

The combined meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Landis Administration Building, 61 W. Landis Avenue, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at 5:34 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. English presiding and the following members present: Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Medio, Mr. Sbrana and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: Ms. Acosta and Ms. Spinelli who arrived at 5:36 p.m.

Also present: Dr. Gruccio, Superintendent, Mr. Frangipani and Mr. Frey, Assistant Superintendents, Mr. Musterel, Interim 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, SNJ Today, the Press of Atlantic City, Nuestra Comunidad, Visto Bueno, the Clerk - City of Vineland, and Administrative Office Public Bulletin Board.

Flag Salute:

Resolution: Mr. English 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 the leasing of the Max Leuchter School property. 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 the discussion is Business Administrator Position. Any matter 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.

Ms. Spinelli arrived at 5:36 p.m.

Motion: Upon motion by Mr. Fiocchi, seconded by Mr. Jennings, the resolution was passed. All Members voted "yes."

The Board recessed to executive session at 5:39 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:07 p.m.

Flag Salute: Students from Winslow Elementary School led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Gruccio said at this time will we have a presentation on Insight.

The District Manager and Vice President of Insight gave a short presentation on the program in Vineland in which they partner with the school district to provide substitute staffing services and permanent paraprofessional staffing services.

Dr. Gruccio said January is School Board Recognition month and the nine people sitting up here all have to run for the seat that pays nothing and takes a lot of their time. She said sometimes we disagree but she respects each of them for the time that they give to the children and staff of Vineland. Dr. Gruccio thanked the Board for what they do and told them they are appreciated. She presented each Board member with a certificate.

HIB: No discussion.

Approval of

Minutes: Upon motion by Ms. Spinelli, seconded by Mr. Jennings, the minutes were approved from December 5, 2018 Combined Meeting, December 5, 2018 Executive Session and January 2, 2019 Reorganization Meeting. All Members voted "yes" except Mr. English who "abstained."

Solicitor's

Report: None.

Recommendations:

A C O S T A	E N G L I S H	F I O C H I	H O L M E S	J E N N I N G S	M E D I O	S B R A N A	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

PERSONNEL (1.1-1.4)

- 1.1 The Board approve the personnel items in accordance with the lists provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.
- a. Retirements, Resignations, Terminations, Leaves of Absence, Employment, Transfers
 - b. Students
 - c. Substitutes
 - d. Extracurricular Activities
 - e. Volunteers

Dr. Gruccio welcomed and congratulated Mr. Mercoli to the school district.

Mr. Mercoli said that he appreciates the vote of confidence and looks forward to coming on Board. He said that he is a Vineland guy with 20 years of experience as a Business Administrator and is looking forward to building budgets, which is what he does best.

- 1.2 The Board approve the salary increment withholding, effective September 1, 2018, for a Petway School staff member whose name is on file with the Board Secretary.

- 1.3 The Board approve a resolution appointing Scott A. Musterel as the Interim Qualified Purchasing Agent, establishing the bid threshold of \$40,000.

All Members
voted "yes."
(8-0-0)

All Members
voted "yes."
(8-0-0)

All Members
voted "yes."
(8-0-0)

A C C O U N T S	E N G L I S H	F I O C C H I	H O L M E S	J E N N I N G S	M E D I O	S B R A N A	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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1.4 The Board approve a temporary employment contract with Assistant Business Administrator, Scott Musterel not to exceed \$114 per day to serve as Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, retroactive to January 2, 2019 to April 30, 2019.

Dr. Rossi wanted to clarify that this is a bi-weekly amount of \$114 per day.

All Members voted "yes."
(8-0-0)

PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS (2.1)

2.1 The Board approve field trips and VHS Softball Training 2019.

All Members voted "yes." except Mr. Medio who was not present for the vote.
(7-0-0)

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (3.1)

3.1 The Board approve a resolution authorizing a lease of district owned property known as 519 N. West Avenue, Vineland, N.J. to Golden Gate, Inc., a non-profit corporation.

Item 3.1 was pulled from agenda by Superintendent.

FINANCE (4.1-4.11)

4.1 The Board approve budgetary transfers for General, School-Based and ECPA for November 2018.

All Members voted "yes."
(8-0-0)

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – January 9, 2019

A C O S T A	E N G L I S H	F I O C C H I	H O L M E S	J E N N I N G S	M E D I O	S B R A N A	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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		2	1					

4.2 The Board approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for November 2018.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (8-0-0)

4.3 The Board approve the placement of Special Education students.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (8-0-0)

4.4 The Board approve the submission of the following grant applications:

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (8-0-0)

- a. Artists in Education Residency Grant for Rossi Elementary School in the approximate amount of \$10,000.
- b. 2018 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant for D'Ippolito Elementary School and Vineland High School in the amount of \$27,086.38.

