

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, June 11, 2008 at 5:53 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Giordano presiding and the following members present: Mr. DeWinne, Mr. Franceschini, Ms. Rios, Mr. Spinelli and Absent: Ms. Arroyo, Mr. Bernardini, Mr. Fanucci and Mr. Ulrich.

Also present: Mr. Ottinger, Superintendent, Dr. Figgs, Dr. Gruccio, & Mr. Peters, Assistant Superintendents, Mr. Franchetta, Board Secretary, Mr. DeSanto, Solicitor, and Ms. Greenfield, Executive Director of Personnel, press and public.

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.

Mr. Giordano introduced Ms. Jane Kershner, field representative from New Jersey School Boards Association.

Ms. Kershner said she is here tonight to give the board guidance in regards to the new monitoring system called QSAC, which is different from the old traditional monitoring system. This new system occurs every three years and board governance is a component that has not been applied. Ms. Kershner said the intent is to look at where the board is now and what they have done for the last three years. She said in the area of governance points were allocated in each section of the five areas. If one item is missed in any section then all of the points given in that section were lost. Ms. Kershner said Vineland scored very high in instruction, fiscal operations, operations and personnel but low in governance. She said Vineland has five areas that need some work and the state is requesting a professional improvement plan. Ms. Kershner said the board needs to have discussion and possibly training on what their role is as a whole. She said with board members coming on and going off there can be some misunderstanding as to what their roles and responsibilities are.

Mr. Franceschini expressed his concern as to how any board can receive a score of 100%. Ms. Kershner said it means that the responses were all yes on a particular question. Mr. Franceschini feels it is unrealistic to receive a score of 100% and is troubled by the reliability of the report.

Ms. Kershner said the board should take it as a gift that New Jersey School Boards Association is going to come in and do some training with them.

Continued

Mr. Spinelli said no one will say that the board does not need to be trained or updated. He said sometimes the board is put in situations where they have to make an unpopular decision and because of that we are graded down in governance. Ms. Kershner said the grade may be due to the board making an unpopular decision but having more training can only make you better as a team.

Ms. Kershner said the Professional Improvement Plan is going to be that the Board will undertake the training so the Remediation Plan can be put in place as soon as possible and sent to the county.

Mr. Giordano asked if any of this can take place during the annual retreat. Ms. Kershner responded yes that the board should have a retreat around those significant items. Mr. Giordano said the board solicitor reviews certain topics in detail with the board such as confidentiality and code of ethics. He asked if that would count towards covering that issue. Ms. Kershner said it would have to be documented. Mr. Giordano said it is in the board minutes and on tape. Ms. Kershner said it may not be enough to change the no on E2, E4, F7, G5 and G6 but may be a question to ask. She said most of the topics could be covered and at an annual retreat. Mr. Giordano feels there are some flaws in the process however; the board will do what is needed to stay in compliance and meet the requirements. Ms. Kershner mentioned that they normally train about 800 board members across the state and this year there were only about 500 new board members. Mr. Giordano said a date needs to be set for the annual retreat, which will be centered on most of these topics.

Ms. Arroyo and Mr. Fanucci arrived at 5:50 p.m.

Motion:

A motion was made Mr. Spinelli, seconded by Mr. DeWinne, to approve the QSAC Governance Remediation Plan that has been presented by New Jersey School Boards Association in its entirety. All Members voted “yes.”

The board decided to hold a retreat on Wednesday, August 27, 2008 and Wednesday, September 17, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Kershner said she will be bringing a field service representative to the retreats.

The meeting recessed at 6:27 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Ulrich was in attendance for the regular meeting.

Flag Salute:

Laura Cruz, Christopher Gloway, Alexander Groetsch and Kevin Hills, students from Rossi Middle School, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Ricci, Principal of Rossi School, was also in attendance.

Special

Presentation (s):

Mr. Ottinger introduced Dr. Keith Figgs to announce the names for the 2008 County Teacher Recognition Award.

