

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Vineland High School North Auditorium, 3010 E. Chestnut Avenue, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at 7:03 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. English presiding and the following members present: Ms. Acosta, Ms. Codispoti, Mr. DeWinne, Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. Jennings, Ms. Morello, Mr. Pagano and Ms. Rios. 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.

Mr. English asked for a moment of silence in memory of Chalky Ottinger.

Flag Salute: Students from Petway Elementary School 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 pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may be a party. If contract negotiation the nature of the contract and interested party is terms of an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Vineland. 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 Ms. Morello, seconded by Mr. Jennings, the resolution was passed. All Members voted “yes”.

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Gruccio introduced Mrs. Melanie Anderson, Vineland High School Play Director, to honor the students who performed in the play *Legally Blonde*.

Ms. Anderson said for the first time Vineland High School has been nominated for a Paper Mill Playhouse Rising Star Award, which is the highest honor in New Jersey musical theatres. She said VHS was nominated for outstanding featured ensemble as well as outstanding lighting achievement. Ms. Anderson said we also received an honorable mention for choreography under the direction of Natalie Quakenbush. She said it was a very successful year and she thanked everyone for their support. Ms. Anderson announced that next year's musical will be *Mary Poppins*. She introduced each of the students and certificates were presented to them.

Dr. Gruccio introduced, Mr. John Frangipani, Assistant Superintendent, to honor our Teachers of the Year.

Mr. Frangipani said it is an honor and a privilege to announce the recipients of the Governor's Educator Awards for Vineland Public School teachers and educational service professionals. He said this year the award combines Teacher of Year and Educational Service Professional. Mr. Frangipani said our Educational Service Professionals are counselors, librarians, nurses, therapists, psychologists, social workers and a variety of professionals that work with students outside the regular classroom. He congratulated and introduced each of the award recipients.

The Board recessed to executive session at 7:25 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 8:18 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Ms. Morello, seconded by Mr. Jennings, the minutes were approved from August 13, 2014 (revised), February 11, 2015, March 4, 2015, March 11, 2015 and April 1, 2015. All Members voted "yes" except Ms. Codispoti who voted "yes" on all minutes but "abstained" on August 13, 2014, Mr. DiGiorgio who voted "yes" for all minutes except minutes that he was not present at the meeting and Ms. Rios who voted "yes" on all minutes but "abstained" on April 1, 2015.

Report of the  
Secretary/Custodian  
Of School Monies:

Upon motion by Ms. Morello, seconded by Mr. Jennings, the reports of the Secretary and Custodian of School Monies for the month March of 2015, which are in agreement were approved as submitted and on file in the Minute Book, and the Board approved its monthly certification of budgetary major account fund status and the Board Secretary's monthly certification as on file with the Secretary. All Members voted "yes."

Solicitor's Report: None.

Public Comment on  
Agenda Items: None.

Recommendations:

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

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Ms. Morello, seconded by Mr. Jennings, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$12,819,116.26).

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

Public: None.

Board Member  
Remarks:

Mr. Jennings thanked our coaches and volunteers for all that they do. He also thanked the field trip participants for holding fundraisers to help offset the costs. He mentioned a video that he saw on Facebook in regards to sidewalks and said we are doing all that we can to have the sidewalks put in. Mr. Jennings said at the next Facilities Committee meeting we are going to discuss the Long Range Facilities Plan and the update on the sidewalks will be in that plan. Mr. Jennings extended his sympathy to all of Mr. Ottinger’s friends and family. He said that he was glad to be a part of Mr. Ottinger’s dedication ceremony.

Mr. Pagano thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He also conveyed his thoughts and prayers to Mr. Ottinger’s family.

Ms. Morello congratulated the teachers of the year and the students here tonight. She urged everyone in the public to pay attention to the speed limits and watch the children. Ms. Morello said to have a safe, happy Memorial Day and remember what the day is about.

Ms. Codispoti extended her sympathies to Mr. Ottinger’s family and friends. She congratulated all the teachers on their awards. Ms. Codispoti said *Legally Blonde* and *Willy Wonka* were great shows. She said that she attended the Winslow School Safety Patrol Walk-a-thon for CHOP and thought it was a great event. She wished everyone a safe, happy Memorial Day and as Ms. Morello stated remember what Memorial Day is all about

Mr. DiGiorgio congratulated the teachers and professional staff members on their awards this evening. He said that he also attended the Petway School play *Willy Wonka Jr.* and the students did a great job.

Ms. Acosta extended her sympathies to Mr. Ottinger's family. She congratulated all the teachers and educational professionals on their awards. Ms. Acosta acknowledged all of the District's teachers and professionals for the wonderful job that they do and their dedication. She congratulated the Applied Math and Science Academy on their wonderful presentations along with the Cap n' Dagger group. Ms. Acosta said she is very happy to see the Camelot Program coming to Vineland and thinks it will make a big difference with our students.

Mr. DeWinne echoed the comments made by all his colleagues. He said Mr. Ottinger will be missed.

Dr. Guccio thanked the Petway students for the flag salute and for their production last night. She also congratulated the Vineland High School Cap n' Dagger students for the fine job they did with *Legally Blonde*. Dr. Guccio congratulated all of the Governor's Teacher recipients this evening as well as our Educational Service Professionals. She believes the district is truly blessed to have such great people educating our students. Dr. Guccio thanked all of the nurses in the district for the job that they do every day in recognition of nurses' day. Dr. Guccio said on behalf of everyone in the district she extends her deepest sympathy to Mr. Ottinger's family and asked everyone to keep them in their prayers.

Ms. Rios congratulated the educators that received certificates tonight. She thanked all the educators for everything they do for our students inside and outside of our school setting. Ms. Rios thanked all the students in the District for a job well done in representing our District. She sends her thoughts and prayers to Mr. Ottinger's family. Ms. Rios said he will be missed and we appreciate everything that he has done for the City of Vineland.

Report/Remarks by  
Board President:

Mr. English echoed his fellow Board members comments this evening. He said the Petway students did a wonderful job. Mr. English said it is great to see teachers recognized. He said the arts are truly alive in Vineland and he would put our Arts Program up against anyone on the East coast. Mr. English said there are so many good things happening in the district and believes Vineland is heading in the right direction. He urged everyone to be careful, watch the speed limits and continue to make our school district proud.

Mr. English sends his thoughts and prayers to Mr. Ottinger's family. He said the community has lost a great figure who represented many things well. Mr. English also extended his thoughts and prayers to district employees who have lost family members. He wished everyone a happy, safe Memorial Day.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Ms. Morello, seconded by Mr. Jennings, to adjourn the meeting by voice vote at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen G. Haley  
Board Secretary



