

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, July 2, 2014 at 7:24 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Medio presiding and the following members present: Mr. Baruffi, Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. Jennings and Ms. Rios. Absent: Mr. English, Mr. DeWinne, Ms. Morello and Mr. Ulrich.

Also present: Dr. Guccio, Superintendent, Mr. Frey, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Haley, Asst. 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: 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 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. The contract is Non-Union Administrative/Supervisory/Auxiliary Personnel Memorandum. Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may be a party. If pending/anticipated litigation the matter is John Sammons. 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. DiGiorgio, seconded by Mr. Baruffi, the resolution was passed. All Members voted "yes".

Special Presentations: Mr. Medio introduced Mr. Nathan Frey to present the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (HIB) Report.

Dr. Gruccio said the presentation that Mr. Frey is giving this evening is different than the actual monthly HIB Report. She said twice a year the state requires that a report is given with statistics, which is what Mr. Frey will be presenting.

Mr. Frey said tonight's presentation is part two of the Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying presentation. He said the report is from February 2014 to July 2014. Mr. Frey said there are four parts to the presentation. Mr. Frey said twice a year September to January and February to July this presentation must be given as per statute. He said the presentation must include the numbers of reported HIB instances substantiated and non-substantiated. Mr. Frey said the HIB definition is that it has to be based on a perceived or actual characteristic and has to be broken up into categories. He reviewed the substantiated and non-substantiated HIB data with the Board.

Mr. DiGiorgio asked if the time period is over the entire school year. Mr. Frey responded yes from September to July.

Mr. Jennings asked why it is that some schools have more HIB instances. Mr. Frey said when there are a lot of instances reported at certain schools he questions what type of training is going on with the students and parents.

Comments by

Board Solicitor: None.

Public Comments

On Agenda Items: None

Items for Review:

A. Superintendent

1. **PERSONNEL**

1.1 **Personnel Items** – Mr. Jennings asked how long the contracts for the administrative substitutes are for. Dr. Gruccio said our goal is to get through the summer until we have someone in that position. Mr. Jennings asked what we will do after that. Dr. Gruccio said hopefully she has someone in place by then and if we do not she will request to extend the interim contract.

1.2 **Appointments: a. Working Papers Issuing Officers, b. Title IX Coordinator, C. Affirmative Action Officers, D. Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, E. Anti-Bullying Coordinator** – No discussion.

2. **PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS**

- 2.1 **Travel – a. Field Trips, b. District Travel, c. Athletic, d. Fall Sports Summer Practice, e. Baseball Spring Training Trip 2015** – No discussion.
- 2.2 **First Reading of Policy 1581, 3125, 3240 and 4125** – No discussion.
- 2.3 **High School Partnership Program Agreement** – No discussion.
- 2.4 **HIB Report February 2014 to July 2014** – No discussion.

3. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

4. **FINANCE**

- 4.1 **Budgetary Transfers** – No discussion.
- 4.2 **NJ Department of Education Perkins Funding** – No discussion.
- 4.3 **21st Century Community Learning Center Funding** – No discussion.
- 4.4 **Acceptance of Transportation Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.5 **Acceptance of Trash Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.6 **Acceptance of Diesel Fuel Oil Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.7 **Acceptance of Concrete Services Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.8 **Acceptance of Carpet/Floor Covering Services Bid**- Mr. Medio said these are all one year contracts.
- 4.9 **Acceptance of After School Program Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.10 **Acceptance of Roofing Services Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.11 **Acceptance of Athletic Equipment Year 3 Bid** – No discussion.