Dr. Figgs said this is a nice way to end the school year. He said that he will introduce a group of distinguished educators that have been selected by their peers as the teacher of the year for each building. Dr. Figgs introduced the following teachers and said they will be receiving a citation from our assemblymen and senator for their excellence: Michelle Villar, VHS, Judith Feinstein, VHN, Jessica Suppa, Landis, Helen Beckett, Veterans Memorial, Kelly Amato, Rossi, Dawn Bell, Wallace, Stacey Reboyras, Barse, Jill DeRuchie, Sabater, Amy Murie, D'Ippolito, the late Sharon Bortle, Durand, Dannielle Smith-Muller, Johnstone, Pat Ensslen, Mennies, Tara McMenamain, Petway, Matthew Merckx, Winslow and Kimberly Lafferty, Impact.

Mr. Giordano congratulated the teachers and said the challenges in education today in the area of teaching are more prevalent than ever before.

Mr. Ottinger also congratulated the teachers.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mr. Spinelli, seconded by Mr. Franceschini, the Board approved the minutes from May 7, 2008 and May 14, 2008. All Members voted "yes."

Report of the Secretary/Custodian

Of School Monies:

Upon motion by Mr. Franceschini, seconded by Mr. Fanucci, the reports of the Secretary and Custodian of School Monies for the month of April, which are in agreement were approved as submitted and on file in the Minute Book, and the Board approved its monthly certification of budgetary major account fund status and the Board Secretary's monthly certification as on file with the Secretary. All Members voted "yes."

Solicitor's Report: None

Public Comment on
Agenda Items:

Barbara Dean, Teacher

Ms. Dean expressed her concern to the board in regards to her job transfer from second grade at Petway Elementary School to the resource room at Vineland High School North.

Lori King

Ms. King expressed her concern regarding the transfer of Barbara Dean from second grade at Petway Elementary School to the resource room at Vineland High School North.

Mr. Bernardini arrived at 7:23 p.m.

Mr. Franchetta mentioned that items #34 and #35 were added on the agenda. He said that he attended a seminar on Thursday and was told that effective July 1 we are no longer allowed to offer contracts to professionals such as doctors and lawyers who work for the school district. Mr. Franchetta said the contracts that were approved last month for our primary and alternate physicians are now illegal according to this new law. He said these physicians can not work as employees in the district since the state outlawed their enrollments in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). Mr. Franchetta said these physicians have to be outside vendors. He said they both have elected to retire, which is on the agenda and will be contracted as vendors at the standard rate that we pay all other professional appointments in the district.

Mr. Giordano asked if the physicians will be paid as services are rendered. Mr. Franchetta said that is correct at an hourly rate. Mr. Giordano asked what the reason is for adding this at this late point. Mr. Franchetta said as of July 1 their contracts will be null and void.

Recommendations: Page 5

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RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The Board approve the following personnel items in accordance with the lists provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board:

- a. List of retirements
- b. List of resignations/terminations
- c. List of leaves of absence
- d. List of employment of personnel
- e. List of transfers, assignments and/or promotions
- f. List of student assistants and New Jersey Youth Corps
- g. List of substitute personnel
- h. List of extracurricular assignments
- i. List of summer employment
- j. List of summer hours
- k. List of summer curriculum

Mr. Spinelli expressed his concern in regards to transfer A. 1. (e) #18. Ms. Greenfield said a lot of the transfers are special education moves, which she reviewed with Mrs. Polof. Mr. Spinelli asked if a person is going to the school that is being vacated. Ms. Greenfield responded no these are special education transfers that are based on where the positions are for next year. Mr. Spinelli asked if the alternative high school position is considered a new position. Mr. Ottinger responded yes. Mr. Spinelli asked if this was discussed. Mr. Ottinger said yes many times. Mr. Spinelli asked if individuals listed on the employment addition are all highly certified. Ms. Greenfield said we are waiting for the certification for name #2, which is why pending is listed and everyone else is certified.

Mr. Ulrich asked if the additions are new employees. Ms. Greenfield responded yes. Mr. Ulrich asked if there were any other employees in the district who could have moved into the position of name #3 who is pending certification. Ms. Greenfield responded no we still have vacancies that need to be posted. Mr. Ulrich asked if the special education position at Petway that is being vacated by a transfer will be replaced with any other personnel.

