

The combined meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Landis Administration Building Board Meeting Room, 61 W. Landis Avenue, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 5:37 p.m., pursuant to notice with Ms. Acosta presiding and the following members present: Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Medio, Mr. Sbrana, Ms. Spinelli, and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: Mr. Bordley

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.

Ms. Acosta 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:

Mrs. Haley read a resolution to convene into executive session for following reasons as outlined in N.J.S. A. 10-4-12. Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may be a party. If contract negotiation the nature of the contract and interested party is 17 W. Landis Avenue Building, Max Leuchter School Building and Oak & Main Building. Any matter 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 Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Holmes, the resolution was passed. All Members voted "yes."

The Board recessed to executive session at 5:40 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 6:10 p.m.

Flag Salute: Students from Cunningham School Camelot Program led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Gruccio introduced Dr. Joseph Rossi, Executive Director of Personnel, to recognize staff members who have perfect attendance in the 2017-2018 school year.

Dr. Rossi said we are here to honor our perfect attendance recipients. He said we had a total of 125 full time employees who did not take a sick day in 2017-18 and there were 60 individuals who only took one sick day. Dr. Rossi said the Board will present certificates to the 45 perfect attendance recipients present tonight.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Ms. Lindsay Thies and Ms. Miriam Jamal, Vineland High School Senior Class Advisors, to present a proposal for a 2019 class trip.

Ms. Thies and Ms. Jamil said they are seeking permission for the senior class to travel to Washington D.C. and Williamsburg Virginia for the 2019 class trip. Ms. Thies and Ms. Jamil discussed the itinerary and details of the class trip. They requested for the Board to pay for a school nurse's attendance on the trip at a rate of \$25 an hour during the hours of 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for each of the 3 days for a total of \$1,050 and to excuse the days that the students will be absent.

Mr. Jennings asked who the security will be. Ms. Thies said security is provided through Adventure Student Travel.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Ms. Deana Ridolfo, Curriculum Supervisor and District Testing Coordinator, to present the district test scores.

Ms. Ridolfo presented the data on the district test scores.

Mr. Jennings asked what State PARCC means. Ms. Ridolfo said the state scores is what the state average is. Mr. Jennings asked what the PARCC average is. Ms. Ridolfo said the PARCC average are the states that take the PARCC test.

Mr. Ulrich asked do we know how many students did not take the test. Ms. Ridolfo said about 200.

Mr. Jennings asked if the students who do not take the test are calculated in the data. Ms. Ridolfo said no they are not calculated in the data. She said those students have already met their graduation requirements and chose to not take the test. Ms. Ridolfo said if they took the test their score would have counted. Mr. Jennings said maybe they would have contributed to a higher score. Ms. Ridolfo said yes.

Mr. Sbrana asked if this presentation is online. Ms. Ridolfo said it will be online tonight and she will also send it out to the Board members.

HIB: No discussion.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Spinelli, the minutes were approved from August 22, 2018 and September 12, 2018. All Members voted “yes.”

Solicitor’s Report: None.

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None.

Recommendations:

ACOSTA	BORDELY	FIOCHES	HOLMES	JENNINGS	MEDINO	SBARRANA	SPINELLI	ULRICH
		2	1					
		2	1					
		2	1					
		2	1					
		2	1					

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

**PERSONNEL (1.1-1.4)**

- 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
  
- 1.2 The Board approve the withholding of a salary increment, effective September 1, 2018, for a Wallace School Teacher whose name is on file with the Board Secretary.
  
- 1.3 The Board approve an increase in the hourly pay rate of substitute bus drivers from \$16 to \$17 per hour, effective October 15, 2018.
  
- 1.4 The Board approve the withholding of a day's pay from a certified teacher (whose name is on file with the Board Secretary) due to misuse of paid leave time, retroactive to September 25, 2018.

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

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

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

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

**PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS (2.1-2.6)**

- 2.1 The Board approve field trips and district travel.

