

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Reber Administration Office, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 6:02 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Jennings presiding and the following members present: Ms. Acosta, Mr. Bordley, Ms. Codispoti, Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Medio and Mr. Sbrana. Absent: Mr. Holmes (out of town).

Also present: Dr. Guccio, 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. Jennings 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, Clerk – City of Vineland, and Administrative Office Public Bulletin Board.

Flag Salute:

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 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 the performance of the Superintendent. Any matters 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.

Special

Presentation (s):

None.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Ms. Codispoti, seconded by Ms. Acosta, the minutes were approved from July 12, 2017 and July 24, 2017. All Members voted "yes."

Solicitor's Report: None.

Public Comment on
Agenda Items: None.

Recommendations:

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:
PERSONNEL (1.1a-e)

- 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

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

PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS (2.1-2.6)

- 2.1 The Board approve trips, district travel and Fall Athletic Schedule.

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

Mandated Changes:

Policy/Regulation 1240 – Evaluation of Superintendent (Revised [this Regulation must be adopted by the Board of Education as indicated by statute law or administrative code])

Policy/Regulation 3221 – Evaluation of Teachers (Revised) [this Regulation must be adopted by the Board of Education as indicated by statute law or administrative code]

Policy/Regulation 3222 – Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members, Excluding Teachers and Administrators (Revised) [this Regulation must be adopted by the Board of Education as indicated by statute law or administrative code]

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

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

JENNINGS	BORDLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCHI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIO	SRANA
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Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORDLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCCHEI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIDOS	SBRANA
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Policy/Regulation 3223 – Evaluation of Administrators, Excluding Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals (Revised) [this Regulation must be adopted by the Board of Education as indicated by statute law or administrative code]

Policy/Regulation 3224 – Evaluation of Principals, Vice Principals, and Assistant Principals (Revised) [this Regulation must be adopted by the Board of Education as indicated by statute law or administrative code]

Policy/Regulation 3240 – Professional Development for Teachers and School Leaders (Revised) [no vote needed on Regulation]

Policy/Regulation 5610 – Suspension (Revised) [this Regulation must be adopted by the Board of Education as indicated by statute law or administrative code]

Policy 5620 – Expulsion (Revised)

Policy 8505 – Local Wellness Policy/Nutrient Standards for Meals and Other Foods (Revised)

Policy 8550 – Unpaid Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Service Charges (Revised)

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2.3 The Board approve to waive the time requirements for review according to Policy #0131 “Bylaws and Policies” and adopt the following Policy: (to be in place by September 1, 2017) Policy/Regulation 5511.2 - Mandating School Uniforms (revised)
(No vote needed on Regulation)

All Members voted “yes.”
 (8-0-0)

JENNINGS	BORDLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCCHI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIOS	SBRANA
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- 2.4 The Board approve to authorize the Board Secretary to enter into an affiliation agreement with the following colleges/universities for the 2017-2018 school year for the placement of students for field internship, student teaching, practicum and observations:
- a. The College of New Jersey (TCNJ)
 - b. Cumberland County College
 - c. Fairleigh Dickinson University
 - d. Grand Canyon University
 - e. Rutgers University
 - f. Stockton University
 - g. University of Phoenix

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

Mr. Jennings asked for an explanation on how we receive these contracts. Dr. Gruccio said we have students from these colleges who are doing their student teaching and request Vineland and the contracts are sent to Vineland.

- 2.5 The Board approve the Memorandum of Understanding between JAG program and Vineland Public Schools for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

- 2.6 The Board approve the YMCA Achievement Gap Program School Participation Agreement between Cumberland Cape Atlantic YMCA and the following schools for Achievement Gap After School Program for September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018:
- a. Petway Elementary School
 - b. Winslow Elementary School

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

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (3.1)

- 3.1 The Board approve a resolution declaring District owned properties known as 625 E. Plum Street (Block 3017, Lot 2) and 310 E. Plum Street (Block 3012, Lot 20) are no longer needed for school purposes, and authorizing and directing the Superintendent to apply for permission to sell the properties to the City of Vineland.

