

Superintendents Report - None

Budget Presentation – School Business Administrator Mrs. Celeste Ricketts discussed the 2021/2022 budget, the four years of audited financials with no findings, S&P's Global rating upgrading the District to BBB, reduction in expenditures, better monitoring, the refunding of 2011 bonds with savings of \$7.1M, local tax levy, debt service, pilot funding, state aid, tuition revenue, the total budget 2021/2022 budget of \$224,424,821, reduction in enrollment, raising student achievement, addressing chronic absenteeism, recruitment for ACHS, capital projects, equipment and vehicle purchases and fund balance recap. The carry-over from the 2019/2020 school year were used in the 2021/2022 school year. Mr. Herbert asked about the \$5M for the administration building and the goal to stop renting. Mr. Herbert also inquired about an email of specs and requirements for an administration building.

Public Discussion – Ms. Janelle Edwards-Stewart advised she and Mr. James Mottola are working on a legal matter and would like to be afforded the opportunity to speak with the Board. Mr. Steele advised they may speak at the May 23, 2021 board meeting. Mr. Matthew DeJulio Descino inquired about the \$3,222 spent on the Dr. MLK Roof, asked where the money came from and who did the appraisal. Mr. Descino was advised Mr. Rose and Mr. Austin met with the District's architect.

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GOODS & SERVICES 1 - 3

1. Be it resolved by the Atlantic City Board of Education to adopt the 2021/2022 budget, as required, by the New Jersey Department of Education process in the following sums:

General Fund	\$202,806,527
Special Revenue	\$ 16,038,626
Debt Service	<u>\$ 5,579,668</u>
Total Budget	<u>\$224,424,821</u>

2. Be it resolved by the Atlantic City Board of Education to approve the 2021/2022 budget and local revenue:

Local Revenue	\$81,397,025
Debt Service Revenue	<u>\$ 4,576,449</u>
Total Local Revenue	<u>\$85,973,474</u>

3. Approve the Report of Payments for the period 4/28/21 – 5/3/21, in the amount of \$3,727,969.28, **per Exhibit A.**

GOODS & SERVICES 1 – 3

On a motion made by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Bailey, the Atlantic City Board of Education voted to approve Goods & Services 1 – 3. At the call of the roll the vote was as follows: Mr. Advena-yes; Mrs. Bailey-yes; Mrs. Byard-yes; Mr. Chowdhury-yes; Mr. Devlin-yes; Mr. Herbert-no; Mr. Hossain-no; Mr. Islam-yes, Mr. Johnson-yes; Mr. Steele-yes. Of ten members present eight voted in the affirmative, two voted in the negative on all. The motion carried.

Noted for the record: Mr. Herbert asked if the District could try to come up with a plan this year with organized extra-curricular activities for elementary schools. Mr. Caldwell advised he will look into it.

Adjourn: There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, on a motion made by Mr. Herbert and seconded by Mrs. Bailey the meeting adjourned at 6:50pm

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Brown
Board Secretary