

**HEMPSTEAD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
MARH 28, 2017
MINUTES**

The Hempstead Public Schools Board of Education special meeting was held in the high school board room, 201 President Street, Hempstead, New York 11550. All of the Board members were present. The meeting was called to interview election inspectors and clerks to work the Annual budget vote and election on May 16, 2017 and address district financial issues. The meeting was called to order at 5:26 P.M. Trustee Gates excused himself at 7:20 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Maribel Touré | President |
| Gwen Jackson | Vice President |
| Melissa Figueroa | Trustee |
| Dr. David G. Gates | Trustee |
| LaMont E. Johnson | Trustee |

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Fadhilika Atiba-Weza | Interim Superintendent of Schools |
| Eddy Joseph | Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations |
| Dr. Rodney Gilmore | Associate Superintendent for Human Resources |
| James Clark | Assistant Superintendent for Secondary C & I |
| Regina Armstrong | Assistant Superintendent for Elementary C & I |
| Patricia Wright | District Clerk |
| Richard Hamburger | Labor Counsel |

Trustee Johnson moved, seconded by Trustee Jackson to approve the budget transfers in resolutions 1 & 2 and as amended in *BOLD ITALICS*.

1. RESOLVED, that the Superintendent notifies the Board of Education of the following Budget Transfers over \$5,000.

1. Transfer of ~~\$10,770,933.73~~ from Account Code: A2110.120.03 (Salary) to Account Code: A2110.473 (Charter Schools).

Transfer of **\$1,300,000** from Account Code: A2110.120.03 (Salary) to Account Code: A2110.473 (Charter Schools).

Recommended by: Eddy Joseph

Purpose: In order to pay the outstanding Charter School bills

Goal: Financial Accountability and Budget Alignment

Source of Funds: General Funds Code

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2. Transfer of \$717,130.43 from Account Code: A1620.400.07.1625 (Contractual) to Account Code: A1930.400.03.000 b (Judgments and Claims).

Recommended by: Eddy Joseph

Purpose: In order to pay the outstanding Judgments and claims

Goal: Financial Accountability and Budget Alignment

Source of Funds: General Funds Code

MOTION

To approve budget transfers as amended

YES 4

ABS. 1 (Trustee Figueroa)

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Gates for the record: You allowed Miss Phyllis Pruitt for the record to contact this candidate and vet her you allowed an external person who is not a Board Member to vet this candidate and act on behalf of the district without the Boards approval.

The audit committee vetted the candidate over the telephone without the advisement of the Board.

Trustee Touré moved, seconded by Trustee Jackson to approve the appointment of the financial consultant as amended in BOLD ITALICS.

2. **RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Audit Committee, made March 22, 2017, retains the services of Barbara J. Smith, principal owner of Barbara J. Smith Advisory Services LLC (collectively, "Smith"), to provide financial consulting services to the District's Business Office, particularly in performing the following:
 - a. Preparation of a budget modification for the general fund for 2016-17 that will move budgets and any associated expenditures from account codes first initiated with the 2016-17 budget to account codes used in the 2015-16 and previous fiscal years;
 - b. Updating revenue and expenditure projections for the 2016-17 fiscal year for the general fund;
 - c. Reviewing expenditure details of accounts to ensure they are properly coded; and
 - d. Preparation of the 2017-18 general fund budget that takes into account the updated projections for 2016-17; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Smith report directly to the Board of Education regarding the District's financial operations and budgeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Smith shall have direct access to the Finance Management System; and be it further

RESOLVED, that all District staff, including the Interim Assistant Superintendent for Business & Operations, and all Business Office personnel, are directed to cooperate with Smith and promptly provide Smith with any requested documents, materials or information; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Smith's compensation shall be \$2,750 per day for each day of services performed on site, or \$190 per hour for services performed remotely, ***without expense reimbursement provided however***, that payment to Smith shall not exceed \$50,000 without further authorization of the Board; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Smith's services may be terminated by the Board without prior notice, with or without cause.

MOTION

To approve financial consultant

YES 3

NO 2 (Trustees Gates & Johnson)

MOTION CARRIED

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Trustee Gates for the record: The audit committee made a recommendation, however the Board did not review their findings, there were no finding submitted to the board for review absolutely not.

Trustee Jackson moved, seconded by Trustee Figueroa to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 P.M.

MOTION

Meeting adjourned

YES 4

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia Wright
District Clerk