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – January 9, 2019

A C O S T A	E N G L I S H	F I O C H I	H O L M E S	J E N N I N G S	M E D I O	S B R A N A	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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4.5 The Board approve acceptance of funds for the following grants:

- a. Target Field Trip Grant for Durand Elementary School in the amount of \$700.
- b. Members 1st of NJFCU 2018 Mini Grant for Mennies Elementary School in the amount of \$100.
- c. Dick’s Sporting Goods Matter Grant for Sabater Elementary School in the amount of \$1,000.

All Members voted “yes.”
 (8-0-0)

4.6 The Board approve Change Order #1 from Union Roofing Contractors for the VHS South 2018 Roof Replacement for a credit of unused contingency allowance in the amount of \$5,000.

All Members voted “yes.”
 (8-0-0)

4.7 The Board approve Change Order #1 from Capri Construction for the Dallago/Petway/Wallace Secure Entrances for a credit of unused contingency allowance in the amount of \$5,000.

All Members voted “yes.”
 (8-0-0)

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4.8 The Board approve the renewal of a Services Agreement with Inspira Medical Center, Inc. for IMPACT Healthcare Services for the period of January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 in a form acceptable by the Board Solicitor and Superintendent.

Ms. Spinelli asked why Inspira does not pay rent for this space. Dr. Gruccio said it is an in-kind contribution on our part. She said it is a partial grant and in-kind money from us and Inspira. Dr. Gruccio said it is not completely free and there is a cost to the district.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (8-0-0)

4.9 The Board approve the 2018-2019 Joint Transportation Agreement between the Vineland Public Schools and Millville Public Schools for two students in the amount of \$30,600.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (8-0-0)

4.10 The Board approve the 2018-2019 Joint Transportation Agreement between the Vineland Public Schools and Greater Egg Harbor Regional for one student in the amount of \$28,750.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (8-0-0)

Vineland Board of Education
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- 4.11 The Board approve the following Cumberland County Regional Cooperative Transportation initiatives:
- a. 2018-2019 Transportation Quoted Contracts
 - b. 2018-2019 Transportation Addendum
 - c. 2018-2019 Bid #6 Student Transportation Services Record & Award.

All Members
voted "yes."
(8-0-0)

Approval of

Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Jennings, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted "yes."
(\$8,432,503.92)

Committee

Reports: None.

Items(s) proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board members:

Mr. Sbrana requested discussion regarding Board Meetings. He said that he wanted to discuss the time change from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and a change from a two meeting format to one meeting. Mr. Sbrana said he did some research and conducted a survey and it appears that there is no concern among the public. He said we broadcast our meetings live and people are welcome to come and speak to state their case on a particular issue. Mr. Sbrana said the change does not seem to have done any harm and his colleagues want to continue it. He said the two meeting a month format may require a little more conversation because there are some months there may be questions that cannot be answered on the fly.

Mr. Ulrich said his only concern with having a combined meeting is if a Board member objects and needs more information then the item should be pulled until the following month. He said sometimes we are forced to make decisions and there is no time to process or debate because we are required to vote.

Mr. Sbrana asked if it stipulated in bylaws or policy anywhere about meeting times and duration. Mr. Frangipani said the only thing it says is that at the January organization meeting we can set the calendar at that time. He said Bylaw 0161 states that "public sessions need to be once every two months when the schools are in session". Mr. Sbrana said historically in the past there were some months where we did not have a meeting.

Ms. Spinelli feels that keeping it to one meeting is best for some of the Board members because every week there is something after hours going on in the schools to attend.

Mr. English said he is a communicator and loves public input. He said if a Board member has an issue then we should respect that. Mr. English said he is not a fan of combined meetings but the majority seems to rule on it.

Mr. DeSanto said he thinks this issue should go before the Policy & Personnel Committee. He said our bylaws do not provide the format for the combined meetings. Mr. DeSanto said we merged the outlines for both the work session and regular meeting so that everything is addressed at a combined meeting. He said Policy & Personnel can consider an amendment to the bylaws to provide the format.

Dr. Gruccio said Mr. Frangipani already has this on the agenda.

Mr. Medio said in the past if you had any questions about the agenda you received on Friday you would call the Superintendent. He said if you had a real concern you would have a conversation with the Board President and Superintendent. Mr. Medio said presently you can send out an email in regards to your concern. He does not see a problem with staying with this format.

