

A special meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held Wednesday, August 4, 2010 at 6:32 p.m., in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, pursuant to notice with Mr. Franceschini presiding and the following members present: Mr. DeWinne, Mr. English, Mr. Fanucci, Dr. Mounier, Mrs. Phillips, Ms. Rios, and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: Mr. DiGiorgio

Also present: Dr. Banks, Superintendent, Dr. Guccio and Mrs. Elliott, Assistant Superintendents, Mr. Franchetta, Board Secretary, Ms. Greenfield, Executive Director of Personnel and Mr. DeSanto, Board Solicitor. Absent: None.

Mr. Franceschini 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 6:34 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:23 p.m.

Comments by

Board Solicitor:

Mr. DeSanto said it is our understanding that there is inaccurate information going around concerning the impact of the proposed food service contract upon our current employees. He said when the Request for Proposal (RFP) went out there was some specific language that needed to be mentioned, which is the purpose of this request is to provide for the operation of the Local Education Agency (LEA) food service programs. The proposal should state that the food service management company will be responsible for managing and supervising the daily operation of all non-managerial staff within the food department. Current non-managerial staff clerks, cooks, drivers etcetera will remain employees of the LEA. The LEA will be responsible for substitute employees due to sickness, vacation etcetera and or any replacement employees due to separation from the Vineland Board of Education. Mr. DeSanto said in the contract that the board is going to consider tonight the following language is contained: "As full-time district employees retire or otherwise leave the district part time district employees will be given the right of first refusal by the district to fill that vacancy as district employees. Only after the district notifies Sodexo that a full time vacancy cannot be filled by a part time district employee may Sodexo fill that vacancy with its employee. Sodexo shall fill all part time vacancies with Sodexo employed personnel." Mr. DeSanto said Sodexo has been very cooperative and had no problems with this. He said Sodexo is on board in terms of how we wanted to take care of the transitioning of the food service employees.

Public Comments: Sandra Urban, Vice President of UAW Local 2327
Ms. Urban said there is a collective bargaining agreement between the UAW and the Vineland Board of Education with specific job titles. She expressed her concern as to who will be supervising the food service employees and the replacement of part time slots as they open up.

Mr. DeSanto said there will be some discussion with the food service employees' representatives. He said there is not anything anticipated such as discipline or adverse job actions that would be handled by anyone other than the Board of Education. Mr. DeSanto said there are certain logistics that need to be discussed. He said if a meeting needs to be scheduled as soon as possible we can do it on Friday.

Ms. Urban agrees that we need to move on this quickly because the ladies and gentlemen have given a life time to the Vineland Board of Education and have provided a valuable service. Ms. Urban mentioned that when she googled Sodexo there were two issues with respect to Sodexo that really concerns her, which she has copies of if the board is interested.

John Magee, Vineland Resident

Mr. Magee expressed his concern that there will come a point in time where you will have half union employees and half non-union.

The board recessed to executive session at 7:37 p.m. to discuss a couple of issues.

The meeting resumed at 7:50 p.m.

Dr. Banks said one of the items on for approval this meeting is the rental of our Adult Education building by the Vineland Charter School. She said at this time we are still working on the terms and conditions of the contract and she will be withdrawing the recommendation at this time.

Recommendations:

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Vineland Board Of Education
Report to the Board – August 4, 2010

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. The Board approve a lease with the Vineland Charter School for the rental of the Adult Education building for the period of August 5, 2010 to June 30, 2013 in accordance with a form of sub-lease acceptable to the Board Solicitor and the Superintendent of Schools.

Withdrawn by Superintendent

B. Proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board members:

The Board approve a Resolution authorizing a contract for food service management to Sodexo Management, Inc. of Gathersburg, Maryland for the 2010 - 2011 school year.

A motion was made by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Ms. Rios, to approve the contract for food service management to Sodexo Management, Inc. All Members voted “yes” except Dr. Mounier who voted “no.”

Mr. DeWinne said that he had a lot of questions that Mr. DeSanto cleared up. He said the fact that our employees are protected and we can save some money for jobs in the future he is voting “yes.”

Dr. Mounier said he is voting “no” because he usually sleeps on important decisions and has not had the chance to sleep since he received this contract twenty minutes ago.

Mr. Ulrich said what people do not understand is that we are in a deficit of roughly eight hundred thousand dollars. If we do not do something there is going to be a potential loss of jobs for our employees. Mr. Ulrich said this company has made assurances through contractual obligations plus a performance bond in excess of one million dollars. He said this is not the first time the board is seeing all the proposed documentation and revisions that Mr. DeSanto has had. Mr. Ulrich said this is a critical stage to save employee jobs and he is voting “yes.”

The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Franchetta, CPA
Board Secretary

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