

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, November 18, 2015 at 7:02 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, and Mr. Pagano. Absent: Ms. Rios.

Also present: Dr. Guccio, 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: Students from Barse Elementary School led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution: None.

Special Presentation (s): Dr. Guccio introduced Mr. Steven Hubbard, Vineland High School Coach, to honor the Boys’ Cross Country Team’s achievements.

Mr. Hubbard said it has been an honor this year to coach the Boys’ Cross Country Team. He said this year five students placed at the county meet in the first five places, which was a big achievement and a 50 year accomplishment. Mr. Hubbard introduced each of the team members who were present.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Ms. Morello, seconded by Ms. Codispoti, the minutes were approved from September 9, 2015, October 7, 2015 and October 14, 2015. All Members voted “yes” except Ms. Morello who voted “yes” for all minutes but “abstained” on October 14, 2015.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. DeSanto said the Board has had an ongoing discussion regarding the roles of committees. He was asked by Mr. English to make a comment with respect to minutes of committee meetings. Mr. DeSanto said in the revised bylaws minutes of committee meetings should be forwarded by the committee chair to the Board within 15 days of the meeting. Mr. DeSanto said there was never any provision in the bylaws regarding the timeliness of minutes. He said the Board will likely vote to approve the bylaw and therefore that is the required timeline. Mr. DeSanto said also in the bylaws committee reports should be provided at the work session. He said the reports and minutes are not one in the same. Mr. DeSanto said under the Sunshine Law minutes do not have to be detailed and are summaries of the topics discussed. He said the minutes have to be reasonably comprehensible. Mr. DeSanto said once the minutes are circulated they become public record and the public may request copies.

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 Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Codispoti, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$22,636,141.32).

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

Public: Ron Walker
Mr. Walker thanked the Board and Administration for attending the National Honor Society Induction last night.

Vicky Miller
Ms. Miller said a new business called Corning has come into Vineland and we should welcome them into the community.

Board Member
Remarks: Mr. DiGiorgio extended his condolences to the Karwowski family on the loss of their loved one.

Ms. Acosta congratulated the boys track team.

Mr. DeWinne congratulated all the newly elected Board members and looks forward to working with them. He said it is great to see the students who ran for school Board in the audience and still interested in the process. Mr. DeWinne said Vineland is a great place to learn and there has been a lot of success stories out of Vineland. He congratulated everyone who was inducted into the National Honor Society.

Mr. Jennings congratulated everyone who was elected to the Board. He said that he appreciated all the support that he received. Mr. Jennings said that he attended the Governance III training on October 29th and one of the speakers spoke about teaching the children the way they learn not force them to learn the way we teach. He said maybe there are things we can do to make it more interesting for children to want to learn. Mr. Jennings thanked everyone for putting him back in the Board seat.

Ms. Morello said as thanksgiving approaches she wanted to remind everyone to be mindful of everything they have in their life and be thankful that we live in a country where we are free. She said we have young men who have stepped forward and want to be involved in the local political scene. Ms. Morello welcomed Mr. Bordley and Mr. Sbrana and wished them success. She wished everyone a happy thanksgiving.

Ms. Codispoti thanked the Barse School Safety Patrol for the flag salute. She congratulated the boys cross country team and the students who were inducted into the honor society. Ms. Codispoti wished everyone a safe, happy thanksgiving.

Dr. Guccio extended deepest sympathy on behalf of the district to Louise Karwowski and her family on the loss of their mother. She thanked the Barse students for the flag salute. Dr. Guccio congratulated the boys cross country team. She said that today she attended a beautiful ceremony at Veterans Memorial School honoring our veterans. Dr. Guccio congratulated all the students who were inducted into the honor society. She reminded everyone that the Strategic Planning update meeting will be held tomorrow and they will be discussing what was accomplished during the first year of the strategic plan and the year two goals. Dr. Guccio wished everyone a very blessed thanksgiving.

Report/Remarks by
Board President:

Mr. English extended his condolences to Dr. Karwowski and her family on the loss of their mother. He said that he attended the safety patrol breakfast and there was outstanding community support. Mr. English said report cards are on their way out and he hopes the students all did well. He congratulated our athletic and extracurricular programs. Mr. English said the marching band is one of our many arts programs that continues to excel. He wished the best of luck to the Vineland High School Academic Team and Football Team. Mr. English said he attended the Veterans Memorial School ceremony today and Mr. Joe Morello does an outstanding job. He said last night he attended the honor society induction and it is incredible to see the number of students who were being inducted. Mr. English thanked his fellow Board members for the time and effort they put in away from their families. He said we need to continue to communicate, collaborate and be transparent.

Mr. English said he looked back at last year's meeting minutes and said we have come a long way in a short time. He wished everyone a happy thanksgiving.

Adjournment: The Board adjourned the meeting by voice vote at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen G. Haley
Board Secretary

