

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, August 22, 2018 at 6:05 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 and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: Ms. Spinelli.

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:

Resolution: None.

Special
Presentation (s): None.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by, seconded by, the minutes were approved from July 31, 2018. All Members voted "yes."

Solicitor's Report: None.

Public Comment on
Agenda Items: None.

Recommendations:

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

PERSONNEL (1.1-1.3)

- 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

Mr. Ulrich said we are hiring a vice principal tonight and he does not think the Board has had the opportunity to discuss this position. Dr. Gruccio said we conducted vice principal interviews when we hired the last person. She said we went through the same interview process and selected a candidate.

Ms. Rivera thanked Dr. Gruccio, Mr. Frey, Mr. Frangipani and Dr. Rossi for seeing the potential in her and recommending her for the position of assistant principal at Vineland High School. She is truly honored and grateful for the opportunity. Ms. Rivera thanked the Board of Education for believing in her and approving the recommendation. She promises she will not let the school community down and will work alongside other assistant principals to support Ms. DeMarchi's goals and visions for Vineland High School.

- 1.2 The Board approve a salary increment withholding, effective September 1, 2018 for Wallace School Counselor, Norma Ruef.

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

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

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
			1	2				
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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
			1	2				
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- 1.3 The Board approve a recommendation from Program Administrator, Joseph Camardo, to approve the following amended salary increases of 2.5 percent for the three grant-funded New Jersey Youth Corp employees, retroactive to July 1, 2018:
- a. Gary Brown
 - b. Steven Medio
 - c. Sherry Wilkins

All Members voted "yes" except for Mr. Medio who voted yes for all names except he "abstained" on name 2.

PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS (2.1-2.3)

- 2.1 The Board approve field trips and district travel.

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

- 2.2 The Board approve a Dual Credit Articulation Agreement with Cumberland County College for the 2018-2019 school year.

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

- 2.3 The Board approve the NJ Department of Education Waiver Application N.J.A.C. 6A:5 for the Cumberland Cape Atlantic YMCA to change the family worker ratio to 1:60.

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

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (none)

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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FINANCE (4.1-4.11)

4.1 The Board approve special education student placements.

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

4.2 The Board approve submission of the following funds:

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

- a. ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Teacher Grant for Vineland High School South in the amount of \$952.
- b. The FY 2019 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Application from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 to the State of New Jersey Department of Education in the following amount:
 - Basic Allocation (3-21)\$2,800,146.
 - Preschool Allocation (3-5)\$ 92,635.

Mr. Medio asked if special education has their own budget. Mrs. Haley said there are certain line items governed by the state that pertain to special education. Mr. Medio asked if there is a certain amount that is designated in advance for special education. Mrs. Haley said no Mrs. Godlewski, Director of Special Education, lets us know what she needs.

4.3 The Board approve acceptance of the following funding:

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

ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Teacher Grant for Vineland High School South in the amount of \$952.

			1	2				
			1	2				
			1	2				

Vineland Board of Education
 Report to the Board – August 22, 2018

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
			1	2				
			1	2				
			1	2				
			1	2				

4.4 The Board approve the following name changes to the authorized signers on the Vineland High School Student Activity Account at BB&T Bank:
 Remove- Dr. Thomas McCann
 Add- a. Suzette DeMarchi
 b. Helen G. Haley
 c. Deborah Bishop
 d. Mercedita Kincaid

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

4.5 The Board approve the tuition contract agreement between the Vineland Board of Education and Atlantic County Vocational School Board for the 2018-2019 school year in the amount of \$8,125 per year.

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

4.6 The Board approve the settlement agreement and general release with Paul Lovecchio in the amount of \$10,000 in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement on file with the Vineland Board of Education.

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

4.7 The Board approve the settlement and general release with Tara Johnson in the amount of \$19,500 in accordance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement on file with the Vineland Board of Education.

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

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			1	2				
			1	2				
			1	2				

4.8 The Board approve the sale of a vehicle which is on file with the Board Secretary to be auctioned on Gov.Deals.

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

4.9 The Board approve Change Order #1 from Capri Construction for the VHS South Girls' Locker Room to lower masonry from deck height at all walls in the credit amount of \$7,424.

