



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007

MINUTES

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

TWEED COURTHOUSE, NEW YORK, NY
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2007

PRESENT: Hon. Patricia Harris, Hon. Edward Skyler, Hon. Dolores Fernandez, Hon. Carlo Scissura, Hon. Jimmy Yan, Hon. Edward Burke, Hon. Dennis Walcott

OPENING OF MEETING: Patricia Harris announced the opening of the meeting.

MOTION TO ELECT A PRESIDENT: Edward Burke made a motion to elect Dennis Walcott as President of the Board. The motion was seconded by Edward Skyler. The motion was passed 6-0, with one abstention (Dolores Fernandez).

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY: President Walcott proposed the appointment of Michael Best as Secretary of the Board. Patricia Harris made a motion to appoint Michael Best as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Edward Skyler. The motion passed 6-0, with one abstention (Dolores Fernandez).

ROLL CALL: The Secretary called the roll. All members of the Board were present, as indicated above.

MOTION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPOINTING A CHANCELLOR AND ADOPTING A REGULATION ON DELEGATION OF POWERS TO THE CHANCELLOR: President Walcott asked if there was any business to consider. Carlo Scissura made a motion to adopt a resolution appointing a Chancellor and adopting a regulation delegating powers to the Chancellor. Jimmy Yan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the resolution as adopted is attached.

MOTION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE TO ACT IMMEDIATELY TO ADOPT S5887: Patricia Harris made a motion to adopt a resolution urging the State Senate to adopt S5887. Edward Skyler seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0, with one abstention (Dolores Fernandez). A copy of the resolution as adopted is attached.

ADJOURNMENT: Patricia Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting and to schedule the Board's next meeting for September 10. Edward Skyler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

Michael Best
Secretary

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A CHANCELLOR, APPROVING REGULATIONS OF THE CHANCELLOR THAT REQUIRE BOARD APPROVAL TO REMAIN IN EFFECT, AND ADOPTING REGULATION ON DELEGATION OF POWERS TO THE CHANCELLOR

Resolved, that the Board appoints Joel I. Klein to serve as Chancellor, and directs the President of the Board to enter into a contract with the Chancellor on behalf of the Board on the same terms as those in the contract dated November 14, 2002, except that the Chancellor shall be removable by the Board.

Resolved, that, in order better to discharge its policy-making and other functions and to provide for the efficient administration of the educational system, the Board hereby approves all current regulations of the Chancellor that require its approval to remain in effect, and adopts the following regulation:

The Board hereby delegates to the Chancellor all powers under law, including but not limited to its powers under Articles 52 and 52-A of the Education Law, that may lawfully be delegated to the Chancellor. This delegation includes, but is not limited to, authority to award and execute contracts, without restriction as to dollar amount or purpose, pursuant to procurement policies adopted by the Chancellor prior to June 30, 2009, without further action by the Board.

RESOLUTION URGING THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE TO
ACT IMMEDIATELY TO ADOPT S5887

WHEREAS, before the landmark Mayoral control legislation enacted in 2002, meaningful educational progress in New York City was stymied by a governance structure in which there were frequent political battles and no real accountability for results;

WHEREAS, under the governance structure enacted by Chapter 91 of the Laws of 2002 and Chapter 123 of the Laws of 2003, Mayoral control has brought stability and accountability to the New York City school system. Under Mayoral control, New York City children have made substantial progress, with rising test scores, declining dropout rates, and a narrowing of the achievement gap;

WHEREAS, the legislation adopted in 2002 and 2003 provided for a sunset date of June 30, 2009, whereupon provisions enabling Mayoral control would no longer be in effect and the form of governance which predated the reforms would be revived;

WHEREAS, the New York State Assembly has adopted Assembly Bill no. 8903-a, which would extend Mayoral control until June 30, 2015;

WHEREAS, identical legislation was introduced in the Senate as Senate Bill no. S5887, but the Senate did not vote on it in time to prevent the Mayoral control legislation from sunseting; and

WHEREAS, the failure of the Senate to act in time to avoid sunset has created chaotic conditions in the City school district, where virtually every decision – from personnel decisions to policy decisions – could be subject to litigation and uncertainty;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education calls on the New York State Senate to take immediate action to enact S5887.