

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, March 6, 2019, at 6:07 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. English presiding and the following members present: Ms. Acosta, Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Medio, Mr. Sbrana, Ms. Spinelli and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: None.

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: Students from Barse Elementary School led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution: None.

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Gruccio introduced Ms. Marie Donato and Ms. Badillo Gualdron, Vineland High School Science Teachers, to honor the Cumberland County College Science Fair winners.

Ms. Donato said the students participated in the Cumberland County College Science Research Competition last week. She said that everyone placed and most are going on to the Delaware Valley Science Fair in April. Ms. Gualdron and Ms. Donato introduced the Science Fair winners.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Mr. Keith Salerno, Executive Director of Purchasing, to do a presentation on shared services.

Mr. Salerno presented an overview on shared services and why they are good for the district.

Mr. Ulrich asked about the recent fuel shared service. Mr. Salerno said it was discussed and on January 31st we entered into a shared service agreement with the City of Vineland to use their facility. Mr. Salerno said it is a break even cost. Mr. Ulrich said it is important to know that shared services in some cases may work. He asked Mr. Salerno if he reviewed the transportation shared service agreement and does an analysis need to be completed. Mr. Salerno said yes he did review the contract and when we started with this we proposed six scenarios. He thought this scenario would make the best use of existing staff. Mr. Salerno said at the time we had the extra staff but unfortunately they resigned since then and we are asking for those budgeted positions to be filled. Mr. Ulrich asked if we have been successful in the past staffing a second shift within the district. Mr. Salerno asked Mr. Hall to answer the question. Mr. Hall, Assistant Transportation Coordinator, said something was set up around the middle of 2001 where we were doing a second shift and we had a problem with supervision. Mr. Ulrich asked how are we going to ensure the two employees we send over for shared service will be supervised properly. Mr. Salerno said we are very confident with the system we have chosen and think that will give us the snapshot to take a look at what they are doing every night.

Mr. English asked if we do not entertain a shared service will the dossier system still be put in place. Mr. Salerno said absolutely we are going to start training next week.

Ms. Spinelli asked what the total cost savings is. Mr. Salerno said we were projecting that the current over time would be cut in half, which would be \$27,500 and then there is potential for preventative maintenance costs of \$130,000.

Mr. Medio asked how many buses did we have 5 years ago. Mr. Hall said around 180. Mr. Medio asked how many do we have today. Mr. Hall said 168. Mr. Medio asked if we will have less buses in years to come. Mr. Hall said yes that is part of the plan. Mr. Salerno said we will still have a large fleet to service. Mr. Medio said that is what we have now but there is a projected 14 million dollar deficit and we have never been shown where we are getting profitable runs taking students from town to town.

Mr. English said the transportation committee met last month and we are committed to meeting in a monthly fashion moving forward because we found some interesting information. He said the two people running that department shared some interesting facts. Mr. English said after we have the next meeting we will be able to enlighten the Board on routes that have been privatized. He said Mr. Mercoli is here on the 15th and he is a very hands on man. Mr. English said he has heard nothing but great things about him and he has transportation knowledge.

Dr. Gruccio thanked Mr. Salerno for all the work that he put into the presentation. She thinks it will benefit our district financially and hopes the Board will support Mr. Salerno's efforts.

Mr. English also thanked Mr. Salerno. He said Mr. Salerno is doing a lot of great things with shared services. Mr. English asked if we were finding products at a better price. Mr. Salerno responded yes.

Mr. Jennings said it sounds to him that this is a good program. He said preventive maintenance is a high priority in the transportation industry.

Dr. Gruccio said she also looks forward to Mr. Mercoli coming on board and is glad he has the transportation background. She emphasized that it will take some time but she thinks this is a great opportunity for us to try this shared service to see if it works for the district.

Mr. English asked if we were keeping the mechanics and not losing all of them. Mr. Hall said every school bus needs to be inspected twice a year, looked at every 90 days and repaired. He said we are short mechanics and these positions are necessary.

Mr. Ulrich said to assume that this will solve our preventative maintenance problems is not true because we have been doing maintenance on our buses. Dr. Gruccio said she thinks it is just a matter of efficiency.

Mr. Fiocchi asked how many mechanics do we currently have and is there any safety concerns with being understaffed. Mr. Hall said we currently have 5 mechanics and two open positions. He said there is no safety concerns pending at the moment.