All Members voted “yes” except for Mr. Franceschini who voted “yes” on all items but “abstained” on (e).#10 and voted “no” on #18 and J and Mr. Ulrich who voted “yes” on all items except he voted “no” on (a).1, transportation clerk and substitute clerk and he “abstained” on (c).38. and Mr. Bernardini who “abstained” on all items. (8-0-1)

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Ms. Polof said Petway had no children in that grade level so we no longer needed a resource room position.

Ms. Greenfield noted an error and said that middle school bilingual summer program will replace 23 on the current agenda.

Mr. Spinelli asked if we provide security for wrap around. Ms. Greenfield said wrap around will be provided with security as discussed with Mr. Provenzano and Dr. Figs. Mr. Spinelli asked if Title I is federally funded. Mr. Ottinger responded yes.

Ms. Arroyo asked how we are doing with the reinstating of the employees. Ms. Greenfield said we rified 42 certificated staff members and have only been able to reinstate 22. We also notified 14 civil service employees of not having a position.

Mr. Spinelli asked if we are reinstating the summer weight room position. Mr. Ottinger responded yes. Mr. Spinelli asked if the principal put this back in his budget. Mr. Ottinger said that is correct. Ms. Greenfield mentioned that everything was reviewed by Mr. Rochetti and Mr. Musterel in our accounting department. Mr. Spinelli expressed his concern that we are in a budget crisis and we are putting money out for summer programs.

Mr. Franceschini asked if the weight room will be available to the athletes in the fall. Mr. Ottinger said he does not know what was reinstated for the year.

Mr. Ulrich questioned why we are hiring a clerk typist in food service for 10 to 20 days as a fill in for vacation and sick days. Ms. Greenfield said it is to cover for vacations. Mr. Ulrich said we are in a budget crisis and can not do without one secretary. Ms. Greenfield said it was because of extended vacation for the director and dietician. Mr. Ulrich expressed his concern that some of Ms. Greenfield’s responses are not adequate and questioned if these hours are 100% needed.

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Ms. Greenfield said she can address this with the food service department and have this taken off the agenda. Mr. Ulrich said no he is not the board president or superintendent. He feels sometimes the responses he receives to his questions seem like people really do not know.

Mr. Franceschini asked if the athletic trainer hours are limited during the summer. Ms. Greenfield said there should be a maximum amount of hours listed.

Mr. Giordano asked if the substitute clerk has unlimited hours. Ms. Greenfield said that is just in case someone does not come in.

Mr. Fanucci asked for an explanation again on transfer A.1 (e) #18. Ms. Greenfield said that Ms. Polof stated that there were four positions at the school and now only three resource rooms so one of the positions was eliminated. She said there was a need for the position at the high school. Mr. Fanucci asked if there was anyone more qualified to go to the high school. Mrs. Polof said there was more then one elementary school position placed because the openings were at the high school. Mr. Fanucci asked if this will be a major jump for the teacher to transition to the high school. Ms. Polof said from a special education perspective the certification is K through 12 but from a curriculum perspective it will take time to learn. Mr. Fanucci asked if this is the best qualified person to minimize the impact. Mrs. Polof said the person is very qualified and is an excellent teacher. She said that change is difficult for all of us.

Mr. Franceschini asked how many teachers are in Petway School. Mrs. Polof said she does not recall but the resource room is the only room where there are no children coming in. Mr. Franceschini asked if the teachers who are staying are tenured or non-tenured. Mrs. Polof said the teachers have all been in special education longer then the one being moved to the high school.

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Ms. Greenfield mentioned that there are still vacancies in special education at the high school level.

Mr. DeWinne asked if we are sure that the positions at Petway School are tenured. Ms. Greenfield said she will check. Mr. Ottinger said it really does not make any difference. He said the teacher in question is an excellent teacher and what we try to do in all circumstances is put our best teachers where they are needed the most.

Mr. Giordano congratulated and wished the very best to David DiCostanzo, Jennifer Frederico and Lisa Arena.