All Members voted "yes" except Mr. Fiocchi and Mr. Bordley who "abstained." (6-0-2)

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORRLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCHHI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIO S	SBRANA
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Ms. Codispoti asked what will happen to Administration if they cannot get into Landis School until May and where will additional money be pulled from if there is a problem. Mr. DeSanto said if the Board approves this resolution tonight there will be an agreement of sale prepared by him and Mr. Tonetta, City Solicitor. He said what he would provide in the agreement is that the closing date shall take place when confirmed by the district that they are ready to move. Mr. DeSanto said the closing will not be scheduled until we know that the move to Landis is complete. Mrs. Haley said we budgeted \$450,000 and the bids that we received are being rejected on tonight's agenda because they came in higher than the \$450,000. She said we informed Mr. Merighi, Architect, that we need the bid revised to go out to bid again. Mrs. Haley said in most of our bids there is a contingency of 10 or 20 thousand dollars built in. She said if the cost is above that then we will look at our budget to see if money can be transferred.

Mr. Medio asked what 310 E. Plum Street is. Mrs. Haley said it is a portion of the parking lot across the street. Mr. Medio asked when the Plum Street building is sold, will the standard provision be that the city cannot do anything with the building that does not apply to public service or the building will revert back to the school district the way it was done with other buildings in the past. Mr. DeSanto said we can make this approval conditioned on that but that is a subject of negotiation. He said this resolution does not have the contingency of the clauses that Mr. Medio suggested.

Mr. Sbrana asked how we arrived at the \$450,000 figure. Dr. Gruccio said there was discussion with the city regarding the property. She said the property was appraised and there were no comparisons within the area near what they are willing to pay us.

JENNINGS	BORDLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCCCHI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIOS	SRANA
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Dr. Gruccio said the price seems fair after doing the research. She said the city is working with us to provide a situation that we all benefit from. Mr. DeSanto said Title 18A allows the Board to convey to the city any school property for nominal consideration. He said therefore the fair market value of the property is not really relevant in terms of submitting it to the Department of Education for approval. Mr. DeSanto said we have fiber optic equipment that the city owns in the Plum Street building, which is needed for district operations. He said we have a couple years on that lease and we will continue to be able to use that fiber optic equipment to whatever extent we need it indefinitely with the city. Mr. DeSanto said the city intends to convert this building into offices. He said if this building was bid out we would lose the historic value of the building. Mr. DeSanto said all these factors play into the \$450,000 cost of the building.

FINANCE (4.1-4.17)

- 4.1 The Board approve the preliminary budgetary transfers for General, School-Based and ECPA for June 2017. All Members voted "yes." (8-0-0)

- 4.2 The Board approve the preliminary Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for June 2017. All Members voted "yes." (8-0-0)

- 4.3 The Board approve the submission of the following grant application:
The FY 2018 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act Application to the New Jersey Department of Education in the amount of \$77,835 for July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. All Members voted "yes." (8-0-0)

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORDLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCHES	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIS	SBRANA
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4.4 The Board approve to accept the following funding:
 a. Kohls Grant for Mennies Elementary School in the amount of \$500.
 b. New Jersey Youth Corps Program (2017-2018) Department of Labor and Workforce Development through Vineland Public Schools in the amount of \$400,000.

All Members voted "yes" except Mr. Medio who "abstained." (7-0-1)

4.5 The Board approve the following Non-Public Aid for the 2017-2018 school year:
 a. Non-Public Textbook Aid in the amount of \$25,966.
 b. Non-Public Technology Aid in the amount of \$17,538.
 c. Non-Public Security Aid in the amount of \$35,550.
 d. Non-Public Nursing Aid in the amount of \$45,978.

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

4.6 The Board approve the agreement between Vineland Board of Education and Catapult Learning, LLC, to provide Evaluation and Determination eligibility services to students in non-public schools within Vineland City boundaries for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

Mr. Bordley asked if this was a requirement. Mrs. Haley said we have to provide certain services for non-public schools.

4.7 The Board approve the agreement between Vineland Board of Education and Catapult Learning, LLC, to provide educational and related services through Chapter 192-193 funding to eligible students in non-public schools within Vineland city boundaries for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORDELEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCCHI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIOS	SRANA
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4.8 The Board approve the agreement between Vineland Board of Education and Catapult Learning, LLC, to provide special education and related services to students identified with disabilities, between ages 3 and 21 years to students attending non-public schools within Vineland City boundaries for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

4.9 The Board approve the agreement between Vineland Board of Education and Catapult Learning, LLC, to provide a special education teacher to instruct one (1) fourth grade student identified with a disability attending a non-public school within Vineland city boundaries for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

4.10 The Board approve the agreement between Vineland Board of Education and Catapult Learning, LLC, to provide Nursing Services to students in non-public schools within Vineland city boundaries for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

4.11 The Board approve the Professional Services Agreement between Vineland Board of Education and Inspira Health Care Occupational Health Services for employee/student physicals and drug screening.