Mr. Medio said if the work is not getting done it can also be sent out in the community to mechanics. Mr. Salerno said we investigated that possibility and did a complete analysis of our current employees. He said the benefit package with overtime and all their labor rates came out significantly lower. Mr. Salerno said sending the work out will cost us money.

HIB: No discussion.

Approval of

Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Fiocchi, the minutes were approved from February 6, 2019. All Members voted "yes."

Solicitor's

Report:

Mr. DeSanto said as a result of recent events three resolutions were added to tonight's agenda. He said that he can answer any questions as each motion is being considered.

Public Comments

On Agenda Items: None.

Recommendations:

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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RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

PERSONNEL (1.1-1.2)

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

A motion was made by Mr. Sbrana, seconded by Mr. Holmes, to “table” the hiring of the garage mechanics and the Supervisor until our new Business Administrator is here officially and can review this.

1.2 The Board approve a salary increment withholding effective September 1, 2019 for a Speech Correction/Language Specialist whose name is on file with the Board Secretary.

Mr. English asked for a clarification on this item. Dr. Rossi said it is a disciplinary matter.

PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS (2.1-2.4)

2.1 The Board approve trips and district travel.

All Members voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

All Members voted “yes” except for Ms. Acosta, Mr. Fiocchi and Mr. Jennings who voted “no.” (6-3-0)

All Members voted “yes” except Mr. Sbrana who “abstained.” (8-0-1)

All Members voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

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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2.2 The Board approve the first reading of the following Bylaws, Policies and Regulations:

Mandated Changes

- Policy 2422** Health & Physical Education (Revised)
- Policy 2610** Educational Program Evaluation (Revised)
- Policy 4219** Commercial Driver’s License controlled Substance and Alcohol Use Testing (Revised)
- Policy 5111** Eligibility of Resident/Non-Resident Students (Revised)
- Policy 5330.04** Administering an Opioid Antidote (Revised)
- Policy 5756** Transgender Students (Revised)
- Policy 7440** School District Security (Revised)
- Policy 8561** Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs. *These Policies replace the “Electronic Violence and Vandalism Reporting System (EVVRS)” with “Student Safety Data System (SSDS)”*
- Policy 2415.06** Unsafe School Choice Option (Revised)
- Regulation 2460.8** Special Education-Free and Appropriate Public Education (Revised)
- Regulation 5530** Substance Abuse (Revised)
- Policy 5600** Student Discipline/Code of Conduct (Revised)
- Policy 5611** Removal of Students for Firearms Offenses (Revised)
- Policy 5612** Assaults on District Board of Education Members or Employees (Revised)
- Policy 5613** Removal of Students for Assaults with Weapons Offenses (Revised)
- Policy 8461** Reporting Violence, Vandalism, Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Alcohol, and Other Drug Offenses.
- Bylaw 0155** Board Committees (Revised)
- Bylaw 0156** Interview Committee (New)
- Bylaw 0164** Conduct of Board Meetings (Revised)

All Members voted “yes.”
 (9-0-0)

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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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2.3 The Board approve the Uniform Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials with an addendum, adopted pursuant to NJSA 18A:41.0, regulating access to live stream video in a form acceptable to the Superintendent and Board Solicitor.

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

2.4 The Board approve the 2019-2020 school calendar for pupil attendance as provided and on file with the Board Secretary.

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (3.1-3.4)

3.1 The Board approve a resolution authorizing a storm drainage easement between two district properties.

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

3.2 The Board approve a resolution authorizing solicitation of sealed bids for the purchase of the 17 W. Landis Avenue property not needed for school purposes at a minimum of \$650,000.

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

3.3 The Board approve a resolution accepting the bid of Golden Gate Inc. for the purchase of district property located at 519 North West Avenue, Vineland, NJ in the amount of \$551,000.

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

3.4 The Board approve a resolution authorizing solicitation of sealed bids for the purchase of the Oak and Main School property not needed for school purposes at a minimum bid of \$550,000.

