

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held Monday, March 22, 2010 at 6:05 p.m., in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, pursuant to notice with Mr. Giordano presiding and the following members present: Mr. Bernardini, Mr. DeWinne, Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. Fanucci, Mr. Franceschini, Ms. Rios, and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: Mrs. Phillips.

Also present: Dr. Banks, Superintendent, Dr. Gruccio, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Franchetta, Board Secretary, Mr. Smith, Executive Controller and Ms. Greenfield, Executive Director of Personnel. Absent: Mr. DeSanto, Board Solicitor.

Mr. Giordano 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.

Flag Salute:

The Board recessed to executive session at 6:06 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:08 p.m.

Public Comments: None.

Mr. Giordano asked Mr. Franchetta to present an overview on the 2010-2011 tentative budget.

Mr. Franchetta said this evening the board will adopt a tentative budget for the 2010-2011 school year for submission to the voters and to the county for approval. The budget in total will be \$189,633,615., which \$22,026,538 of that amount will be raised through tax levy. Mr. Franchetta said the board has elected not to increase the tax levy so it will remain at 1.037 per 1,000 evaluation. The amount of the tax levy did increase by \$406,757.41 due to an increase in ratables within the City of Vineland.

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Vineland Board Of Education  
Report to the Board – March 22, 2010

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The Board adopt a tentative 2010 – 2011 school district budget for submission to the voters as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
General Fund	\$163,222,545.	\$22,026,538.
Special Revenue Fund	26,708,026.	0.
Debt Service Fund	0.	0.
Less: Transfer from General Fund	296,956.	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$189,633,615.</u>	<u>\$22,026,538.</u>

Further, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-7.3, the Board establish the maximum travel amount for the 2010 – 2011 school district budget at \$237,249.00 and the amount spent to date in the 2009 – 2010 school year for travel has been \$75,740.00. Additionally, the supporting documentation of this budget contains an itemization of certain expenditures required under administrative regulations.

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

The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 7:13 p.m.

The meeting was reopened at 7:16 p.m. for the public to address the board.

Public Comments: Eugene Medio

Mr. Medio asked what the shortfall was in the budget as of Wednesday. Mr. Franchetta said it was in excess of nine million dollars. Mr. Medio asked what the total amount was before that. Mr. Franchetta said he does not know because there are many calculations. Mr. Medio asked how much of this is supported by surplus from the previous budget. Mr. Franchetta said twelve million dollars from this year. Mr. Medio asked where the twelve million dollars came from. Mr. Franchetta said we put a freeze on purchase orders the beginning of January and on hiring in light of all the issues we knew we were facing with the new Governor. Mr. Medio asked if that is in addition to the thirteen million that is being taken back. Mr. Franchetta said the thirteen million was from last year. Mr. Medio asked if twenty five million dollars was what this board generated in a year and eight months. Mr. Franchetta responded yes. Mr. Fanucci said there were millions of dollars saved in the change over from the private health provider to the State Health Benefits Program. Mr. Medio asked if you had millions of dollars why are all these cuts being made now in security, secretaries and sports programs. Mr. Fanucci said personnel items cannot be addressed until it happens. Mr. Medio said he is talking about directives that have been made by the administration such as suspension of substitutes for security guards, secretaries and administrators. He asked if anyone was aware of this. Mr. Giordano said some of the substitute teachers were complaining that they were not getting any calls because we had such a long list. He said since they had a sufficient number of substitute teachers on the list they decided to work from the list that they had. Mr. Ulrich said he knows there was some specific oversight on substitutes for principals. Mr. Medio said that is not his issue and that all makes sense. He asked if there was a directive put out not to call in a substitute for a security guard who was not present. Mr. Giordano said he has never heard of that.

Mr. Franceschini said he has respect for Mr. Medio but typically the board does not respond to questions and he does not know why we are changing this venue.

Ms. Greenfield said we are looking at substitutes district wide on a case by case basis. She said if someone is out a couple of days we are trying not to assign a substitute but teaching staff is different. Mr. Ulrich asked Ms. Greenfield if substitute security guards not allowed to be called. Ms. Greenfield said we are looking at how we can effectively better deploy the security staff and minimize the substitute service. Mr. Giordano said his opinion is when a security guard is out there needs to be a substitute for the security guard.

Mr. Medio thanked everyone for their answers and said Mr. Franceschini is absolutely wrong. This is a public hearing on the budget and the public is allowed to ask any question they want. All questions have to be answered according to his understanding of state law except for a direct question about an individual. Mr. Medio said as far as questions on the budget he can ask any question he wants because that is what this meeting is held for. Mr. Giordano said he is correct. He thinks what Mr. Franceschini was referring to is just an on-going dialogue going back and forth without inquiries.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Franchetta, CPA  
Board Secretary

KJF:df