- 4.12 **Acceptance of Plumbing Services Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.13 **Acceptance of Painting Services Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.14 **Acceptance of HVAC Services Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.15 **Acceptance of Electric Services Bid** – No discussion.
- 4.16 **Petty Cash Funds- a. Administration/Schools, b. Food Service** – No discussion.
- 4.17 **Appointment of Dr. Timothy Rhyme as Chief School Physician** – No discussion.
- 4.18 **Appointment of Dr. Joseph Bernardini and Dr. Brad Bernardini as Alternate School Physicians** – No discussion.
- 4.19 **National Night Out Fireworks** – No discussion.
- 4.20 **Donation from South Jersey Industries, Inc.** – No discussion.
- 4.21 **Glassboro Public Schools Joint Transportation Agreement** – No discussion.
- 4.22 **Donation of Picnic Table** - No discussion.
- 4.23 **Discovery Education Contract-** No discussion.
- 4.24 **Sodexo Management, Inc. Contract Addendum** – No discussion.
- 4.25 **NJ Youth Corps Grant** – No discussion.
- 4.26 **Appointment of Ford Scott & Associates LLC as Auditor** – No discussion.
- 4.27 **Educational Based Services Agreement** – No discussion.
- 4.28 **Acceptance of Kohl’s Department Store Funding** – No discussion.
- 4.29 **General Mills Foundation Grant** – No discussion.
- 4.30 **Tyco SimplexGrinnell Agreement for Heat Detector at D’Ippolito School** – No discussion.
- 4.31 **Tyco SimplexGrinnell Agreement for Fire Alarm at Landis School** – No discussion.

- 4.32 **Tyco SimplexGrinnell Agreement for Intercom at Johnstone School** – No discussion.
- 4.33 **Legal Fees Payment** – No discussion.
- 4.34 **Public Donor Agreement with Inspira Medical Center, Inc.** – No discussion.
- 4.35 **Inspira Medical Center, Inc. Agreement for Impact Services** – No discussion.
- 4.36 **No Child Left Behind Application** – No discussion.
- 4.37 **NetCarrier Telecom, Inc. Agreement** – Mr. DiGiorgio asked if this was something new. Dr. Guccio said this is a two year proposal for our phone lines.
- 4.38 **YMCA Corrective Action Plan** – No discussion.
- 4.39 **Dreyfuss Speech Services, Inc. Agreements** – No discussion.
- 4.40 **Fast Track Mobile, LLC Contract** – No discussion.

2. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR REGULAR AGENDA:

- a. **Report by the Secretary of the Board of Education** – No discussion.
- b. **Treasurer’s Report** – No discussion.

B. Proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members: **Discussion of Assembly Bill 3081** – Mr. DeSanto said the NJ School Boards Association has a position statement that they circulated on this Assembly Bill. He said this Assembly Bill is in committee so there is currently no sense of urgency. Mr. DeSanto said this should be put on the August work session.

Review of Bills: Mr. Baruffi asked if the doctors that are being approved can give the students their sports physicals. Dr. Guccio said she would look into it.

Public Comments: Sandy Urban, President of UAW Local #2327
Ms. Urban said the support staff contract has been reviewed, finalized and to the best of her knowledge is scheduled to be presented to the Finance Committee. She said we were anticipating tonight that there would be discussion on the agenda with respect to the UAW Contract and after reviewing the agenda it is not listed. Ms. Urban presented some background on the contract for the Board members who were not on the Board in September so everyone understands exactly why the support staff is anxious to see closure to the collective bargaining agreement.

Ms. Urban requested for the Board to move forward and approve the UAW Contract.

Valerie Francisci, District Aide

Ms. Francisci expressed her concern that aides, bus drivers, maintenance, technology, cafeteria and security workers fall into the category of being unimportant because there is still no date set to approve their contract. She asked the Board how long they plan on stalling and why. Ms. Francisci said rumors are running rampant through the district that negatively impact aides along with many others if they are true. Ms. Francisci asked Mr. Medio if one of the rumors is to privatize the aides. She said there are also rumors that he (Mr. Medio) wishes to privatize technology and transportation. Ms. Francisci said the rumors seem to address all of the departments in the UAW except for security and maintenance. She said one of the reasons rumored is that this is an attempt to find money for a new gym at the high school. Ms. Francisci asked if a gym is more important than the hundreds of employees who work with our students on a daily basis. She believes that there is some truth to what is being rumored and asked Mr. Medio to prove her wrong.

Mr. Medio asked Ms. Francisci who told her the rumor. Ms. Francisci said she has heard it from various people. Mr. Medio asked her for three names. Ms. Francisci said absolutely not.