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

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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FINANCE (4.1-4.14)

4.1 The Board approve budgetary transfers for General, School-Based and ECPA for January 2019.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.2 The Board approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for January 2019.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.3 The Board approve the placement of Special Education students.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.4 The Board approve submission of the following grant applications:
 a. Kohls Volunteer Grant for Mennies Elementary School in the approximate amount of \$500.
 b. Kohls Volunteer Grant for Mennies Elementary School in the approximate amount of \$1,000

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

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4.5 The Board approve the acceptance of the following funding:
 a. 2018 National School Lunch Program Equipment Assistance Grant.
 D'Ippolito Elementary School -----\$13,389.82
 Vineland High School South----- \$ 5,366.95
 In the total amount of -----\$18,756.77

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.6 The Board approve a resolution appointing the following changes to the Bank Depositories for business checking, savings and investments:
 Athletic Department Petty Cash Fund, Athletic Fund, Budgetary, Payroll Agency, Food Service, Payroll (net), Unemployment Trust fund, Flex Spending and Capital Reserve.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.7 The Board approve the 2017-2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditor's Management Report by Ford Scott & Associates, LLC.

- Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)
- Auditor Synopsis
- Auditor's Management Report 2017-2018

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.8 The Board approve the Board Secretary to implement each of the following recommendations from the 2017-2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditor's Management Report in accordance with the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) and Auditor's Management Report in accordance with the Corrective Action Plan (CAP), which is provided and on file with the Board Secretary.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

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4.9 The Board approve the following change of signers for the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School student activity fund:

- a. Tammy Monahan
- b. Ismael Bermudez
- c. Kelly Williams
- d. Gene Mercoli

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.10 The Board approve the following donation:

- a. Bus #9 International 2005 4DRBUAAP05B979153 to Vineland Emergency Management (EMS) for \$1.00. This is in accordance with Policy #7300 "Disposition of Property."

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.11 The Board approve a Shared Service Agreement with the City of Vineland Board of Education for motor vehicle maintenance facilities in a form acceptable by the Board Solicitor and Superintendent of Schools.

This item was pulled from the agenda by the Superintendent.

4.12 The Board approve the renewal of a Services Agreement with Inspira Medical Center, for IMPACT healthcare services for the period of January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2019 in a form acceptable to the Board Solicitor and Superintendent of Schools.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

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4.13 The Board approve the award of the following contract:
 HVAC Services (PS Bid #01-19/20) for the term of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 with an option to renew two one-year terms or one two-year term for a maximum of a three year term.
 HVAC Services
 Contractor: McCloskey Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
 445 Lower Landing Road
 Blackwood, NJ 08012
 Contract award amount is \$73 per hour (Journeyman), \$35 per hour (Apprentice) with an 11% mark-up on materials.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

4.14 The Board approve a Joint Transportation Agreement between Vineland Public Schools and Deerfield Township Public Schools for one student in the amount of \$940 for 94 days at \$10 per day from January 24, 2019 through June 30, 2019.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

Mr. Medio asked for an explanation on this and questioned the cost. Dr. Gruccio said this is for transportation of one student. Mr. Medio asked if we are paying the parents of this student the \$940. Mr. Hall said the student is residing in Vineland and riding our bus with our students and the amount is divided up by the total number of students on the bus. Mr. Musterel said we are increasing the existing run by \$940. Mr. Medio asked if everyone else is paying \$10 a day on that run. Mr. Hall responded yes. Mr. Ulrich asked Mr. Hall to explain exactly what is occurring. Mr. Hall said it is a jointure with Deerfield and the student is residing in Vineland and is either homeless or in the DCP Program riding our bus to school. Mr. Jennings ask where this amount comes from. Mr. Hall said there are rules as to what you can charge for a jointure.

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- 4.15 The Board approve the following Cumberland County Regional Cooperative Transportation initiatives:
- a. 2018-2019 Jointure
 - b. 2018-2019 Transportation Quoted Contracts
 - c. 2018-2019 Transportation Addendum
 - d. 2018-2019 Bid #8 Student Transportation Services
 Record & award

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

Proposed item(s) for review or discussion or adoption by Board members:

Mr. English recommended approval of an Army Static Display for a Black Hawk Helicopter on April 6, 2019 at the dedication of the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School.

Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Fiocchi, to approve an Army Static Display for a Black Hawk Helicopter on April 6, 2019 at the dedication of the Sgt. Dominick Pilla Middle School. All Members voted "yes."

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Holmes, the January 2019 bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted "yes." (\$8,020,384.14)

Mr. English said it is good to see our local vendors on the list.

Committee

Reports: Mr. Ulrich said discussed at tonight's Policy & Personnel Committee meeting was the shared service agreement and mechanic vacancies, accountability online system in the transportation garage, employee stipends and job postings that are currently budgeted. Mr. Ulrich said also discussed were Bylaws 0155, 0156, 0164.