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

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORDELEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCCHESE	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIOS	SBRANA
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4.12 The Board approve the tuition contract between Atlantic County Vocational School and Vineland Board of Education for one student in the amount of \$9,621.

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

4.13 The Board approve a bus advertisement for Century Savings Bank for one year in the amount of \$2,538.90.

All Members voted "yes" except Mr. Fiocchi who "abstained." (7-0-1)

4.14 The Board approve the following change to the VHS South Locker Room Upgrades:
 Change Order #1
 The design of the boy's locker room showers be modified to accommodate not just individual users but also sports teams with minimal change to the design this request can be accommodated through the installation of multi-head shower units, additional floor drains, and an area of additional floor and wall tile. Total increase to contract in the amount of \$43,393.19.

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

Ms. Codispoti thanked Mrs. Haley for getting back to her so quickly with a clarification to her question.

Ms. Rios asked if the girl's locker room is in the same condition and in need of upgrades as well. Mr. Weaver said the girl's locker room does not have the large shower area like the boy's locker room. He said it could use a total renovation also. Ms. Rios asked if this will be a future project. Mr. Weaver said yes every year we add projects.

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORDLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCCHI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIO	SBRANA
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4.15 a. The Board approve the rejection of all bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-22 (b) received for PW #15-17/18 Landis Administration Building. The lowest bid exceeds the Board of Education's appropriation for the goods or services. Authorize revisions of specifications and re-advertisement of bid.

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

b. The Board approve to authorize the Facilities Committee to make revisions to the scope of work and direct Administration to make supplemental changes to the scope of work.

All Members voted "yes" except Mr. Fiocchi who voted "no."
 (7-1-0)

Mr. Sbrana asked what changes will be made to get closer to the \$450,000. Dr. Gruccio said they are attached in the agenda. She said most of them are ceiling and floor issues. Mrs. Haley said retaining the existing HVAC, lighting and partitions.

Mr. Medio said he would like to review this at the next facilities meeting to see if there is anything else that Board members would like to modify or change. Mr. Bordley said absolutely.

Dr. Gruccio said this will be rebid tomorrow because of the timeline.

Mr. Sbrana asked how this will change the timeline. Dr. Gruccio said it will not if the bid goes out quickly and we can continue the work. Mr. Sbrana asked what the move date is. Dr. Gruccio said February 1st.

Mr. Medio said he thinks the Board should have some input in this because it is a Board project.

Mr. Sbrana asked if any work has been done on the building and are we completely out of there. Dr. Gruccio said yes we are out and the elevator is being installed. Mr. Sbrana asked when the elevator will be finished. Mr. Weaver said the contract calls for a September completion and is moving along quick.

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORDLEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCCHEI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIOS	SBRANA
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Ms. Rios asked if the bid is for things that district employees cannot do. Mr. Weaver said it is all about the time needed to get the job done. He said there is probably nothing in that scope of work that we cannot do. Mr. Weaver said we only have so many employees and are limited on the resources. Ms. Rios asked if the items that are being removed from the bid, to keep it at the \$450,000, can be done in-house. Mr. Weaver said he has not had the opportunity to look at the scope of work reduction. Dr. Gruccio said she thinks most of the things can be done in-house over time. Ms. Rios suggested for this to go to the Buildings & Grounds committee.

Mr. Bordley asked if this goes out for bid can a change be done after the fact. Mr. DeSanto said you are allowed to have a bid specification supplement, which has to be issued 10 days prior to the bid opening. He said if you place in the specification that the Board reserves the right to amend by deduction of the scope of work. Mr. Weaver suggested finalizing the specifications and then put it out for bid.

Ms. Codispoti asked if the Facilities Committee can meet next week to discuss this, which would only delay things by 5 or 6 days.

Mr. DeSanto said if you do not move the bid opening date then the committee meeting will not do anything for you. He said you will probably need 12 days from the date of the committee in order to have a day or two to make changes with a ten day window to give to the contractors.

Mr. Bordley said the committee will meet tomorrow at 4:00 p.m.

