

An open work session of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at 7:59 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Medio presiding and the following members present: Mr. Baruffi, Mr. DeWinne, Mr. DiGiorgio, Ms. Morello, Ms. Rios, Mr. Ulrich and Mr. English. Absent: Mr. Jennings.

Also present: Dr. Gruccio, Superintendent, Mr. Frey, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Polof, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Schectman, Board Secretary, Dr. Rossi, Executive Director of Personnel, Mr. DeSanto, Board Solicitor, press and public. 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:

Resolution:

Mr. Schectman read a resolution to convene into executive session for the following reasons as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10-4-12. Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matter disclosed; use of Gittone Stadium. 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. Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting. The nature of discussion is increment withholding for a tenured teacher and consideration of grievances filed by an employee. **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 Ms. Morello, seconded by Mr. DiGiorgio, the resolution was passed. All Members voted “yes”.

Special

Presentations: Mr. Medio introduced Mr. Nathan Frey, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum/Instruction, to honor the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dialogue students.

Mr. Frey said on April 3<sup>rd</sup> he had the pleasure of attending the Cumberland County Board of Associations 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Annual Dialogue. He said the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dialogue Program recognizes students whose character, determination, school spirit and leadership have inspired their classmates and community. Mr. Frey introduced Ms. Hope Johnson, Principal of Landis Middle School, to introduce the Landis Middle School students who participated.

Ms. Johnson introduced Alondra Martinez and Marc Bennett who represented Landis Middle School.

Ms. Monahan, Principal of Rossi Middle School, introduced Cassidy Campanella who represented Rossi Middle School.

Mr. Camardo, Principal of Veterans Memorial Middle School, introduced Kyra Cichy who represented Veterans Memorial Middle School.

Dr. Davis, Principal of Wallace Middle School, honored Cristina Velazquez who represented Wallace Middle School.

Dr. Gruccio encouraged Board Members and building Principals to attend this event next year. She congratulated and thanked the students and their parents.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Ms. Marie Donato and Ms. April Marchesano, Vineland High School Science teachers, to honor students who received awards from the Cumberland County Science Fair.

Ms. Donato said she along with Ms. Marchesano are biology teachers at Vineland High School North. She said their students participated in the Cumberland County Science Fair. Ms. Donato said this project is one of the best ways to get students to really practice the science practices in stem activities and next generation science standards. Ms. Donato introduced and honored each of the students.

A five minute recess was taken at 8:12 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 8:26 p.m.

Public Comments: Bettina Hill  
Ms. Hill said she is here to formally submit a petition for a substitute teacher who was allegedly accused of inappropriate behavior and suspended.

Elaine Greenberg  
Ms. Greenberg expressed her concern in regards to the nurses not having a nursing supervisor and having nursing duties done by clerical staff members.

**Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB Report), Suspension Report, Cunningham Alternative School Report/Average Daily Attendance – No discussion.**

Comments by  
Board Solicitor: None.

Items for Review:  
A. Superintendent

1. **PERSONNEL**

1.1 **Personnel Items** – Ms. Morello said she has not received clarification on the duplication of the same people under the same heading in two different locations. Ms. Evans, Supervisor, said there are several projects they are planning to start immediately following approval. She said it is the same group of people being proposed to complete the project. Ms. Morello asked what the project is. Ms. Evans said the AP Language and Composition Curriculum and a poetry course. Ms. Morello asked if these courses are in the course selection guide. Ms. Evans responded yes. Ms. Morello asked how these courses are in the course selection guide before being put together and approved by the Board. Ms. Evans explained that the course was approved because it is part of the project for the accelerated middle school students. Ms. Morello asked for this information to be forwarded to her. Mr. Frey said absolutely.

1.2 **Approval of withholding of salary increment for the employee whose name is on file – No discussion.**

## 2. PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS

- 2.1 **Travel – a. Field Trips, b. District Travel c. VHS Varsity Football Camp 2014-2015 -**  
Mr. DiGiorgio suggested for the district to scrutinize the number of field trips that are taking place to alleviate the nursing needs in the future.

Mr. DeWinne said he does not want to see any child penalized because they have a medical issue. He said maybe if we allow parents to attend trips it would alleviate that burden. Dr. Guccio said we do provide that opportunity if the nurse cannot attend.

Mr. Ulrich said he does not know if there will be a police officer at the varsity football camp. Mr. Medio thinks that refers to a volunteer coach who is retired. Dr. Guccio said she will look into this.

Ms. Morello asked what percentage of field trips requires a nurse and are we pro-active in inviting parents of children with medical needs prior to getting a nurse.

Ms. Rios asked if you would still need a nurse to attend a trip if you had a healthy class with no issues. Ms. Morello responded no. Ms. Rios asked if substitute nurses can pick and choose where they go. Dr. Rossi said then they will not work.

- 2.2 **First Reading of the Following Policies/Regulations – Policy 8505 /School Wellness, Policy 3322/ Staff Members Use of Electronic Device, Policy 4322/Staff Member’s use of Electronic Device –** Mr. Medio asked if the School Wellness Policy was the policy that needed a letter from the Board. Dr. Guccio said yes. Mr. Medio asked if anyone has an objection if he signs the letter.