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

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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
		2	1					
		2	1					
		2	1					
		2	1					

2.2 The Board approve the Board Secretary to enter into an affiliation agreement for the 2018-2019 school year for the placement of students for field internship, student teaching, practicum, and observations with the University of the Arts – Philadelphia.

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

2.3 The Board approve the Board Secretary to enter into an affiliation agreement for the 2018-2019 school year for the placement of students for field internship, student teaching, practicum, and observations with Immaculata University of PA.

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

2.4 The Board approve the second reading of the following Bylaws, Policies, and Regulations for adoption:  
**Mandated Changes**  
**Policy 1613** Disclosure and Review of Applicant's Employment History – New (Mandated)  
**Regulation 1613** Disclosure and Review of Applicant's Employment History – New (Mandated)  
**Policy 5561** Use of Physical Restraint – Revised (Mandated)  
**Regulation 5561** Use of Physical Restraint – Revised (Mandated)  
**Policy 8561** P8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition – Revised (Mandated)

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

2.5 The Board approve the submission of the NJ Department of Education "2017-2018 School Self Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act." (This is required by the state, at a public meeting, prior to NJDOE submission.)

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
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			1	2				
			1			2		
			1			2		
			1			2		

2.6 The Board approve the agreement between the Vineland Board of Education and the Vineland Police Department for access to our video system to assist the Board in resolving emergency situations.

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

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (3.1)**

3.1 The Board approve a resolution declaring that the district property located at 17 West Landis Avenue is no longer needed for school purposes and authorizing and directing the Superintendent to apply for permission to sell or lease the property.

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

**FINANCE (4.1-4.11)**

4.1 The Board approve budgetary transfers for General, School-Based and ECPA for July and August 2018.

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

4.2 The Board approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for July 2018.

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

4.3 The Board approve the Board Secretary and Treasurer reports for August 2018.

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

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			1			2		

4.4 The Board approve the placement of Special Education students.

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

4.5 The Board approve submission of the following grant applications:

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

1. Ocean First Foundations Model Classroom Grant for Vineland High School South in the amount of \$10,000.
2. Art Education Grant for Vineland High School South in the maximum amount of \$5,000.
3. State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families, Family Friendly Center Grant for Sabater Elementary School in the amount of \$45,463 from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.
4. NJ Principals and Supervisors Association Visionary Leadership Award in the amount of \$7,000.

**Mr. Jennings asked if we have people writing these grants. Dr. Gruccio said yes. Mr. Jennings thanked them for doing this.**

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				1		2		

4.6 The Board approve the acceptance of the following funding:

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

1. Cumberland County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Service Grant – Vineland Municipal Alliance for the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$5,600 for a drug and alcohol-free post-graduation celebration with the amount to be matched with \$1,400 from Vineland Board of Education.
2. No Kid Hungry Grant for Vineland High School Breakfast Cart in the amount of \$5,000.
3. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning for Wallace Middle School from September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019 in the amount of \$58,360.  
 Addendum One: United Way Funding  
 From: September 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019  
 In the amount of \$7,500

4.7 The Board approve the opening of a new bank account at Newfield National Bank for the Johnstone AMSA Student Activity Account with the following signers:

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

- Jeffrey DuBois
- Kristina Craig
- Lisbeth Rosa
- Eileen Love
- Helen G. Haley



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			1			2		

4.8 The Board approve the list of agencies, consultants and clinicians that is on file with the Board Secretary to be utilized by the Child Study Team as part of the evaluation process when specialized testing is required. The amount of each Independent Evaluation requested by a parent/guardian is in alignment with N.J.A.C. 6A: (C) 1-7 not to exceed \$3,000 per evaluator per VBOE Policy 2468.

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

4.9 The Board approve the award of the following contract for Certified School Nurse (RFP #21-18/19) for the term of October 4, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

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

Certified School Nurse  
 Contractor: Bayada Home Health Care, Inc.  
 Riverview Commerce Center  
 10 East Main Street, Suites H & I  
 Millville, NJ 08322  
 Hourly Rate: \$55.00  
 Not to Exceed: \$75,000

4.10 The Board approve the tuition contract between Cumberland County Technical Education Center and the Vineland Board of Education for the 2018-2019 school year for (3) Strive ESY students in the amount of \$2,240 per student per month.

