

# Griffa named to fifth term on school board

*Mayor selects Small-Bailey, an administrator in the Englewood district, to serve*

**By John Zucal  
Managing Editor**

One member will continue a career that has lasted more than a decade while another will begin a new one after they were sworn into terms on the Orange Board of Education.

Mayor Eldridge Hawkins Jr. administered the oath of office Friday to Arthur J. Griffa and Daniele Small-Bailey. They were selected by Hawkins to three-year terms under what the mayor says is the "Call to Service" initiative.

Under the city's form of govern-

ment, Hawkins has the ability to select school board members. He said Griffa and Small-Bailey were chosen after they submitted applications and were interviewed by a selection committee.

Griffa begins his fifth term on the school board. He joined it in 1998 under former Mayor Mims Hackett Jr. and has served as its president for four years and as its vice president for four years.

While Griffa has been a member of the board's Human Resources and Budget committees, his largest contribution came as the chairman

of its Facilities Committee.

During his 12 years on the board, the Colgate administration building at Main and Cleveland streets was demolished and the Rosa Parks School was constructed on the site. Renovation and expansion projects were also completed at Park Avenue and Lincoln Avenue schools.

Griffa is a retired YMCA executive. He served as president and chief executive officer of the YMCA of Jersey City, associate general executive of the YMCA of Buffalo, N.Y. and in other YMCA leadership positions. He also has

served on the city's Master Plan committee and as president of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Council.

"I am happy to continue to serve as a board member, to help our schools advance in hiring experienced personnel, and to bring new and better facilities to our community," Griffa said in a statement.

Small-Bailey replaces another longtime educator, former Orange principal Maxine Johnson, on the board. Small-Bailey serves as assistant principal of the Dr. John Grieco Elementary School in Englewood

and had the same position in that city's Janis E. Dismus Middle School and Liberty Alternative School.

Before her arrival in Englewood, Small-Bailey was a mathematics teacher at the Hubbard Middle School in Plainfield and Sojourner Truth Middle School in East Orange.

Members of the selection committee included Hawkins' chief of staff, Stephanie Gidigbi, Councilwoman Linda Jones Bell, who also is employed by the district; and district employee Chris Sabin.