

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 7:02 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. English presiding and the following members present: Ms. Acosta, Mr. Bordley, Ms. Codispoti, Mr. DeWinne, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Pagano, Ms. Rios and Mr. Sbrana. Absent: None.

Also present: Dr. Gruccio, Superintendent, Mr. Frey and Mr. Frangipani, Assistant Superintendents, Mrs. Haley, Board Secretary, Dr. Rossi, Executive Director of Personnel, Mr. DeSanto, Solicitor, press and public. Absent: None.

Mr. English 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.

Flag Salute: Sabater Elementary School Students led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution: Mrs. Haley read a resolution to convene into executive session for the following reasons as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10-4-12. Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public Provision relied upon discussion of HIB Appeal of Barse Elementary School student, Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body specify contract labor negotiations with VASA, Non-Certificated Supervisors, School Psychologists and UAW and any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity or person with respect to said discussion.

Motion: Upon motion by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Codispoti, the resolution was passed. All Members voted "yes".

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Gruccio introduced Mr. Steven Calakos, Middle School Play Director, to honor students and staff for their dedication and involvement with the play *Hairspray*.

Mr. Calakos thanked the Board for honoring the students this evening. He said the cast of *Hairspray* consisted of over 40 students who are an incredibly talent group of individuals. Mr. Calakos introduced the staff and students involved in the play and certificates were presented to them.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Ms. Nancy Hollenweger, Curriculum Supervisor, to honor students who participated in the South Jersey Spelling Bee Competition.

Ms. Hollenweger said in January four of our elementary schools agreed to participate in a spelling bee and hosted school based competitions. She said tonight we are here to honor four exceptional students who were the champions at their school and represented Vineland Public Schools at the Regional Spelling Bee held on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Hollenweger introduced each of the spelling bee winners.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Bordley, the minutes were approved from February 29, 2016, March 2, 2016, March 9, 2016 and March 16, 2016. All Members voted “yes.”

Solicitor’s Report: None.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: Gyannie Gonzalez  
Ms. Gonzalez expressed her concern in regards to the seniors not receiving their diplomas the day of graduation.

Recommendations:

B. Proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members: None.

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Ms. Codispoti, seconded by Ms. Acosta, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$12,119,279.99).

Mr. English thanked Mrs. Haley for the clarifications that she sent the Board on the bills.

Emergent Item(s)  
(with prior approval) None.

Public: Mil Johnson  
Ms. Johnson said she is here tonight to represent the 94 secretarial members of the Vineland Education Association (VEA). She shared some good news about our schools and the people who work in them. Ms. Johnson said she will distribute a flyer to the Board on information about the members and will be handing them out at various community events in the city. She displayed a banner that will be seen around town and encouraged the Board to look for the banner that represents all the VEA secretaries in the district.

Board Member  
Remarks: Mr. Jennings apologized for missing last week’s Board meeting. He thanked the JROTC Program and their leader for a fantastic showing on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Jennings thanked our staff for Bubble Day.

Mr. Bordley congratulated the Middle School Production Cast and their mentors.

Ms. Codispoti thanked the safety patrol students who came out tonight. She thanked the staff and parents of the spelling bee winners for all their help and support. Ms. Codispoti said working well together is why our children are so successful in the things that they are doing. She reminded everyone that the preschools are having their open house session this Saturday at Dallago School. Ms. Codispoti announced that Mennies School is having an Art Show tomorrow night.

Ms. Acosta thanked the Sabater students for coming out tonight. She said that she would like to see an Arts Academy at Vineland High School in light of the talent that we have in the district.

Ms. Acosta said she does not want to lose our students to other high schools that offer musical theatre and hopes this is the year we get this accomplished. She thanked all the winners of the Spelling Bee Competition. She mentioned that Mrs. Bordo, a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Petway Elementary school, was taking pictures of a student of hers which shows what a dedicated teacher is she.

Mr. Sbrana said he was pleased to see the students at Sabater School doing the flag salute. He thanked students, parents and those involved with the middle school play, which was an extraordinary performance. Mr. Sbrana said there are many incredible things currently going on in the district. He is looking forward to the preschool program event at Dallago School and our Super Science Saturday Program at Vineland High School. Mr. Sbrana announced that on April 28<sup>th</sup> the Mennies Fine Arts Club will be performing the *Wizard of Oz*.

Ms. Rios said the Sabater Elementary School students did a good job on the flag salute. She congratulated the South Jersey Spelling Bee Competition winners. Ms. Rios thanked the *Hairspray* play director, staff, performers and parents for their outstanding performances year after year. She thanked Ms. Johnson for the VEA Secretaries presentation and for volunteering time to promote awareness in our community.

Report/Remarks by  
Board President:

Mr. English echoed the sentiments of his fellow Board members. He thanked the Board members for going through the budget process. Mr. English said we need to continue to move forward working together for what is best for our students in this school district. He said each school is doing something to bring Autism awareness to the forefront. Mr. English thanked the secretaries and knows they are committed to the district.

Dr. Guccio said she is so proud to be a part of this district. She thinks that any student who chooses to leave the district shame on them because we have so much to offer. Dr. Guccio thanked Dr. Michael Sarnoff, a Vineland Chiropractor, who will be donating new flags for every school. She announced that our K-5 Bilingual Program has just been selected by the New Jersey Department of Education as a model program from 2016 through 2018.

Adjournment:           The Board adjourned the meeting by voice vote at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen G. Haley  
Board Secretary

HGH:dt