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2. The Board approve the creation of the title of Diesel Mechanic.

Mr. Spinelli voted “yes” but feels this is going to cost us in the future.

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

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3. The Board authorize the assignments of the pupils, whose names are provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board, to special education programs outside the district with tuition costs to be borne by the Board.

(Tuition payment and assignments shall be regulated by Chapter 46, Laws of 1966, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the State Department of Education.)

All Members voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

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4. The Board approve budgetary transfers in accordance with the list provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board:

- a. General Fund
- b. School-Based Budget
- c. Preschool Budget

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

5. The Board approve submission of the following grant(s) as provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board:

- a. Target Grant
Petway Elementary School
In the amount of ----- \$ 2,400.00
- b. Target Grant
Winslow Elementary School
In the amount of ----- \$ 3,000.00
- c. General Mills Foundation Grant
Petway Elementary School
In the amount of ----- \$ 4,400.00
- d. City of Vineland Recreation Opportunities
for Individuals with Disabilities Grant
Special Olympics Program
January 1, 2008 – December 31, 2008
In the amount of ----- \$ 10,900.00
- e. LEADS Grant
July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009
In the amount of ----- \$ 35,100.00
- f. New Jersey Youth Corps
Dept. of Labor & Workforce Development
Vineland Adult Education Program
In the amount of ----- \$397,304.00

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

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10. The Board approve a Resolution appointing Frank DiDomenico, Esquire, to the position of VASA and Local 2327 Negotiator/Alternate Counsel for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

All Members voted “yes” except for Ms. Rios who “abstained.” (8-0-1)

11. The Board approve an Agreement with Salem County Special Services School District to enter into a Non-Public Services Agreement for 2007 – 2008 school year. (This service is authorized under Federal I.D.E.I.A.)

All Members voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

12. The Board approve an Agreement with Community Health Care, Inc. to provide dental services to students of Vineland Public Schools from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 in accordance with the contract on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

13. The Board approve the termination of the lease with Commercial Development Company for the Adult Education Center, 48 West Landis Avenue, effective July 31, 2008.

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

Mr. DeWinne asked if we received a solution on this termination. Mr. Franchetta said yes he was successful in terminating the lease from 90 days to 60 days.

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14. The Board approve the lease between the Vineland Community Health & Education Center, LLC and the Vineland Board of Education for the property located at 610 East Montrose Street, Vineland, with the form of contract approved by the Superintendent and Board Solicitor. The term of the lease will be from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013 (five years) with a fixed rent during each year of the term of the lease at \$125,000.00.

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

15. The Board approve the following contract modifications:

- a. Cumberland County Office of Employment & Training Youth Program Services – Contract #06-077-B
 Extend contract from October 1, 2006 – June 30, 2008 to October 1, 2006 – December 31, 2008
- b. Cumberland County Office of Employment & Training Youth Program Services – Contract #07-130-A
 Extend contract from October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008 to October 1, 2007 to April 30, 2009
- c. Cumberland County Office of Employment & Training Youth Program Services – Contract #07-131-A
 Extend contract from October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008 to October 1, 2007 – December 31, 2008

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

16. The Board accept the results of the National School Lunch Program review. (As no exceptions were noted during the review, the filing of the Corrective Action Plan on the district's part is not required.)

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

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17. The Board accept the performance audit (KPMG audit) dated April 9, 2008. This performance audit was completed as a result of the New Jersey Supreme Court Order dated May 9, 2006. The performance audit contained a historical expenditure analysis of selected accounts for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2006 and an assessment of internal controls of selected business processes.

Furthermore, the Board approve and direct the Secretary of the Board to implement each of the recommendations contained in the performance audit in accordance with the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) which is provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

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

18. The Board authorize payment to current and previous employees who are not a party to the class action law suit, the cash equivalent of vacation days earned by Civil Service rules with the list that is provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members voted "yes" except Ms. Rios who was not present for the vote. (8-0-0)

19. The Board approve payment in the amount of \$2,629.00 to Robert N. Agre, Esquire and \$2,533.50 to Eisenstat, Gabage & Furman for legal services provided to two employees whose names are on file with the Secretary of the Board in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:16-6.1.

