

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 6:08 p.m., in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, pursuant to notice with Mr. Medio presiding and the following members present: Mr. Baruffi, Mr. DeWinne, Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. English, Mr. Jennings, Ms. Morello, Ms. Rios and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: None.

Also present: Dr. Gruccio, Superintendent, Mr. Frey, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Polof, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Schectman, Board Secretary and Mr. DeSanto, Board Solicitor. Absent: None.

Mr. Medio 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, Clerk - City of Vineland, and Administrative Office Public Bulletin Board.

Flag Salute:

The Board recessed at 6:10 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 6:23 p.m.

Public Comments
on Agenda Items:

Lee Burke

Mr. Burke said it is hard to stand here as a member of the public and be calm, constructive and supporting of the actions of this Board, which he considers to be a failure to the public because of not passing the balanced budget that did not require a tax levy. He expressed his concern that the Board will not be passing the budget again tonight. Mr. Burke said the school district does not have a good image in the city, county and state. He said it starts with this Board recognizing that they do not have the answers and there are people who can help advise from the community. Mr. Burke said as a member of the public he has budget ideas to discuss. He thinks the one gorilla in the room is the disconnect between the Board and Central Administration.

Presentation: No presentation was given.

Recommendations:

Public Comments: Lee Burke

Mr. Burke said the public has no information on the details of yesterday's meeting nor has the letter or the changes in the budget. He said you have the technology to have this information on the district website. Mr. Burke suggested making the budget as it stands now available to the public and Board tomorrow along with the letter from Mr. Bumpus. Mr. Burke expressed his concern that the Board is micromanaging, which has been a habit.

Ronald Walker

Mr. Walker asked when is it going to be about the students. He agrees with Mr. Ulrich's comment that there is a disconnect between the superintendent, board, administration, staff, students and community. Mr. Walker said until we can unify that we are headed for a downfall. He said it is a disgrace for the public to have to watch this foolishness and expect our teachers to teach discipline. Mr. Walker urged the Board not to play with people's livelihood, career or the students' education.

The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert G. Schectman
Board Secretary

