

The combined meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Landis Administration Building Auditorium, 61 W. Landis Avenue, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 5:35 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Bordley 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, Mrs. Haley, Board Secretary, Dr. Rossi, Executive Director of Personnel, Mr. DeSanto, Solicitor, press and public. Absent: None.

Mr. Bordley 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 Sabater Elementary School led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution: Mrs. Haley 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 pending/anticipated litigation the matter is and if contract negotiation the nature of the contract and interested party is the John F. Scarpa Revocable Trust for the acquisition of the Oak & Main 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 discussion is possible t3nure charges against a teacher. 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.

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

The Board recessed to executive session at 5:40 p.m.

The combined meeting resumed at 6:05 p.m.

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Gruccio introduced Ms. Tammy Monahan, Rossi Middle School Principal, to honor one of her students this evening.

Ms. Monahan said Rylee Howerton a sixth grade student at Rossi Middle School is very involved in many of the school activities. She said Rylee has been recognized for extensive community service efforts over the years. Ms. Monahan said tonight Rylee is being recognized for her exemplary volunteer service and for receiving the President’s Volunteer Service Award.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Ms. Tammy Monahan and Ms. Hope Johnson, Principals, to honor students who were selected to the All South Jersey High School Band.

Ms. Monahan, Principal of Rossi Middle School, congratulated Alek Raimonde for being selected to the All South Jersey Band. She said Alek has demonstrated his dedication through his hard work and is very deserving of this achievement.

Ms. Johnson, Principal of Veterans Memorial School, introduced Adrian Ferrer, a student at Veterans Memorial School, who has been playing trumpet since fourth grade and has qualified to perform with the All South Jersey Junior High School for the third consecutive year.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Mr. Michael Schneider, Vineland High School Girls’ Swim Coach, to honor the 2017-2018 members on their achievement in the NJSIAA Meet of Champions.

Mr. Schneider said present tonight are six members of the girls swim team at Vineland High School who competed at the South Jersey Coaches Invitational where they placed third in the Division 18 scoring. He said they also competed at the New Jersey State Meet of Champions. Mr. Schneider introduced each of the girls who competed.

Dr. Gruccio said at every Board meeting we have students to be proud of in our district. She congratulated the parents of these students because it is because of their support and encouragement that our students are able to achieve what they achieve

Dr. Gruccio introduced Mr. Joseph Callavini, Coordinator for Transportation/Registration, to present the Redistricting Plan for 2018-2019.

Mr. Callavini said tonight he is here to speak about Vineland Public Schools new Redistricting Plan for 2018-2019 for kindergarten through eighth grade students. He said the reason we are changing all of our boundaries is because we are opening a new middle school on Lincoln Avenue, which allows us to repurpose our current Rossi Middle School as an elementary School. Mr. Callavini said it also gives us a latitude to turn Leuchter Elementary School into a rental facility and Johnstone Elementary School into an applied Math and Science Academy. He presented the new boundaries for 2018-2019. Mr. Callavini said parent notification letters with the new school assignment and bus stop for next year will be mailed in early May. He said school open houses will be held in early June so students who will be changing schools can view the building and meet the principal. Mr. Callavini said we still do not know if we will have an occupancy permit for the Lincoln Avenue School by then and may have to push the date back for that building. He said all parents will have to reapply for their caregiver for next year. Mr. Callavini said in early August students will receive their school assignment and bus passes.

HIB: No discussion.

Student Liaison: No report given.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Fiocchi, the minutes were approved from March 14, 2018 Combined Meeting, March 14, 2018 Executive Session and March 28, 2018 Special Board Meeting. All Members voted “yes.”

Solicitor’s Report: None.

Public Comment on  
Agenda Items:

Jeff Martine

Mr. Martine expressed his concerns in regards to the closing of Johnstone and Leuchter Elementary Schools. He feels that we should be rewarding our Behavioral Disabilities (BD) Program at Johnstone Elementary School for the phenomenal work that they do and by moving them we are not doing that. Mr. Martine said because Leuchter Elementary School is small that is its strength. He said the goal of Vineland Public Schools is to elevate all of our students despite behavioral disorders and disabilities.

Recommendations:

A C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	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)**

- 1.1 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. Extracurricular Summer
  - f. Volunteers

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

**PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS (2.1-2.6)**

- 2.1 The Board approve trips and district travel.
- 2.2 The Board approve to authorize the Board Secretary to enter into an affiliation agreement with Wilmington University for the 2017-2018 school year for the placement of students for field internship, student teaching, practicum, and observations.
- 2.3 The Board approve the 2018-2019 school calendar for pupil attendance as provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.
- 2.4 The Board approve the Vineland High School Art Educational Travel Abroad from April 18 through April 30, 2019. All costs associated with this trip will be the responsibility of participants. All chaperones and students attending will be excused.