- 2.3 **Career and Technology Education Applications/Reapplications –** Ms. Morello asked if this is Perkins. Dr. Guccio responded yes.

- 2.4 **2014-2015 School Calendar –** Mr. Medio would like to send this to the Personnel & Policy Committee for review. He said if we eliminate some of these days through the year it would shorten the school year and cut down on our energy costs. Dr. Guccio said this should have been approved by April 30<sup>th</sup> but the county was not able to hold their meeting prior to that. She said the process that was in place was followed and we meet with representatives from each union. Dr. Guccio said at that point the County Superintendent holds a meeting with all Superintendents from the County along with Mr. Bumpus. Dr. Guccio said we reviewed everyone’s calendar and the only thing that is different is professional development days.

Mr. Ulrich said he just read an editorial in regards to Veterans Day and that it would be advantageous to attend school on Veterans Day because you can have instruction about what Veterans Day is. Dr. Gruccio said that was our philosophy as well but we had several veterans who came to our Board meeting and said we should respect that day by closing schools.

Mr. DeWinne said he would like to see our school year end sooner. He asked if we can eliminate Easter break and look at President's weekend. Dr. Gruccio said there was strong feelings that spring break should remain because that is what saved us this year with the unruly winter.

Mr. DiGiorgio asked who attends the calendar meeting. Dr. Gruccio said union and parent representatives. She said after that we meet with the County Superintendent.

Mr. Ulrich thinks if the majority of parents were surveyed they would like to see a shorter spring break because it creates babysitting issues.

Ms. Rios asked if the school calendar can be revised or does it have to be the same as everyone in the county. Mr. Medio said the Board can revise it.

Mr. English asked if there are any discussions about building in snow days. Dr. Gruccio said we use to do this years ago. Mr. English said it appears that Vineland is the last school to graduate every year.

Mr. Medio said since there are a lot of questions on this he would like the Personnel & Policy Committee to discuss this at their next meeting.

Dr. Gruccio said the Policy states that this needs to be done by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Morello said we can take a vote and suspend the policy.

2.5 **Bus Evacuation Drills** – No discussion.

2.6 **Standard Operating Procedures for 2014-2015** – No discussion.

2.7 **Purchasing Manual for 2014-2015** – No discussion.

### 3. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

3.1 **Safe Routes to School Grant** – No discussion.

4. **FINANCE**

- 4.1 **Budgetary Transfers** – No discussion.
- 4.2 **Placement of Special Education Students** – No discussion.
- 4.3 **Change Order #2 Almond Road Preschool Phase 2 Interior** – No discussion.
- 4.4 **Donation of \$1,000 from Jagrutibe Padhiyar** – Ms. Morello asked if this was earmarked for anything in particular. Dr. Gruccio responded no.
- 4.5 **Resolution for Free Breakfast/Lunch for Students with Disabilities** – No discussion.
- 4.6 **Race to the Top Grant III** – No discussion.
- 4.7 **Inter-local Services Agreement for free Influenza Vaccines**- No discussion.
- 4.8 **Discussion of following Appointments:** a. Board Secretary, b. Custodian of School District Records, c. Custodian of School Monies, d. Legal Depositories, e. Helen Haley positions in absence of Herb Schectman, f. CEPA, g. Section 504 Employee Compliance Officer, h. Appointing Authority/Civil Service Hearing Officer, i. Partnership with Colleges/Universities, j. Section 504 Student Compliance Officer, k. Working Papers Issuing Officer, l. Title IX Coordinator, m. Affirmative Action Officer, n. American with Disabilities Act Coordinator, o. Right to Know Officer, p. Integrated Pest Management Coordinator, q. Indoor Air Quality Designee, r. PEOSHA Officer, s. Asbestos Management Officer, t. Chemical Hygiene Officer, u. Attorney of Record, v. Insurance Broker, w. Official Newspapers, x. Tuition Agreement for Homeless Students, y. Bargaining Units, z. Annual Travel Stipends, aa. Contracting Agents, bb. Bank Depositories, cc. Anti-Bullying Coordinator – Mr. Medio said he was asked by a Board Member if these appointments can be tabled until next month.
- 4.9 **IDEIA Grant** – No discussion.
- 4.10 **Elsinboro Township Transportation Contract** – No discussion.
- 4.11 **Salem County Vocational Technical School Contract** – No discussion.
- 4.12 **Salem County Special Services Agreement for Chapter 192-193** – Ms. Morello asked if the 2013-2014 date on this contract was a typo. Dr. Gruccio said she does not believe so. Mr. DeSanto said over the years there have been a number of contracts with Salem County Special Services District and this one involves non-public services.

**2. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR REGULAR AGENDA:**

a. **Report by the Secretary of the Board of Education** – No discussion.

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

**Review of Bills incurred March 2014** – Mr. DeWinne asked if we are caught up on the purchase orders. Mr. Schectman responded yes.

Public Comments: None.

Committee Reports: Mr. English asked if he can hold two more Ad Hoc Transportation meetings. Mr. Medio responded yes.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert G. Schectman  
Board Secretary

HGS:df