Mr. English said if there is something that is detailed to please reach out to him. He said he does not have a problem with someone calling the Superintendent directly but would like to be made aware that you are addressing something.

Mr. Jennings said he remembers on his first term that he use to receive a large packet of paper then after that there was a disk. He said now it is really streamlined.

Mr. English said he along with Mr. Medio are requesting discussion regarding the renaming of the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School.

Mr. Medio said he recommended to volunteer to chair a committee to put together the ceremony for the dedication of the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School. He said this would go in line with our strategic plan which involves bringing in more community input and action in regards to school district activities. Mr. Medio said he has people who are willing to work on the committee. He said the date is currently Saturday, April 6th at 11:00 a.m. for the dedication.

Dr. Gruccio wanted to politely say that she does not believe that this is something the Board should be involved in. She would be more than willing to take any suggestions from Board members or the public. Dr. Gruccio said this is a role that central administration has taken on for every other school that has been dedicated. She said we are working with the family and it will be a nice ceremony that will involve input from other people. Dr. Gruccio said she welcomes input from anyone who would like to share it.

Mr. English asked Mr. Medio if he was thinking about having an Ad Hoc Committee for this. Mr. Medio said we can work out what you want to do. He said if this passes and there are Board members who want to be on the committee that will work. Mr. Medio said there are members of the public who want to be involved. He will find it very disappointing if we turn away public participation. Mr. English said this will be something in conjunction with Dr. Gruccio. Mr. Medio said of course Dr. Gruccio will be involved.

Mr. Ulrich said we only get certain opportunities over the course of our lives to do something that is right and really garner heavy public support. He said this involves a military hero and it is only the upside to involve the community to have a collaboration between our district, community and Board. Mr. Ulrich strongly suggests that we stop calling the school Lincoln Avenue Middle School because we changed that name a while ago. He would like to see the promotion of the name to start now. Mr. Ulrich said that he will support Mr. Medio on this issue and vote in the affirmative.

A recommendation was made by Mr. English to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to coordinate the dedication ceremony for the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School with membership to be appointed by the Board President with recommendations and volunteers from the public.

At this time Mr. Jennings requested a 5 minute recess.

The Board took a 5 minute recess at 7:03 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:07 p.m.

Motion: A motion was made by Ms. Spinelli, seconded by Mr. Holmes, to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee to coordinate the dedication ceremony for the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School with membership to be appointed by the Board President with recommendations and volunteers from the public. All Members voted "yes." The motion passed.

A recommendation was made by Mr. English to authorize and direct the immediate implementation of the naming of the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School.

Dr. Gruccio said typically we do a ceremonial unveiling and at that time is when we officially change the name. She said she was never directed to notify the principal to change the name because that is not how we did it in the past.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Spinelli, to authorize and direct the immediate implementation of the naming of the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School. All Members voted "yes" except Mr. Jennings who voted "no." The motion passed.

Emergent Items: None.

Public Comments

Agenda Items: Harry Meyers
Mr. Myers expressed his concern in regards to his daughter not receiving the special modifications that are in her IEP for her daily instruction.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Board Member

Remarks: Mr. Medio thanked his fellow Board members and said he will get started on the committee immediately.

Ms. Spinelli wished all the Mr. Vineland contestants good luck. She urged everyone to come out and said it is a very entertaining event.

Mr. Ulrich congratulated Mr. Mercoli on his new position as Business Administrator. He said we present a challenge and it will be a big cliff that he will be climbing. Mr. Ulrich said he looks forward to working with him. He thanked Dr. Gruccio for transitioning into the new Board and for taking his calls.

Dr. Gruccio thanked Phase III Trucking for making a \$1,000 donation to the D'Ippolito Crisis Team.

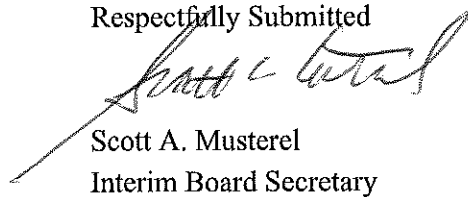
Board Pres.

Remarks:

Mr. English welcomed Mr. Mercoli to Vineland. He said that he is looking forward to working with him and hopes he will bring a new culture to the way we spend money here in Vineland. Mr. English said it has been a trying week for him in getting to know his fellow Board members. He thanked everyone who answered his questions and concerns.

The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Scott A. Musterel
Interim Board Secretary

SAM:dt