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

4.10 The Board approve the revised award of the following bid:
 Vineland Board of Education Transportation Routes
 Record and Award Bid #VPS-18-01 18/19
 Sheppard Bus Service
 In the amount of -----\$1,922,080.
 For various to and from school routes which are on file in the Business Administrator's Office.

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

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			1	2				

- 4.11 The Board approve the Cumberland County Regional Cooperative Transportation initiatives:
- a. 2018-2019 Extended School Year Addendum
 - b. 2018-2019 Regular School Year Addendum
 - c. 2017-2018 Bid #3 Pupil Transportation

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

- B. Proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members: Ms. Spinelli’s recommendation to discuss and vote on a Pilot Program for landscaping a school.

Mr. Jennings asked what this entails. Mr. Bordley said this is open for discussion. Mr. Medio asked if this discussion could be postponed until Ms. Spinelli is here. Mr. Bordley said yes this discussion will be moved to the next Board meeting.

Approval of Bills: None.

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

Public: Quajon Kinsey, Student
Mr. Kinsey spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Natalyn Velez, Student
Miss Velez spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Tiffany Robinson, Parent
Ms. Robinson spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Jeremiah Atoki, Former Student
Mr. Atoki spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

William Ramos, Student
Mr. Ramos spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

John from Class of 77
John spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Christopher Ferrer
Mr. Ferrer spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Felisberto Maceia, Parent
Mr. Maceia spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Andrea Ruiz, Former Student

Miss Ruiz spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Student

Spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Michael Green, Student

Mr. Green spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Koreah Stratton, Student

Miss Stratton spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Lynn Buckman, Parent

Ms. Buckman spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Aniah Burrows, Student

Miss Burrows spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Xavier Gonzalez, Student

Mr. Gonzalez spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Student

Spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Student

Spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Student

Spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Elliott DeShields, Winter Track Coach

Mr. DeShields said he is very proud of the student athletes who came out tonight and spoke. He spoke in support of the Winter Track Program.

Student

Spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Sara Fiss, Student

Miss Fiss spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

John Boykin, Former VHS Coach

Mr. Boykin spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Tamant Maceia, Student

Mr. Maceia spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Statement read on behalf of Aria Baldwin

Ms. Baldwin's statement was in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Latoya Holland, Parent

Ms. Holland spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Julia Higgs, Student

Miss Higgs spoke in support of bringing back the Winter Track Program.

Student

Spoke about the million dollars that was spent on the football stadium

Parent

Parent said track and field is the only sport that is not a city recreation sport.

Mr. Bordley said this decision was made by Don Robbins, Athletic Director, who unfortunately is on vacation at the current time. Mr. Bordley said that he has been assured that once Mr. Robbins returns Mrs. DeMarchi and Mr. Robbins will sit down and try to work this out. Mr. Bordley said the Athletic Department has a budget and we want to make it work. He said none of us want this program cut but this was decided by the Athletic Director.

Mr. Medio requested a 5 minute recess at 7:33 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:42 p.m.

Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: A motion was made by Mr. Medio, seconded by Mr. Jennings, to reinstate the Winter Track Program and move \$25,000 out of surplus until Administration finds another place to fund it.

Mrs. Haley said you cannot do a journal entry to take funds out of surplus. She said it would have to come out of a regular budget account.

Mr. DeSanto said Board meetings are governed by your by-laws. He said these bylaws set up a process, structure and order for the conduct of meetings. Mr. DeSanto said absent an emergency or time sensitive issue you should follow the bylaws when considering a matter to be voted on. He said that gives administration the opportunity to find funding and the ability to identify a budget transfer. Mr. DeSanto said in this case to get input from the Athletic Director. He said that he is not saying that you cannot vote because this is a published meeting on your annual notice. Mr. DeSanto cautioned the Board that absent an emergency or time sensitive matter your bylaws give you order and structure so matters are prepared for. He said it is up to the Board tonight whether or not you want to vote on this or defer it to the September 12th meeting. Mr. DeSanto said at that time it could be a recommendation from a Board member or Superintendent.