Committee Reports: None.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Jennings asked if we could go back to looking into bring your own device. Dr. Gruccio said she would ask Mr. Frey to look into this.

New Business: Mr. Jennings said he would ask Don Robbins, Athletic Director, if item 4.11 was for the cleaning of the uniforms and if so what uniforms were being cleaned. Mr. Jennings thanked Lisa Arena for her donation.

Ms. Rios asked if Mr. Frey and Dr. Rossi have the certifications needed to be appointed in the positions that Mrs. Polof held. Dr. Gruccio responded yes and explained. Ms. Rios asked if Tyco SimplexGrinnell is the only company that can do these repairs. Dr. Gruccio said it was a bid and they were the low bidder. Ms. Rios said she requested for committee reports to be given as done in the past. She asked if the committees are meeting and if so why the reports are not given to the public. Mr. Medio said we have not had a Finance Committee meeting since April and Ms. Morello is not present to give the report on the Curriculum Committee meeting.

Mr. Medio said the Policy & Personnel Committee will be meeting the end of July. Ms. Rios said in the past when she was on committees we use to meet on a monthly basis to discuss all the issues taking place in the schools. She asked if the committee meetings are being held on a monthly basis. Mr. Medio responded no. Ms. Rios urged the committees to meet every month and expressed her concern that the reports should be read in public so the public knows what is going on.

Mr. DiGiorgio asked if we are having difficulty in finding speech pathologists. Dr. Rossi said yes it is a very competitive market. Mr. DiGiorgio asked how many speech pathologists we have in the district. Dr. Rossi said we are short five. Mr. DiGiorgio asked if this is one of the reasons we are approving a contract for Dreyfuss Speech Services. Dr. Rossi responded yes.

Comments by

Board Members: Ms. Rios thanked the UAW for coming forward.

Mr. DiGiorgio said he is married to a UAW member who is employed with the district. He applauded the UAW for their work in the district.

Board President

Comments: Mr. Medio said he would like to answer Ms. Francisci's questions.

Ms. Francisci asked Mr. Medio why he is stalling on the UAW contract. Mr. Medio said the Board has not seen the contract yet.

Ms. Francisci asked Mr. Medio if it is true that he has the intention of hiring six non-civil service employees to fill the six vacant aide positions in the district. Mr. Medio said we are looking into what our options are as far as these jobs. He said as long as he has been on the Board he has been on record saying that he would do whatever he can do to save jobs.

Ms. Francisci asked Mr. Medio if he was holding off on signing any contract to privatize and go into effect next September. Mr. Medio said we have not had any discussions with the Board on that. Ms. Francisci said this is a rumor about what your intentions are. Mr. Medio said no it is not his intention.

Ms. Francisci asked Mr. Medio if he is privatizing technology for this September. Mr. Medio said yes administration is looking into that.

Ms. Francisci told Mr. Medio that he is giving very vague answers and said the rumors are about his intentions. Mr. Medio said no they are not his intentions.

Ms. Francisci asked Mr. Medio if it were true that he is trying to find money to pay for a new gym at the high school. Mr. Medio said we are interested in the safety of the students and we have had two injuries because of cramped quarters in the wrestling room that we wanted to address. We also have the possibility of a dance program to go in place at the high school if we had an auxiliary gym. Mr. Medio said if we build an auxiliary gym the money is in the budget and has nothing to do with anyone's job. Ms. Francisci said but privatizing us certainly does.

Ms. Francisci asked Mr. Medio if it came to a vote to privatize any of us in the UAW you would vote no because that is not your intention. Mr. Medio said that is not his intention because he is looking everywhere he can before he gets to that point. He said we already voted to privatize nine bus drivers which we did not want to do but we did not feel we had much choice. Ms. Francisci told Mr. Medio that he just made her aware of something she did not realize. Mr. Medio said that was part of the discussion at Board meetings. Ms. Francisci thanked Mr. Medio and said we will remember this in November.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned to executive session by voice vote at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen G. Haley
Interim Board Secretary