All Members voted "yes" except Ms. Rios who was not present for the vote. (8-0-0)

20. The Board approve the requisition to the City of Vineland for local school taxes according to the schedule provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board. (This meets the requirement recommended by the State auditors for requisition of local district taxes for school purposes.)

All Members voted "yes" except Ms. Rios who was not present for the vote. (8-0-0)

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21. The Board approve the membership renewal to the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

All Members voted “yes” except for Ms. Rios who was not present for the vote. (8-0-0)

22. The Board approve a request for waiver of toilet room facilities for the basement classroom at Oak & Main School. (This request is required in order to continue State approval of our use of this classroom.)

All Members voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

Mr. Spinelli asked if pre-school will be at Oak & Main. Mr. Ottinger said no it is a yearly approval in case we need to use it.

23. The Board petition the Cumberland County Superintendent of Schools to approve the following for use as temporary facilities for the 2008 – 2009 school year:

All Members voted “yes.” (9-0-0)

Adult Education Center Entire facility at 48 West Landis Avenue and South Sixth Street

Landis Middle School Relocatable classroom; Small group and Special Education classrooms

SUCCESS Program Entire facility

Veterans Memorial Middle School Five temporary classroom units (10 classrooms)

Mr. Giordano asked why the Adult Education Center is temporary. Mr. Franchetta said because it is a rented facility.

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24. The Board approve the District Mentoring Plan for 2008 – 2011.

All Members
 voted “yes.”
 (9-0-0)

25. The Board approve the new and revised curricula for the Small Learning Communities at Vineland High School for grades nine through twelve, the revised curricula for the physical education and health for grades nine through twelve at Vineland High School and the Advocacy Program for grades six through twelve.

All Members
 voted “yes.”
 (9-0-0)

26. The Board accept the following donations in accordance with Board Policy #7230, “Gifts, Grants and Donations:”

All Members
 voted “yes.”
 (9-0-0)

a. Cumberland County Improvement Authority
 Petway Elementary School 4th grade recycling project
 For the purchase of playground equipment
 In the amount of ----- \$ 4,000.00

b. Internal Revenue Service
 Mennies Elementary School
 30 laptop computers
 In the amount of ----- \$54,587.60

27. The Board approve the use of the IMPACT Center building by South Jersey Healthcare as mass care shelter for victims of disasters.

All Members
 voted “yes.”
 (9-0-0)

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28. The Board approve a Professional Services Contract with South Jersey Hospital, Incorporated for IMPACT health care services for the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 in accordance with the form of contract approved by the Superintendent and Board Solicitor.

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

29. The Board approve the reappointment of professional personnel for the 2008 – 2009 school year as list provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

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

30. The Board approve the appointment of Federal Program salaries and funding percentages for the 2007 – 2008 school year as per the names provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

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

31. The Board suspend, without pay, the employee whose name is provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members
 voted "yes"
 except Mr.
 Franceschini
 who
 "abstained."
 (8-0-1)

32. The Board approve reemployment of the employee whose name is on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members
 voted "yes"
 for Ms. Rios
 who
 "abstained."
 (8-0-1)

Mr. Ulrich voted "yes" but expressed concern and reservations on this issue because proper procedures were not followed.

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33. The Board approve the revisions of the following Bylaws for adoption (based on new State Law):

- Bylaw #0164 Conduct of Board Meeting
- Bylaw #0167 Public Participation in Board Meetings

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

34. The Board approve a Resolution appointing the following as Primary School Physicians for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009:

- Vineland Medical Associates, PA
- Dr. Narasimhaloo Venugopal
- Dr. Kiritkumar A. Parmar

Mr. Franceschini asked if these physicians are board certified peditricians. Mr. Ottinger said he does not know but would find out.

Mr. Giordano asked if we are just approving the firm. Mr. Franchetta said we are appointing the physicians as vendors.