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

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

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

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

A C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	F I O R 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					

2.5 The Board approve the second reading of the following Bylaws, Policies and Regulations for adoption:  
Recommended  
 Policy 5330.04 – Administering an Opioid Antidote  
 Policy 7510 – Use of School Facilities

All Members voted “yes.”  
 (9-0-0)

2.6 The Board discuss the first reading of the following Bylaws, Policies and Regulations for adoption:  
Recommended  
 Bylaw 169.01 – Board Member use of Social Networks  
 Policy 5430 vl- Class Rank

**FIRST READING NO VOTE NEEDED**

**Mr. Medio said in reference to Policy 5430 vl – class rank he thinks it is ridiculous to eliminate valedictorian and salutatorian and to not recognize the success of our students.**

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (3.1-3.3)**

3.1 The Board approve the following New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) “Other” projects for schematic and final approval with no state funding requested:

- a. Gittone Stadium Improvements – NJDOE Plan #5390-055-18-000
- b. Winslow School Resurfacing – NJDOE Plan #5390-155-18-1000
- c. Pauline Petway School Secure Entrance – NJDOE Plan #5390-270-18-1000
- d. Wallace Middle School Secure Entrance – NJDOE Plan #11-5390-270-18-1000

All Members voted “yes.”  
 (9-0-0)

A C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	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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- 3.2 The Board approve the following New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) “other” project for schematic and final approval with no state funding requested:
- a. Max Leuchter School Closing – NJDOE Plan #5390-160-18-1000

**Mr. Ulrich said he will vote for the closing of Max Leuchter School but he thinks the topics that Mr. Martine brought up are absolutely on point. He said we are closing a school that excels for economic reasons because of the opening of a middle school. Mr. Ulrich said all good things come to an end. He expressed his concern as to how the tasks will be accomplished with the opening of the Lincoln Avenue Middle school, moving Rossi School to Lincoln Avenue, AMSA to Johnstone School and the closing of Leuchter School. Mr. Ulrich said it involves a lot of logistics and thinks we are expecting a great deal from our teachers. He asked how all of this will be accomplished. Dr. Gruccio said a meeting is scheduled for next week with the maintenance department, warehouse and central administration to put the plan in place. She said the new school will come completely furnished so nothing would have to be moved other than textbooks or personal belongings. Dr. Gruccio said we are looking at acquiring the middle school sometime in May.**

**Mr. Farinaccio said the official date of the transfer of the new middle school is July 1<sup>st</sup>. He said they are on target and in late April or May we would be taking over the building.**

**Mr. Ulrich asked what type of retrofitting needs to be done at Rossi School to accept elementary students and what are we doing to Johnstone School with the mixing of various grade levels of students.**

All Members voted “yes” except Mr. Ulrich who voted “no.” (8-1-0)

A C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	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

Mr. Farinaccio said we have changed school usages in the past such as D'Ippolito from middle to elementary school. He said most of the furniture items we have can be lowered for a smaller grade level so the height adjustments are not an issue. Mr. Farinaccio said Rossi School will need some fixtures lowered. He said we have had preliminary conversations with Dr. Gruccio, Mr. Frey and have discussed some of these items. Mr. Farinaccio said we are having the upcoming meeting to put the plan in motion. He said we are looking at maybe some overtime and additional shift moves to have things moved. Mr. Ulrich asked if our skilled laborers will do the plumbing or do we have to hire a subcontractor. Mr. Farinaccio said overall we can do it in-house. Mr. Ulrich asked how this will all be accomplished with the normal summer maintenance. Mr. Farinaccio said it will be a challenge and we are going to have to look at some additional hours because we have a set amount of staff. He said we do have a substitute list that we are planning to pull from. Mr. Ulrich asked if we can just close Rossi School. Dr. Gruccio said the move to Landis was a tremendous move and everyone has really stepped up to the plate. She said it is her hope that the same thing will happen as we move forward with these moves.

Mr. Medio asked how we can close Leuchter School if the new school does not get transferred over to us. Mr. Farinaccio said officially the School Development Authority (SDA) is handing the school over to us on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He said they are finishing up the final details of the building and working towards the certificate of occupancy. Mr. Farinaccio said the current tentative date for handover is July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Farinaccio said it is about a 90% probability that the school will be given to the district sooner.



Vineland Board of Education  
 Report to the Board – April 18, 2018

A C C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	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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3.3 The Board approve a resolution declaring that the Max Leuchter School is no longer needed for school purposes and authorizing and directing the Superintendent to apply for permission to lease the Max Leuchter School property.