Mr. Sbrana asked if the motion can be made as an intent and a directive for administration to find the funding.

Mr. DeSanto said it is best to express your feelings in Board member comments.

Mr. Medio said so we cannot take this money out of surplus. Mrs. Haley said no we can apply surplus as budgeted fund balance to the next year but until you spend your entire budget you cannot take money out of surplus itself. She said you can do transfers within the budget.

Mr. Ulrich asked when the deadline for winter track is. A member of the audience said the season begins in December. Dr. Gruccio said the appropriate thing to do is have a discussion with the athletic director and principal. She does not think anyone wants to eliminate winter track but there is an appropriate way to go about it. Dr. Gruccio said this would put Mrs. Haley in a tough situation with the budget and thinks Mr. Robbins needs to be a part of this conversation.

Mr. Medio withdrew his motion.

New Business:

None.

Board Member
Remarks:

Mr. Fiocchi thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He said if winter track is on the agenda for the next meeting he will be voting “yes” to reinstate it. Mr. Fiocchi said their knowledge was that this was removed by the athletic director and they had no knowledge prior to Mr. DeShields coming to us.

Mr. Ulrich congratulated Ms. Rivera on her new job. He thanked and apologized to all the students and parents because he could not hear a lot of what was said. Mr. Ulrich said the acoustics in this room are very bad but he got the point of what everyone was speaking about. He said we are in difficult budgetary times and the Superintendent will be giving the Board a two year projection plan. Mr. Ulrich said every cent counts and he hears what everyone is saying. He said when winter track comes up for discussion in September he thinks there is enough students that are affected so he would support it. Mr. Ulrich said the schools look good and he thanked Mr. Weaver along with his staff. He wished all of the staff and students a good school year.

Mr. Medio said today he visited Lincoln Avenue Middle School and the parking lot was packed. He said there is a lot of enthusiasm in the community. Mr. Medio said he was impressed by the natural landscaping at the new school. He hopes everyone has a good school opening with little problems.

Mr. Sbrana congratulated Ms. Rivera on her promotion. He was impressed with the students and adults who spoke tonight. Mr. Sbrana said their passion and commitment to this program is very important. He said the benefits of this program outweigh the money.

Mr. Sbrana said he is hopeful that there will be a way to find the funding for winter track. He said they are working on the problem in regards to walkways and access to the front of the building for students who will be walking to Lincoln Avenue Middle School. Mr. Sbrana said he is looking forward to a great school opening.

Mr. Jennings said he is fairly confident that we will find the money and have enough votes to carry the winter track. He said everyone that spoke did a great job and helped the Board understand things. Mr. Jennings said this meeting can be watched live on YouTube. He appreciates everyone who came out tonight.

Ms. Acosta said she was very impressed with the students who spoke tonight and said it is heartwarming to see how important this is to them. She assured the students that the Board and Central Administration will do whatever they can to be able to restore the funding so that there is winter track. Ms. Acosta congratulated Ms. Rivera on her promotion.

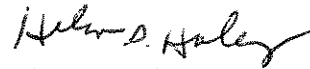
Dr. Guccio congratulated and wished Ms. Rivera the very best. She said there has been a tremendous amount of work done this year because of the redistricting. She said maintenance has gone above and beyond and transportation is working tirelessly. Dr. Guccio said our teachers have given so many hours of their time making sure their rooms are ready and the schools looks great. She thanked everyone in the district for all they have done in helping with the redistricting process. Dr. Guccio wished everyone a successful and productive school year. She thanked everyone who spoke this evening and said they will continue to work on the winter track issue with the athletic director and principal to try to make it work.

Report/Remarks by
Board President:

Mr. Bordley said it is a well-deserved promotion for Ms. Rivera. He understands where the track students are coming from and thinks that there is not one person up here that will not fight to keep this program going. Mr. Bordley said we will work with administration to try to make this work. He wished everyone the best of luck and a safe school year.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Acosta, to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. All Members voted “yes.”

Respectfully Submitted,



Helen G. Haley
Board Secretary

HGH:dt