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

35. The Board approve a Resolution appointing the following as Alternate School Physicians for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009:

- Dr. Joseph P. Bernardini
- Dr. Brad J. Bernardini

All Members voted "yes" except for Mr. Bernardini who "abstained."
 (8-0-1)

B. Proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members: None.

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Spinelli, seconded by Mr. Fanucci, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$6,727,968.04).

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

Public: Ada Velez-Boardley, Parent
Ms. Velez Boardley expressed her concern regarding inmates coming into the schools without parental consent.

Mr. Giordano asked Mr. Ottinger to address this concern.

Mr. Ottinger said the staff that was involved with this thought a notification form would have been appropriate but in this case a parental consent form should have been sent. He said the program is now on hold however; there are staff members that feel very strongly that this program is beneficial to students. Mr. Ottinger said we work in cooperation with members of law enforcement and other agencies to conduct these programs. He emphasized that any parent has the right to decide if they do not want their child to be involved in a program. Mr. Ottinger said in the future any programs that we have will involve consent forms.

Vera Sharp, Substance Abuse Coordinator

Ms. Sharp spoke in support of Project Pride which is a well respected program used throughout the State of New Jersey. She said Project Pride promotes responsibility in drug education and brings minimum custody offenders escorted by correction officers into schools or other agencies to share their personal experiences with drugs and alcohol. Ms. Sharp said our students have the opportunity to hear real life stories and consider the consequences of substance abuse. She emphasized that these inmates are not presented to the children as role models but presented to them as examples of what could happen as a result of poor choices in their lives.

Carmen Cruz, Parent

Ms. Cruz expressed her concern regarding inmates coming into the schools to speak with the children.

Donna Meyers, Principal of Vineland High School North

Mrs. Meyers acknowledged that in the future consent forms need to be sent to parents for programs. She said Dr. Cannon did send out an informative letter on May 14 and the program was held on May 20. Mrs. Meyers expressed her concern regarding a letter Ms. Velez-Boardley put on the windshields of teachers cars and to security guards. She said her door is always open to parents and she made two phone calls to Ms. Velez-Boardley but they were not returned. Mrs. Meyers said the students were not left alone with the inmates and the inmates did not eat lunch with the students. She said unfortunately many of our students have records and this is a program for our students not to end up in the same position as the people in front of them.

Emily Cannon, Director of Guidance at Vineland High School

Dr. Cannon feels if Ms. Velez-Boardley had an issue she should have contacted her because she attacked her character in the letter that was distributed. She would in no way put anyone's children in harms way and the inmate program was just to allow our children to see the negative effects that their behavior can have if they get involved with the wrong people or situation. Dr. Cannon believes if we are able to help one child then it has been worth while. She wished Ms. Velez-Boardley's son would of spoke up and said that his mother would not allow him to take part in this program. Dr. Cannon said this was strictly a way to help prevent somebody's child from getting into something negative and was in no way intended to harm anyone.

Ms. Cannon

Ms. Cannon spoke in support of the Inmate Program at Vineland High School. She feels we could all learn from the mistakes of others and does not think Dr. Cannon did anything to hurt any of the children.

Elizabeth Hague, grandmother

Ms. Hague commended the Vineland High School North principals and Dr. Cannon for being at tonight's meeting to answer questions. She is still waiting for answers from Dr. McCann for the taping that was done on January 16, 2007 without parental consent.

Donna Rado, Johnstone Teacher

Ms. Rado spoke in support of not transferring Barbara Dean from second grade at Petway Elementary School to the resource room at Vineland High School North.

Mr. Giordano respectfully requested for Ms. Hague to make an appointment with Mr. Ottinger so he can answer her questions.

Mr. Ottinger said Ms. Hague's questions can not be answered in public and he would be glad to meet with her.

Board Member

Remarks:

Mr. Ulrich said these programs with inmates are not new. He said Dr. Cannon has one of the finest reputations in the school district for caring about the children. Mr. Ulrich said he thought that the program was consent form driven and any parent who did not want their child involved could opt out of the program. He said the path children take in life are often guided by poor decisions such as the influence of gangs, drugs and alcohol. Mr. Ulrich said as a career law enforcement officer with over 26 years of experience he has seen the pitfalls of children making poor decisions. He said that he supports this program one hundred percent and no one would want to bring a program into the school district that could cause harm to any student. Mr. Ulrich congratulated Lisa Arena, Jennifer Frederico and David DiCostanzo on their promotions to principal. He said we are under such a budget crisis with the moving around of personnel. Mr. Ulrich said he empathizes with Ms. Dean and hopes everything works out but he would not go against Mr. Ottinger's decision.