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 9, 2017

JENNINGS	BORDELEY	ACOSTA	CODISPOTI	FIOCHHI	HOLMES	MEDIO	RIS	SBANA
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- 4.16 The Board approve the following Cumberland County Regional Cooperative Transportation initiatives:
- a. 2017-2018 Joint Agreements with the Cumberland County Regional Cooperative; Routes Vineland 04 and Vineland 05 in a per diem amount of \$265.
 - b. 2017-2018 Transportation Addendum for the following routes with the Cumberland County Regional Cooperative: CJ's Bus Service CS54 #1, CJ's Bus Service CS1707 #1, CJ's Bus Service CS1717 #1, BR Williams CS1726 #2.
 - c. 2017-18 Regular School Year Renewal Routes

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

- 4.17 The Board approve to authorize the Superintendent to apply for Additional State Assistance of \$2,059,792 which represents the reduction to state aid FY 2018.

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

The revised budget reflective of the state aid reduction, adopted by the Board of Education on July 24, 2017 has below adequacy spending of \$51,305,513 and the Extraordinary Special Education aid has consistently been funded at less than 100% causing an underfunding of \$572,315. Reducing state aid by \$2,059,792 has added to the fiscal distress of our district which has a 72% free and reduced lunch population and rising special education expenses, but is trying to remain competitive with the nearby charter schools and vocational schools while dealing with a limited tax base due to poor economic conditions.

Ms. Acosta asked how long the state has to respond to us after this is submitted to them. Mrs. Haley said we do not know. Ms. Acosta asked if it would be helpful if parents wrote to the legislators. Mrs. Haley said every little bit helps.

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

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Ms. Codispoti, seconded by Mr. Bordley, the June 2017 bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$10,652,553.51).

Committee Reports: Ms. Codispoti said the Curriculum & Instruction Committee will be meeting on Monday and the Transportation Committee will meet on Tuesday. She said the Preschool meeting will be held in October. Ms. Codispoti said Ms. Monteleone, Preschool Principal, said National Night Out was heavily attended and they distributed over 500 books about the Preschool Program. She said the preschool open house will be held on August 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Acosta said discussed at the July Policy & Personnel Committee was the School Uniform Policy, employment issues, ground work for upcoming union contracts, military service/district pay, non-tenured staff not returning, high school nursing supervisor and a supervisor for testing/guidance/homeless. She said the committee also met today with the Bridges Immigration Action Committee in regards to support for undocumented families and children in our schools. Ms. Acosta said they discussed an employee with regards to pay while being on military duty, dropped clerical/teaching position due to budget reductions, employee accommodation due to physical disability, resignations that caused a vacancy, and staff one year contracts.

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

Public: Vickie Miller
Ms. Miller asked if the Board candidates know that they cannot campaign on school property and have to declare the party they are supported by. She congratulated Mr. Medio.

Mr. DeSanto said we do not advise candidates.

Board Member

Remarks:

Ms. Codispoti said it was her understanding that the Tanner name dedication would be held sometime in the fall. She asked if there has been any progress with the dedication ceremony. Dr. Gruccio said she spoke with Mr. Robbins, Athletic Director, and he said he was working on it and would get back to us. Ms. Codispoti said she does not think anyone including herself was against getting the turf field. She thinks the main issue was how we were going to pay for it. Ms. Codispoti suggested asking the city for some of the aid.

Mrs. Haley said tomorrow is the kick off meeting with Grants Office LLC, to discuss the NFL Grass Roots Grant. She said they will assign a grants writer to us and go forward. Mrs. Haley explained how the grant works.

Ms. Rios congratulated Mr. Medio on his sports recognition.

Dr. Gruccio congratulated the Vineland Pigtail All-Stars for winning the World Series. She said the Grid Iron Club had a very successful golf tournament the other day. Dr. Gruccio congratulated Mr. Medio on receiving the distinguished award for his service to our community and athletics. She wished all the students well who just finished the summer programs. Dr. Gruccio wished everyone a nice end to their summer.

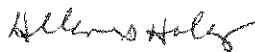
Report/Remarks by
Board President:

Mr. Jennings said there was good discussion tonight in regards to the building. He hopes the taxpayers realize we are working in their best interest. Mr. Jennings congratulated Mr. Medio on his achievement award.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Bordley, seconded by Ms. Codispoti, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. All Members voted "yes."

Respectfully Submitted,


Helen G. Haley
Board Secretary

HGH:dt

