

**SPECIAL MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2016**

**HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2016  
MINUTES**

The special meeting of the Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education was held in the high school little theater, 201 President Street, Hempstead, New York 11550. The meeting was called to order at 10:06 A.M. The purpose of the meeting was for the Board of Education to address the matter of a challenge to the nominating petition of Melissa Figueroa.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

|                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| LaMont Johnson    | President      |
| Maribel Touré     | Vice president |
| JoAnn Simmons     | Trustee        |
| Gwendolyn Jackson | Trustee        |
| David B. Gates    | Trustee        |

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

|                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Patricia Wright      | District Clerk  |
| Gregory Guercio      | General Counsel |
| Christopher Mestecky | General Counsel |

**Trustee Simmons moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to convene to executive session at 10:06 A.M. for advice of legal counsel.**

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**  
To convene to executive session

**Trustee moved, seconded by Trustee Jackson to reconvene to open session at 10:20 A.M.**

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**  
To reconvene to open session

The Board of Education heard evidence from both parties, Reverend William Watson and prospective candidate Ms. Melissa Figueroa.

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Simmons to convene to executive session at 11:13 A.M. to deliberate on the evidence presented by both parties in reference to the challenge.**

**MOTION YES 5 MOTION CARRIED**  
To convene to executive session

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**Trustee Jackson moved, seconded by Trustee Touré to reconvene to open session at 11:39 A.M.**

**MOTION** YES 5 **MOTION CARRIES**  
To reconvene to open session

**Trustee Touré moved, seconded by Trustee Johnson to convene to executive session at 11:52 A.M. for advice of legal counsel.**

**MOTION** YES 5 **MOTION CARRIED**  
To convene to executive session

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Touré to reconvene to open session at 12:53 P.M.**

**MOTION** YES 5 **MOTION CARRIED**  
To reconvene to open session

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Touré to approve the resolution as read by general counsel.**

1. **WHEREAS**, on April 18, 2016 the Board of Education was notified of a nomination petition challenged by Reverend William Watson relative to the qualifications of Melissa Figueroa to everyone as a member of the Board of Education.

**WHEREAS**, on April 21st, 2016, a special meeting of the Board of Education was convened in order to provide Reverend Watson and Ms. Figueroa an opportunity to be heard and submit information regarding the challenge.

**AND WHEREAS**, after due deliberation by the Board of Education and consideration of the facts presented to the Board, the question before the Board is:

Has sufficient evidence been provided by Reverend Watson in the record to sustain the challenge to the nominating petition of Ms. Figueroa.

With the vote of the Board, **a YES vote sustains the challenge and disqualifies Ms. Figueroa as candidate, and a NO vote is a determination that Ms. Figueroa continues as a candidate.**

**MOTION** NO 5 **MOTION CARRIED**  
Ms. Figueroa will continue  
as a candidate

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Touré to approve to waive policy #2522 one time only.**

2. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education approves to waive policy # 2522 reference to cash advance for travel this one time only to provide the high school students to attend the Penn Relay to get the cash advance in the amount of \$5,200.00 to participate in the event.

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**MOTION**

**YES 5**

**MOTION CARRIED**

To waive policy #2522 one time only

**Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Touré to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 P.M.**

**MOTION**

**YES 5**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Meeting adjourned**

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Wright  
District Clerk