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

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			1			2		

4.11 The Board approve the following Cumberland County Regional Cooperative Transportation initiatives:

1. 2018-2019 Transportation Quoted Contracts
2. 2018-2019 Transportation Addendum
3. 2018-2019 Bid #4 Student Transportation Services Record & Award

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

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Fiocchi, the bills for May (re-approval), July and August 2018 were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$9,638,504.39 May, \$2,158,386.73, July, \$9,394,381.32 August).

**Mr. Jennings asked for an explanation on the re-approval of the May 2018 bills. Mrs. Haley said it was just a correction. She said while working on the audit we noticed that payroll items were listed on the bill report and we needed to include the regular bills on it as well.**

Committee Reports: Mr. Medio said the Facilities Committee held a meeting on October 1<sup>st</sup> and the discussion was about the items discussed in closed session tonight.

Mr. Ulrich said discussed at tonight’s Policy & Personnel Committee Meeting was increasing substitute bus driver pay, decision on tenure charges against a teacher, staff members perfect attendance, salary increment withholding against a teacher, and withholding a day’s pay from a teacher. He said also discussed was Policy #8508 Lunch Offer Versus Serve and Policy #7250 Board School Naming Process. Mr. Ulrich said he along with Mr. Medio, Ms. Spinelli and Ms. Acosta came to an agreement on the school naming procedure, which Mr. DeSanto will explain.

Proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members:

Jeffrey Bordley, Board President, recommended discussion of the process by which the Special Meeting on October 17, 2018 will be conducted.

Mr. DeSanto said the Policy Committee is making the following recommendation to the Board for the process to be undertaken at the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. He said the President will open public comments on nominations for the naming of the Lincoln Avenue Middle School in honor of a person meeting the criteria of Policy #7250. Speakers will be requested to sign a yellow sheet so Mrs. Haley is provided with the correct spelling of the name of each speaker. Those speakers will be called in alphabetical order. In the event someone arrives late or did not fill out a sheet he or she will be permitted to speak after the alphabetic list is completed.

Mr. DeSanto said the committee is recommending that speakers will be given 3 minutes to make his or her presentation. Mr. DeSanto said that Mr. Ulrich is pointing out that your Bylaws require a minimum of 5 minutes for public comment. In the event that the Board is limiting speakers to 3 minutes the policy will have to be suspended for that presentation night. Mr. DeSanto said Mr. Bordley will signal when one minute remains so the speaker is given the courtesy of wrapping up their comments. Each speaker may make only one 3 or 5 minute presentation. Mr. DeSanto said Mr. Bordley will request that the audience avoids repetitive comments and asks that subsequent speakers only address new points to be made. Speakers may only address nominations submitted prior to the published deadline and whose names were published in the public notice of the October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. No new nominations will be received that night by policy. After the public comment is closed the Board members will be given ballots listing the candidates in alphabetical order. Each Board member will be requested to check off up to 3 candidates that he or she proposes as a finalist. The ballots will be tabulated by Mr. Musterel, the Assistant Business Administrator. Mr. Musterel will certify a written report listing in alphabetical order up to 3 finalists receiving preliminary votes. The President will then entertain a motion to name the school in honor of one of the finalists. If the motion is seconded a roll call vote will be taken. If the nominee receives a majority vote of the quorum present that night the school will be named after that individual. If not then a motion will be made for another candidate. If none of the finalists obtain a majority vote on any motion then the name of the school remains Lincoln Avenue Middle School. Mr. DeSanto said that is the recommendation of the committee. He said the only issue you want to discuss is whether or not you want to suspend the policy requiring 5 minutes to 3 minutes for this particular evening.

Mr. Medio said we should suspend the policy now. Mr. DeSanto said yes.

**Motion:**

A motion was made by Mr. Medio, seconded by Mr. Fiocchi, to suspend the policy from 5 minutes to a 3 minute presentation. All Members voted “yes.”

