

The Annual Organization meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland New Jersey, on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 6:04 p.m.

Flag Salute:

Temporary Chairman: Dr. Gruccio, serving as temporary chairperson, announced that in compliance with the New Jersey meeting law commonly referred to as "The Sunshine Law," the Vineland Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be sent to the following, announcing time and place thereof, agenda, etc.: The Daily Journal, the Atlantic City Press, the Grapevine, Clerk - City of Vineland, and Administrative Office Public Bulletin Board.

Members Sworn In: Mr. DeSanto administered the oath of office to Nicholas Fiocchi, F. John Sbrana and Eugene Medio who took their seats on the Board for a term of three years.

Roll Call: The following members were present: Ms. Acosta, Mr. Bordley (through Skype) Ms. Codispoti, Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Medio, Mr. Pagano, Ms. Rios and Mr. Sbrana. Absent: None

Mr. DeSanto reviewed the procedures for the election of Board President and Vice President.

Dr. Gruccio called for nominations for the office of President of the Board.

President: Mr. Pagano nominated Mr. Jennings for Board President.

Mr. Sbrana nominated Ms. Rios for Board President.

Dr. Gruccio closed nominations for President of the Board and asked for a vote to be taken for the first nominee, Mr. Jennings.

All Members voted "yes" for Mr. Pagano's nomination of Mr. Jennings for President of the Board of Education except Ms. Codispoti, Ms. Rios and Mr. Sbrana who voted "no." The motion carried.

Mr. Jennings won the nomination of President of the Board of Education.

Mr. Jennings requested nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education.

Vice-President: Mr. Pagano nominated Mr. Bordley for Vice President of the Board of Education.

There were no other nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education.

Mr. Jennings closed nominations for Vice President of the Board of Education.

All Members voted “yes” for Mr. Pagano’s nomination of Mr. Bordley for Vice President of the Board of Education except Ms. Rios who voted “no.” The motion carried.

Mr. Bordley won the nomination of Vice President of the Board of Education.

Public Comments on
Agenda Items:

None.

Recommendations:

Public Comments: None.

Board Member

Comments: Mr. Medio requested to speak with the Superintendent prior to next week's work session to be brought up to date on the budget. Dr. Gruccio said absolutely.

Mr. Fiocchi said he is looking forward to getting started and working together with everyone.

Mr. Pagano welcomed Mr. Fiocchi and welcomed back Mr. Sbrana and Mr. Medio. He said that he hopes we have a very productive year.

Ms. Codispoti said it is nice to see the Mayor and Council President in the audience supporting our School Board. She welcomed and congratulated Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Sbrana and Mr. Medio. Ms. Codispoti also congratulated Mr. Jennings and Mr. Bordley on being elected Board President and Vice President. She said they have large shoes to fill and she is confident they can do it. Ms. Codispoti said she is looking forward to working with the new Board and continuing our communication, collaboration and transparency.

Ms. Acosta congratulated and welcomed Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Medio and Mr. Sbrana. She wished everyone a happy new year and is excited about what we have to look forward to this year. Ms. Acosta said it is wonderful to see members of City Council and our Mayor in the audience. She believes that if we work together with the city we can do wonderful things. Ms. Acosta said this will be a very exciting year and she is looking forward to a lot of hard work.

Mr. Sbrana welcomed Mr. Fiocchi and Mr. Medio. He said he is honored and humbled for the amount of support he received in this year's election. Mr. Sbrana said after serving a one year term he is looking forward to working a full term on the Board. He said that he will be eternally grateful for the love and support of his wife Carla, son John, daughter in law Theresa and granddaughter Julianna who are present tonight. Mr. Sbrana said he eagerly accepts the responsibility that was given to him by everyone who voted for him. He promised to do his best to serve the students, employees and tax payers of this community without fear or favor.

Ms. Rios thanked those who nominated her for their support. She congratulated the newly elected President and Vice President. Ms. Rios said it is nice to see a lot of political leaders present tonight. She said hopefully the city works well with administration and the Board to make this a productive year. Ms. Rios said she does not know Mr. Fiocchi that well but he is young blood and she hopes he brings in innovative ideas that will help move this district forward. She said she is glad that Mr. Sbrana is back with all his experience and knowledge. Ms. Rios said she is glad to see Mr. Medio back on the Board and looks forward to a very entertaining last year on the Board. She said there will be many issues that will need to be handled and she is looking forward to the entertainment of it.

Mr. Bordley thanked everyone for their support and looks forward to continuing to work hard for the district.

Dr. Guccio welcomed back and congratulated Mr. Sbrana and Mr. Medio. She recognized Mr. Medio's brother and sister in law who have traveled far to be here this evening. Dr. Guccio also congratulated Mr. Fiocchi and said we are very happy to have a new energetic young person on the Board. She said that she looks forward to what Mr. Fiocchi can contribute to this Board of Education. Dr. Guccio congratulated Mr. Jennings and Mr. Bordley on their elected positions. She thanked our new Mayor Anthony Fanucci for coming out this evening and Council President Mr. Paul Spinelli. Dr. Guccio wished everyone a healthy, happy, new year and looks forward working with this Board in the year ahead. She hopes we all remember that we are here for the students of Vineland.

Mr. Jennings said he appreciates all the support. He said this is his fifth year on the Board and he has a lot of experience. Mr. Jennings said he will continue on with Mr. English's Communication, Collaboration and Transparency (CCT). He said he hopes we continue to work together and stay focused on what is important, which is the children.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ms. Codispoti, seconded by Ms. Acosta, to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m. All Members voted "yes."

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen G. Haley
Board Secretary

HGH:dt