

An open work session of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, September 7, 2016 at 7:02 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. English presiding and the following members present: Ms. Acosta, Mr. Bordley, Ms. Codispoti, Mr. DeWinne, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Pagano and Ms. Rios and Mr. Sbrana. Absent: None.

Also present: Dr. Guccio, Superintendent, Mr. Frangipani, Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Haley, Board Secretary, Dr. Rossi, Executive Director of Personnel, Mr. DeSanto, Board Solicitor, press and public. Absent: Mr. Frey, Assistant Superintendent who arrived at 7:43 p.m.

Mr. English 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, the Atlantic City Press, The Grapevine, Clerk - City of Vineland, and Administrative Office Public Bulletin Board.

Flag salute:

Dr. Guccio welcomed everyone back to a new school year. She said that she has been visiting various schools with central administration and it has been phenomenal. The schools are running smoothly, are clean and the students are happy. Dr. Guccio thanked Mr. Weaver and his staff for all the work they did in getting the high school open on time. She also thanked the teachers, principals, and bus drivers for a very smooth beginning.

Special

Presentations:

Dr. Guccio introduced Dr. Thomas McCann, Vineland High School Principal, to discuss the District Uniform Policy at VHS.

Dr. McCann addressed the enforcement of the District Uniform Policy at Vineland High School.

Mr. English asked what we are doing this year as far as enforcing the uniforms. Dr. McCann said last year the discipline referrals for uniforms was almost 25% of the total number of referrals that the Assistant Principals dealt with daily. He said there were a lot of repeat referrals with a greater discipline given.

Mr. Bordley asked Mr. McCann to explain some of the philosophy behind getting the students to be in compliance.

Dr. McCann said what we have built with the Providing Better Support in Schools Program (PBSIS) is to provide support for the student body by reinforcing positive behavior. He said the students receive rewards and cash them in at the Roo Store. Dr. McCann said this initiative will slowly change the culture and reward the students on positive behavior. He said when students come to school in the morning they are all coming in one entrance. If they do not have a uniform on, they are to go right to the auditorium. If they do, then they go to their classroom. Dr. McCann said this is the best start of school that we have had with the uniforms.

Mr. DeWinne asked if there is a certain red that the students have to wear. Dr. McCann said it is up to the Assistant Principals because there are different shades of red. Mr. DeWinne asked if athletic logos are allowed if they are an inch and a half. Dr. McCann said yes.

Mr. Sbrana said he noticed the numbers decline when you look at ninth to twelfth grade.

Ms. Codispoti thanked Dr. McCann for bringing the numbers to the Board and for being on top of this.

Mr. English said uniforms are uniformity and gives you the team atmosphere. He thanked Ms. Rios for pushing forward for school uniforms.

Mr. DeWinne asked how many of the uniform infractions can a high school designee handle a day. Dr. McCann said he could handle about 50 a day.

Mr. Jennings commended the Assistant Principals for being here as a team.

Mr. DeWinne urged the parents to please have their children dressed appropriately so we do not waste taxpayer's dollars on these unnecessary infractions.

Mr. English asked if Dr. McCann can come back to the Board in January to present new numbers.

Ms. Rios thanked Dr. McCann for the presentation along with everyone who came up with the new plans to make the high school run better.

Mr. English welcomed Mr. Panas and Ms. DeMarchi to the high school.

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 collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body labor negotiations with VASA, Non-Certificated Supervisors, School Psychologists and UAW. 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.

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

Comments by

Board Solicitor: None.

Items for Review:

A. Superintendent

1. **PERSONNEL**

- 1.1 **Personnel Items** – Mr. DeWinne congratulated the retirees and wished them good health in their retirement.

Mr. English said the 3 ½ hour food service worker will be replaced by a Sodexo employee.

2. **PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS**

- 2.1 **Travel** – No discussion.
- 2.2 **Uniform Memorandum of Agreement** – No discussion.
- 2.3 **Revised World Language AP Language and Culture Curriculum** – No discussion.
- 2.4 **Revised Bilingual/ESL Pre ESL 1 High School Course** – No discussion.

2.5 **Revised Elementary Library, Art & Social Studies** – No discussion.

3. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

3.1 **Temporary Facilities** – Mr. Sbrana asked if the Ippolito Annex is the Music building. Dr. Guccio said yes.

4. **FINANCE**

4.1 **Budgetary Transfers** – No discussion.

4.2 **Board Secretary/Treasurer’s Report for July 2016** – No discussion.

4.3 **Placement of Special Education Students** – No discussion.

4.4 **Acceptance of the following funding – a. Municipal Alliance Grant, b. NJ Schools Insurance Group** – No discussion.

4.5 **Big Brothers Big Sisters Partnership Agreement** - No discussion.

4.6 **Camden County Technical School Contract**- Mr. English asked if this was for one student. Dr. Guccio said yes for one student.

4.7 **Cumberland County Educational Cooperative Transportation Addendums** – No discussion.

4.8 **Cumberland County Educational Cooperative Quoted Contracts** – No discussion.

4.9 **Cumberland County Educational Cooperative Out of District Agreements** – No discussion.

4.10 **Mental Health Services Award** – Mr. Sbrana asked if this was for a fixed number of students. Ms. Godlewski said Robin’s Nest is not for a fixed number of students but how many they can service a day based upon the needs of the students. She said they will be here twice a week in each of the levels.

2. REGULAR AGENDA

Mr. DeSanto said over 20 years ago when the Board set up a process for the work session and regular meeting the purposes of the work session were to identify each item that the Superintendent was recommending and to allow the Board a week in between the items and then a vote. Mr. DeSanto said the work session would allow the public to know each of the topics that the Board members were being asked to deliberate on. He said the purpose of the consent agenda was to bundle, for purposes of voting, the items that were identified and discussed at the work session.

b. Items proposed by the Board President or an individual Board Member – None.

Review of bills incurred during July 2016 – Mr. English said he saw Home Depot on the bill list and would like to see other local vendors used.

Public Comments: Lee Burke

Mr. Burke said he was pleased to read the retreat minutes where the goals of the Board were discussed and aspects of the Superintendent's evaluation. He expressed his concern in regards to the goals that are being developed and the state aid. Mr. Burke discussed the school start times.

Luis Santiago

Mr. Santiago expressed his concern in regards to the transportation department placing monetary savings figures in place of safety.

Committee Reports: Mr. DeWinne distributed the August 1, 2016 summary of the Finance Committee meeting and said if anyone has any questions to please let him know.

Mr. English said he switched Board committees and every Board member should know the committee they are on. He said if there is a committee that a Board member does not sit on and would like to one month to contact the committee chair and they can sit in his place.

Mr. DeWinne said the budget preparation should begin soon and any Board member can participate or we can have a budget of the whole.

Mr. English said it is going to be a tough year and he hopes we continue to work hard with the transparency piece. He said we are going to treat the budget as if we are going to be hit hard, which hopefully it does not happen.

Mr. English said in regards to our Board goals an unfortunate situation has occurred with our NJ School Boards Representative, Charlene Zoerb, who passed away suddenly. He said we now have a new NJ School Boards Representative that we have to meet so we will have a third retreat to discuss the goals and Superintendent's evaluation.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Ms. Codispoti, seconded by Mr. Jennings, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. to executive session. All Members voted "yes."

Respectfully submitted,

Helen G. Haley
Board Secretary