All Members voted "yes" except Mr. Ulrich who voted "no." (8-1-0)

**FINANCE (4.1-4.11)**

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

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

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

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

**Mr. Medio stepped out at 7:07 p.m.**

4.3 The Board approve the placement of Special Education students.

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

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A C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	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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- 4.4 The Board approve submission of the following grant applications:
- a. Model Classroom Grant for D’Ippolito Elementary School and Wallace Middle School  
 In the amount of----- \$10,000.00
  - b. Elementary-Teen-SN-Application-2018/2019  
 New Jersey Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP); Grades Pre-K-6; FY 2017-2018  
 In the amount of -----\$13,033.00  
 New Jersey Teen Child Assault Prevention Program (CAP); Gr. 7-12; FY 2017-2018  
 In the amount of -----\$ 6,448.00  
 New Jersey Special Needs Child Assault Prevention Program FY 2017-2018  
 In the amount of -----\$ 4,773.00

All Members voted “yes.”  
 (8-0-0)

All Members voted “yes.”  
 (8-0-0)

- 4.5 The Board approve the cancellation of the list of checks provided and on file with the Board Secretary.

All Members voted “yes.”  
 (9-0-0)

**Mr. Medio returned at 7:09 p.m.**

- 4.6 The Board approve the following contracts for the Summer Food Service Program:
- a. A contract with Sodexo Management Inc. of Medford, NJ to provide a Summer Food Service Program for the term of June 25, 2018 to August 24, 2018 at an estimated cost of \$59,052 with the actual cost to be based on the number of meals served.
  - b. A summer Food Service Program Reimbursement Agreement with the State of New Jersey for the Vineland Board of Education 2018 Summer Program.

All Members voted “yes.”  
 (9-0-0)

U L R I C H	S P I N E L L I	S B R A N A	M E D I O	J E N N I N G S	H O L M E S	F I O C C H I	B O R D L E Y	A C C O S T A
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**Mr. Ulrich asked if the Pal Program is still serviced by Sodexo. Mr. Bordley said he spoke with Mr. Patel and he said that they did receive funding to provide breakfast/lunch for the Pal Program.**

4.7 The Board approve Change Order #003 from Levy Construction Company for a credit for unused contingency allowance of \$6,302.15.

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

4.8 The Board approve to award the following contract for: Alternative High School (RFP #10-18/19) for the term of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 with an option to renew two one-year terms or one two-year term for a maximum of a three-year term:  
 Vendor: Camelot Education  
 500 Rialto Blvd., Suite 260  
 Building 1  
 Austin, TX 78735  
 Total Bid Amount: \$1,723,518.

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

**Mr. Jennings thanked Camelot for the great job that they do.**

4.9 The Board approve the following 2017-2018 Joint Transportation Agreements between the Vineland Board of Education and Pleasantville Public Schools:  
 a. Route #ACS91 in the amount of -----\$3,850.00  
 b. Route #ACS91 in the amount of -----\$4,950.00  
 c. Route #CHA01 in the amount of ----- \$3,850.00

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

**Mr. Fiocchi stepped out at 7:12 p.m.**

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A C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	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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4.10 The Board approve the Joint Transportation Agreement between Vineland Board of Education and Trenton Public Schools from September 7, 2016 to June 30, 2017 in the amount of \$8,050.

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

**Mr. Jennings asked if the dates were correct. Mrs. Haley said yes it is from that year. She said they did not agree on an amount and it had to be negotiated.**

4.11 The Board approve a resolution authorizing inter-local agreements with several Cumberland County School Districts for joint bus transportation (through the Cumberland County Regional Cooperative.)

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

**Mr. Fiocchi returned at 7:14 p.m.**

4.12 The Board approve the Joint Transportation Agreement between Pine Hill School District and the Vineland Board of Education for Route PT2B/PHM2 in the amount of \$342.00 from September 17, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

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

4.13 The Board approve the Bus Advertisement renewal for Frank Wells Paving for one year for 10 ads in the amount of \$975.00.

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

**Mr. Jennings asked if these advertisements are doing well for the businesses as well as the district. Mrs. Haley said yes.**

Vineland Board of Education  
 Report to the Board – April 18, 2018

A C C O S T A	B O R D L E Y	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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- 4.14 The Board approve the following Cumberland County Regional Cooperative Transportation initiatives:
- a. 2017-2015 Bid #8 Award and Record
  - b. 2017-2018 Transportation Contracts
  - c. 2017-2018 Addenda
  - d. 2017-2018 Jointure

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

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Fiocchi, the bills for February 2018 were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$23,089,445.21).