Mr. Medio wanted to clarify that the Board will write down 3 names and our name will be at the top of the paper. Mr. DeSanto said yes it will be kept and available for public inspection.

Mr. DeSanto said one of the nominees is Mr. Fiocchi's grandfather and Mr. Fiocchi will not participate in the ballot. In the event that his grandfather is not one of the finalists he no longer has a conflict and will be permitted to participate.

Mr. Sbrana asked if you can just put one name on the initial ballot and not three. Mr. DeSanto responded yes.

Mr. Holmes asked who will determine if a nominee does not meet the qualifications according to the policy. Mr. DeSanto said that is a matter of interpretation our policy is broad enough that a person has to provide service or be a benefactor or philanthropist donating. He said in the past we have done a preliminary review because it was very easy. Mr. DeSanto said at the last school naming a couple people were nominated that were still alive. He said under this policy you must be deceased 5 years. Mr. DeSanto said Board members were given discretion whether or not individually they feel a person is qualified. He said to some people the qualification is broad enough that it can be interpreted that anybody giving service local, state, or federal is someone who is worthy of the nomination.

Mr. Spinelli asked for clarification on the time limit. Mr. DeSanto said the meeting begins at 5:30 p.m. and there is a limitation.

Emergent Item(s)  
(with prior approval)

None.

Public:

Dolly Marciano

Ms. Marciano said she is a retired teacher and expressed her concern in regards to the overcrowded classrooms and rooms not utilized in the schools.

Vicky Miller

Ms. Miller said that she could not believe the questions that were asked about special education students at the last Board meeting. She feels the Board needs to have a committee on special education.

Tom Deitz

Mr. Deitz expressed his concern in regards to his son being kept after school without notifying him in sufficient time. He asked how he would go about resubmitting a HIB that he won in Superior Court. Ms. Acosta asked Mr. Deitz to contact the Superintendent's office to address his concerns. Mr. Deitz requested an apology letter in regards to a fall his wife had and an employee accusing him or his son of hitting her.

Jeysie Sanchez

Ms. Sanchez expressed her concern in regards to the size of her son's class for ESL (English as a Second Language), which is affecting his learning.

Odette Rios

Ms. Rios expressed her concern in regards to the size of her children's ESL classes.

Felipe Chaparro

Mr. Chaparro expressed his concern in regards to the large ESL classes and changes in the Bilingual and ESL Program.

Mayra Arroyo

Ms. Arroyo asked how the newly purchased gym equipment helps with the core curriculum content and student achievement.

Lou Russo

Mr. Russo thanked the parents who spoke about the ESL issues. He said as soon as the ESL schedules were changed during the summer he began to receive phone calls from teachers in regards to their concerns about the program. Mr. Russo said we need to hire more ESL staff.

Maria Laboy

Ms. Laboy said in 1973 she taught ESL and was also a supervisor in the district. She said it is very difficult to teach different levels and ages within the same group.

Meghan Greenfield

Ms. Greenfield said she travels to the various middle schools and to Johnstone as an instructional coach working with all subject area teachers. She said one major issue that she sees is class size, which is getting out of hand.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Board Member  
Remarks:

Mr. Ulrich thanked everyone who came forward to speak tonight. He hopes the district is looking at the impact that the closing of two elementary schools had on our population sizes.

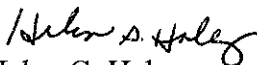
Report/Remarks by  
Board President:

Ms. Acosta congratulated all teachers and staff members who were honored for their perfect attendance. She thanked all the parents, students, and teachers who were in attendance tonight. Ms. Acosta said she is proud that the Bilingual Education Program in Vineland Public Schools is a model program for the State. She wants to make sure that we continue to have the very best Bilingual and ESL Program for our students. Ms. Acosta hopes that there will be communication between the parents and administration to come up with a solution.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Holmes, to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. All Members voted "yes."

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Helen G. Haley  
Board Secretary

HGH:dt