Mr. Spinelli said these inmate programs have turned around some students. He fully supports Dr. Cannon and feels she has done a stellar job in her position. Mr. Spinelli said these programs show students how they can easily go down the wrong path by making one wrong decision. He empathizes with Ms. Dean and said hopefully something could be worked out that benefits her. Mr. Spinelli congratulated the new principals.

Ms. Arroyo echoed the sentiments of Mr. Ulrich and Mr. Spinelli and feels that these programs show students what could happen if you take the wrong route. She also hopes something could be worked out with Ms. Dean. Ms. Arroyo congratulated the teachers of the year and the new principals.

Mr. DeWinne said it is good to hear from parents who are taking an active role in their child's education. He said we are relying on the professional judgments of competent people in regards to Ms. Dean.

Continued

Mr. DeWinne announced that a safety patrol presentation is being held at Vineland High School South tonight. He commended the school safeties, administrators and police department for keeping the hallways and environment safe.

Ms. Rios said members of the community are questioning why it is taking so long to put the names on the schools in the center city complex. Mr. Bernardini explained that there was a bid process that we had to go through to see what letters would look proper to put up.

Mr. Franceschini said he is confident that the inmate program works. He congratulated the new principals and wished everyone a good summer.

Mr. Fanucci thanked the students who came for the flag salute. He congratulated everyone who received a promotion and all the students who are graduating. Mr. Fanucci thanked the faculty, staff and central administration for another well accomplished year. He congratulated Ms. Arroyo and wished her good luck in her endeavors.

Mr. Bernardini congratulated the new principals and wished them all the success in the world. He said if we are going to reinstate the inmate program at the high school he is for it one hundred percent.

Mr. Ottinger said this is a good time to inform the public on behalf of the board, staff members and himself that he does not know of anyone in the district that would do anything to deliberately hurt one of our students. He said that is especially true of Mrs. Meyers and Dr. Cannon. Mr. Ottinger said there will be times when parents will disagree with us and he hopes whenever that happens it could be done in a respectful manner. He said that we have to look at procedures and make sure that consent forms are sent home. Mr. Ottinger said neither the board nor he have ever ignored what a person says. He said there are times when the law does not permit them to comment but they will always look at the situation to see what they can do.

Report/Remarks by
Board President:

Mr. Giordano said as far as disclosing information in public sometimes individuals want to know the exact discipline that has been exercised against a staff member, which can not be disclosed. He said when a board member is a little skeptical of an issue and asks a question and the answer is not straight forward that raises the skepticism. Mr. Giordano thanked Ms. Arroyo for her years of service to the board and presented her with certificate of achievement.

Ms. Arroyo thanked everyone and said serving on the board as truly been a passion for her. She truly cares about all of our children in this district because she believes they will be the leaders of the city. Ms. Arroyo said making decisions has always been tough and working with her colleagues on the board has always been a pleasure. She thanked everyone for allowing her to serve on the school board for seven years and allowing her to serve in another capacity.

Resolution:

Mr. Franchetta read a resolution to recess into executive session on **Wednesday, June 11, 2008** regarding personnel matters and pending litigation and **Wednesday, July 2, 2008** regarding personnel matters, and anticipated or pending litigation and **Wednesday, July 16, 2008** to discuss the Board vacancy. Executive Session meetings may take place prior to or at the close of announced meetings. Minutes of the meetings may be disclosed if the Board determines that the purposes for the closed sessions would not be violated by such disclosure.

Motion:

Upon motion by Mr. Spinelli, seconded by Mr. Fanucci, the resolution was passed. All Members voted “yes”.

Adjournment:

The Board adjourned to executive session by voice vote at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin J. Franchetta, CPA
Board Secretary

KJF:df