Mr. Holmes said discussed at the February 12, 2019 Transportation Committee meeting was the future of the transportation department, bus driver status, courtesy busing, transportation of students that do not attend Vineland Public Schools and shared service agreement.

Emergent Items: None.

Public

Comments: Kimberly DeNovelis
Ms. DeNovelis spoke about the wonderful teachers both of her children have in Vineland Public Schools.

Tara Myerson

Ms. Myerson spoke in support of Vineland Public School cafeteria workers and playground aides. She said they are invaluable individuals and hopes that the Board sees that and votes against any privatization or reduction in force of these important people for the safety of our students.

Cindy Weber

Ms. Weber spoke about the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) that she heads up. She said it is a parent driven group that discusses concerns related to the special education program and students. Ms. Weber also discussed the loss of three special education child study team staff members and what that means for Vineland students.

Layla, Student

Layla read a letter she wrote in regards to being harassed and intimidated by another student at D'Ippolito Elementary School.

Eileen Ramos

Ms. Ramos expressed her concern in regards to her daughter, Layla, being harassed and intimidated at school.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Board Member

Remarks: Ms. Acosta thanked everyone who came out tonight along with the young lady who had the courage to come up here and speak.

Mr. Medio asked when the next Board meeting is. Mr. English said we have a budget meeting scheduled on March 13th with a 5:30 start time for executive session.

Mr. Sbrana thanked the Barse School Flag salute students. He congratulated the Science Fair winners.

Mr. Ulrich thanked the parents and teachers who came up and spoke. He said the district and Board are in a very untenable position with this budget. Mr. Ulrich said whenever there are cuts going on that particular group will come up and make great points. He said we are in a very bad situation. Mr. Ulrich thanked everyone again who spoke and said their words do not go unheard. He said every position is needed and we are trying to figure out a way to maneuver through this minefield. Mr. Ulrich thanked Ms. Ramos and her daughter for coming forward. He said the district will take this matter seriously.

Dr. Gruccio echoed the comments made by Mr. Ulrich. She said that she has been in the district for 44 years as a teacher, principal and administrator. Dr. Gruccio said we worked very closely for months as a team putting in hours and hours to try to do the best that we could to come up with 14 million dollars and not hurt our children. She said there are many things in this budget that bother her and wishes they were not on the list. Dr. Gruccio said 14 million dollars is a massive number and we have done everything that we can working with every department and everyone across the Board has been impacted in some way. She just wants everyone to know that we do not take any of this lightly and she hopes everyone understands the amount of time and work that has been put in. Dr. Gruccio said we have done the best that we can and knows there will be people who are unhappy. She said please know that we do understand and we have tried very hard in keeping our children on the forefront of every decision.

Board President

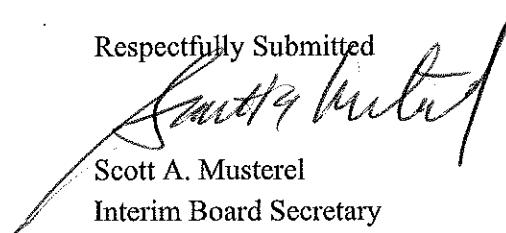
Remarks:

Mr. English said in regards to the young lady who spoke this evening it takes courage and strength. He said she has such inner strength to come to the podium and look at the Board. Mr. English said he has all the faith in Mr. Frangipani and Dr. Gruccio that they will get to the bottom of this situation and he is sorry that she had to be subjected to this. He told her mother that she raised a good daughter. Mr. English said as far as the 14 million dollar number he came back to the Board because he believes he can help and keep it transparent. He said none of it is pretty and it is a huge number. Mr. English said the money is not there like it use to be. He said we can not change the past. Mr. English said we will have a new Business Administrator on the 15th and for him wanting to come here tells me that we have a new vision the way the money is spent here. Mr. English said Dr. Gruccio sold Mr. Mercoli to him big time.

Mr. English said it will not happen overnight but we need to pull together and share the load. He said as a district we need to figure out how to work together for solutions at an equitable price. Mr. English asked everyone who is attending next week's meeting to come with something with substance that is a possible solution not a problem.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott A. Musterel", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned over the typed name and title.

Scott A. Musterel
Interim Board Secretary

SAM:dt