Committee Reports: Mr. Ulrich said discussed at tonight’s Policy & Personnel Committee meeting was personnel issues and Policy #7446 School Security.

Items proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members: None.

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

Public: Jennifer Pilla  
Ms. Pilla spoke in support of allowing the public to nominate members of the community for the naming of the Lincoln Avenue Middle School.

Lois Genovese  
Ms. Genovese spoke in support of naming the new middle school after Sergeant Domenic Pilla.

Cara Donato  
Ms. Donato spoke in support of naming the new middle school after Sergeant Domenic Pilla.

Jennifer Molnar  
Ms. Molnar spoke in support of naming the new middle school after Sergeant Domenic Pilla.

Josephine Winn & Eleanor Inferrera Brown  
Ms. Winn and Ms. Brown said they are representing their brother who was the first Marine from Vineland to be killed in Vietnam. They feel that the new middle school should be called Lincoln Avenue Memorial School with a plaque in the front of the school honoring all the people who died in the war.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Ms. Spinelli said she is recommending having an Ad Hoc Committee for Public Relations and Communications. She said this would address issues that are out in the public in regards to Board decisions and better communications.

Mr. Ulrich spoke in support of having this committee and said he would be proud to be on the committee if he has the time.

Mr. Medio said he has no problem with an Ad Hoc Committee on communication. He said he would like to see Mr. Sbrana as well as Ms. Spinelli on this committee.

Board Member  
Remarks:

Mr. Ulrich said Mr. Martine represents what is great about Vineland High School by becoming active on issues in the community. He said that Mr. Martine's mother and father should be proud people. He said Max Leuchter is a great school and the principal Mrs. Heer has developed an atmosphere where the staff follows and supports her. He said that he had the honor to be part of their annual purse bingo fundraiser. Mr. Ulrich wished Mrs. Heer the best of luck on her new task of having the largest elementary school in Vineland. He said he feels that the naming of the new school was not portrayed properly and the reason he voted "no" does not have anything to do with hurting people's feelings. Mr. Ulrich said the reason he voted "no" was because this matter was settled in 2016 by a prior Board and the current Board was inclined to leave the naming of the school in the name that it was given. He said that he attended a small gathering where the pilot of the helicopter that went down Michael Durant spoke. Mr. Ulrich said it was a story that breaks his heart. He said Michael Durant wrote a book *In the Company of Heroes*. Mr. Ulrich said that Domenic Pilla is an American hero and you will never hear him dispute that.

Ms. Spinelli said she would like to see the community more involved in the naming of the new school process.

Mr. Medio suggested running a poll in the *Daily Journal* for the naming of the new school. He said as far as the naming of the school in the past former names of schools have been changed. Mr. Medio said he is in favor of naming the Lincoln Avenue Middle School after someone.

Mr. Sbrana said in regards to Domenic Pilla and Lou Inferrera this is an issue we need to continue discussing before we name or not name a building.

Mr. Jennings said we have Veterans Memorial School where we can recognize everyone on a plaque in the school.

Ms. Acosta congratulated all the students who were honored tonight for their wonderful work. She said there are so many worthy individuals that deserve the honor of being recognized for what they have done. Ms. Acosta said she is glad that Ms. Pilla was able to speak about about someone who has made a contribution. Ms. Acosta said it brings her joy to speak about her loved ones who have passed. She hopes that this is not about winners and losers but about honoring the great people of our town.

Dr. Gruccio said Inspira Hospital purchased a coding program for our AMSA students to utilize, is providing mentoring to the students and donated \$10,000 to support the AMSA Program. Dr. Gruccio said Mr. Gary Galloway, who is on the hospital Board, also donated \$500 to AMSA.

Dr. Gruccio said we have students all throughout our district who are doing wonderful things. She said that is really proud of what we do and sometimes it is hard to overshadow the perception people have but she would put our district up against any one. Dr. Gruccio said we have good administrators and teachers in the district and anyone who wants a good education can receive it in Vineland Public Schools. She is very proud of the people who work in the district and students who attend here. Dr. Gruccio thanked the hospital and Mr. Galloway.

Report/Remarks by  
Board President:

Mr. Bordley congratulated the swim team on their accomplishments. He also congratulated Luke Vastano for creating a tuxedo pocket card for the Sobriety Campaign Contest he entered and won. Mr. Bordley congratulated Alek Raimonde and Adrian Ferrer on their tremendous accomplishments



Adjournment: A motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Medio, to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. All Members voted “yes.”

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Helen G. Haley  
Board Secretary

HGH:dt