

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 18, 2012 at 5:30 p.m., pursuant to notice with Ms. Rios presiding and the following members present: Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. English, Mr. Fanucci, Mr. Medio, Mr. Mercado, Dr. Mounier and Mrs. Phillips
Absent: Mr. Ulrich.

Also present: Dr. Guccio, Superintendent, Dr. Figgs, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Ludy, Board Secretary, Mr. DeSanto, Board Solicitor, Mrs. Polof, Director of Special Education, press and public. Absent: None.

Mr. Ulrich 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 to executive session at 5:36 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 6:32 p.m.

Special

Presentations: None.

Comments by

Board Solicitor: None.

Items for Review:

A. Superintendent

1. **Personnel Items** – No discussion.
2. **Placement of Special Education Students** – Mr. Medio asked if a recommendation will be made in August to place the Success students at the Cunningham Alternative School. Dr. Guccio said there was discussion a couple months ago at the board meeting in regards to sending the students to the County Alternative Program and we have moved forward with that. Mr. Medio said we had discussion but no vote. Dr. Guccio said she did not know that we needed to have a vote. She said Mr. DeSanto is reviewing the contract and there is a meeting on Tuesday with all the people involved. Mr. DeSanto said today he received a contract from EIRC. He said when the board agreed to close the existing location we were going to negotiate a contract with EIRC to handle the twenty students. Mr. DeSanto said the thought was to have this on the agenda in August for the board’s approval.

Mr. Medio said he clearly pointed out how it would cost less to send the students to Cunningham and now we are going to discuss rejecting a contract. Dr. Gruccio said Mrs. Polof presented to the entire board how we would save \$144,000 by sending the students to this program. Mr. Medio said he remembers saying that we can save more money by putting the students at Cunningham.

3. **Budgetary Transfers-** Ms. Ludy said Mr. Musterel went home ill so she is unable to provide the board with the budgetary transfers.
4. **Travel** – No discussion.
5. **Bids** – No discussion.
6. **Submission of Grants** – No discussion.
7. **Acceptance of Funds** – No discussion.
8. **Toilet Room Facility Waivers** – No discussion.
9. **School Nutrition Program** – No discussion.
10. **Professional Development Plan** – No discussion.
11. **Perkins Spending Plan** – No discussion.
12. **City of Vineland Fireworks** – Mr. English asked if this will be held away from the track.
13. **Safe Routes to School Program-** No discussion.
14. **Biondi Insurance Computer Policy/Terrorism Coverage** – There was no discussion on the Computer Policy but Dr. Gruccio tabled the terrorism coverage until more information is available.
15. **Temporary Facilities 2012-2013** – No discussion.
16. **Karla Holt Food Service Proposal** – No discussion.
17. **NJISAA Membership** – No discussion.
18. **Surplus Success Warehouse Materials** – Mr. English asked if we are throwing these items away in a dumpster. Ms. Ludy said the items will be listed on GovDeals for sale. Mr. English asked if Mr. Weaver could check to make sure that everything in the warehouse is on this list.

Mr. Medio expressed his concern in regards to giving Mr. Weaver more work to do in the summer. Dr. Guccio said she can check with Mr. Zorzi tomorrow. Dr. Mounier said he does not see a reason to question the accuracy of the list.

19. **Cumberland County College Nursing Program Contract** – No discussion.
20. **Approval of Contract for Donna Myers, Asst. Supt. for Administration** – No discussion.
21. **First Reading of Policy/Regulation #5530 – Substance Abuse** – Dr. Mounier asked why these policies/regulations have to be voted on if they are mandated. Mr. DeSanto said because the statutes and codes that require them say that the board must adopt policies.
22. **Transfers of Principals/Asst. Principals Option A** – No discussion.
23. **Transfers of Principals/Asst. Principals Option B** – No discussion.

B. Board

1. None.

Review of Bills: Dr. Mounier asked for an explanation on the money spent on pizza and flowers. Dr. Guccio said she is assuming it is for graduation and the assemblies that were held at the high school the end of the school year. Ms. Ludy said she will look into this. Dr. Mounier asked why we spend \$69,125 on Rethink Autism. Mrs. Polof explained that Rethink Autism is a new program that we adopted in our department for our teachers of autism, parents and assistants to receive on-going training on how to deal with specific behaviors, which was a grant funded project. Dr. Mounier asked how many staff members will utilize this program. Mrs. Polof said all of our autistic teachers, assistants and parents that we provide services to. Dr. Mounier asked if this will be an on-going expense. Mrs. Polof responded no. Dr. Mounier asked if the grant funded costs could be marked. Ms. Ludy said when we are with Systems 3000 you will definitely be able to see that.

Public Comments: None.

Committee Reports: None.

Unfinished Business: Mr. English for an update on the scheduling at the high school.

Mr. Olsen said there are teams at both buildings working very hard. He said there is going to be an increase of students moving between campuses due to the cuts that took place this year. Mr. Olsen said the information has been put into a spreadsheet and sent to Genesis. He said we are on pace to make sure that all of the students are scheduled and we look forward to producing the schedule cards early.

Mr. Panas said the south schedule is complete. He said we are going to stand behind the promise that Dr. McCann made a couple months ago to minimize movement of south students moving to the North building. Mr. Panas said the only thing that has affected us at Vineland High School South is the staff cuts. He guaranteed that we will minimize the movement and the only students that will travel to Vineland High School North are those students taking a class that is only offered in the North building. He said he has Mr. Bernhardt, Mrs. Bergamo and Ms. Paterno working with them on scheduling and he appreciates the support. Mr. Panas assured the board that there will not be a repeat of what happened last year. Dr. Gruccio asked Mr. Panas if Ms. Paterno was working with him on the scheduling. Mr. Panas said she was board approved at the last board meeting. Dr. Gruccio said she was approved for math scheduling not student scheduling. Mr. Panas said we will have to make that adjustment because he thought she was approved for summer scheduling. Dr. Gruccio told Mr. Panas that he was directed not to utilize a teacher for that. Mr. Panas said there will be substantially less movement between buildings this year because we restructured the handbook. He said all students will be required to ride the bus between buildings. Dr. McCann said he had to cut over million dollars from his budget and the electives are what we have to look at. He said that is why the scheduling teams are working on spreading students out across the day to minimize the students going back and forth on the buses each period. Mr. Panas said the only students that are moving are those students who are going to a specialized class only offered in the respective buildings. Dr. Mounier asked if our inability to satisfy the demand for electives has to do with personnel and not with space. Dr. McCann said we have a lot of teachers who were rified that are qualified to teach. Dr. Mounier asked if we have a surplus elsewhere in the district of anyone who is qualified. Mr. Olsen said he cannot speak for the elementary schools but they do not have any extra teachers.

New Business: Mr. Mercado asked if the board can formulate a policy mandating the vending companies to provide healthy snacks. Ms. Rios said this can be discussed at the Policy & Personnel Committee meeting. Mr. Mercado asked if a board retreat can be scheduled. Dr. Guccio said she is in the process of working on this. Mr. Mercado asked if we received any complaints or concerns on the summer school program. Dr. Guccio said she received one complaint in regards to the library, which she will discuss with the board in executive session. Mr. Mercado asked if we can advertise during the board meetings on *Channel 9*.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cherie Ludy
Board Secretary

CL:df

