

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Board Room, 625 Plum Street, Vineland, New Jersey, Wednesday, November 14, 2012 at 7:38 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Ulrich presiding and the following members present: Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. English, Mr. Fanucci, Mr. Medio, Mr. Mercado, Dr. Mounier, Mrs. Phillips and Ms. Rios. Absent: None.

Also present: Dr. Guccio, Superintendent, Mr. Frey, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Figgs, Interim Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Ludy, Board Secretary, Mr. DeSanto, Solicitor, Mrs. Polof, Special Education Director, press and public. Absent: None.

Mr. Ulrich 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, Clerk - City of Vineland, and Administrative Office Public Bulletin Board.

Flag Salute:

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Guccio introduced Dr. Keith Figgs and Ms. Cherie Ludy to give a presentation on the Consent Agenda.

Dr. Figgs said they would like to discuss the possibility of going into a streamlining of some of the issues that are discussed at a board meeting. He said a consent agenda is non-controversial board action items that are organized separately from the remainder of the agenda and approved as a group. Dr. Figgs explained the process that would be put in place for items on the consent agenda. Ms. Ludy said that she took tonight's agenda and put it in a consent agenda format. She said a consent agenda is segregated by sections such as business/finance, personnel and operations, which are items that are voted on all the time. Ms. Ludy said the items listed after those have to be voted on individually.

Dr. Mounier asked if any of our administrators have experience with this sort of arrangement and is there a downside that is not obvious. Dr. Figgs said he is a board trustee at Cumberland County College and they have been using consent agenda's for the past six years with no downside. Ms. Ludy said in her previous district they used a modified consent agenda.

Mr. DiGiorgio asked if this would have an impact on the public's desire to ask a question about the consent agenda items. Mr. DeSanto said VIII Public Comments remains the same.

Mr. DeSanto asked what the agenda will look like for the agenda meeting. Dr. Figgs said it is generally set up the same way. If there is a situation where the board wants something removed from the consent agenda it will be removed at the work session.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Mr. English, the minutes were approved from October 3, 2012 and October 10, 2012. All Members voted "yes."

Report of the  
Secretary/Custodian  
Of School Monies: None.

Solicitor's Report: None.

Public Comment on  
Agenda Items: Yamil Matos  
Mr. Matos spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

William Shorter  
Mr. Mercado said he spoke to Mr. Shorter in the hallway and he was unable to stay for the meeting. He said that Mr. Shorter wanted to express his support in favor of school uniforms.

Antoinette Love-Pender  
Ms. Love-Pender spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Mr. Mercado suggested in the future adding check-off boxes to the public comment form as to if someone is in favor or against something.

Kyle Lunsford II  
Mr. Lunsford spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Lois Perren

Ms. Perren spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Anthony Heath

Mr. Heath spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Javon Porter

Mr. Porter spoke in support of his father, Albert Porter, as the boys' basketball coach.

Diajuana Spencer

Ms. Spencer spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Rose Spencer

Ms. Spencer spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Jairo Rivas

Mr. Rivas spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Bishop Dr. Evelyene Davis

Ms. Davis expressed her concern about text messages that were sent out by Travis Amstutz regarding the boys' basketball coach position.

Hassan Hameed-El

Mr. Hameed-El expressed his concern in regard to the process used to select the boys' basketball coach position. He spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Wayne Edwards Jr.

Mr. Edwards spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

William M. Szabo

Mr. Szabo spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Ricky Bluit

Mr. Bluit spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Roland Gross

Mr. Gross spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Tebtu Bey

Mr. Bey spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

Pamela Luster

Ms. Luster spoke in support of Albert Porter as the boys' basketball coach.

James K. Thompson

Mr. Thompson expressed his concern in regard to text messages sent to the students.

Maria Perez

Ms. Perez spoke in support of school uniforms.

HIB/Suspension Report/ Cunningham Alternative School Report – Mr. English asked if a pilot program needs board approval. Dr. Guccio said the pilot program was supposed to be discussed at the curriculum meeting, which has been postponed twice. She said it is scheduled for the next curriculum meeting. Mr. English said we have not approved the In School Suspension (ISS) Program but approved a teacher for the program. Mr. English asked if a student would be suspended for roaming the halls because there is no ISS. Dr. Guccio said they were told that the high school will utilize detention in lieu of ISS. Mr. English asked if the current enrollment and average daily attendance at the Cunningham Alternative School can be included in this report. Dr. Figs responded yes.

Recommendations:

Dr. Guccio said there are two changes to the personnel items. She said on employee #997 it should be resignation/retirement and there is a new name listed for the lifeguard.

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

Mr. Medio said he has an emergent item that came to his attention concerning intramural funding. Mr. Fanucci said feeder programs and sports level funding will be discussed at the finance committee meeting. He invited Mr. Medio to attend that committee meeting for his input. Mr. Medio said it is November and winter programs should be voted on tonight so we have them. He said it was the intention of the board last year to put intramurals into the budget, which was not done. Mr. Ulrich said Dr. Gruccio can research this and we will have a special meeting on Monday if needed.

Mr. Mercado asked what the final outcome was to be able to Skype into a meeting in an emergency. Mr. DeSanto said the only way that this could be done was through a policy.

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Mr. English, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted "yes" (\$6,467,921.94).

Mr. DiGiorgio asked for an explanation on the Bancroft Neuro-Health, Dad & Associates and Tozer Energy payments.

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

Public: None.

Board Member  
Remarks:

Mr. Fanucci said we met with the transportation audit firm and they have done preliminaries. He said they will begin this week.

Dr. Mounier said he was impressed by the students who spoke this evening.

Mrs. Phillips wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. DiGiorgio thanked everyone who spoke this evening. He said this morning he attended a very touching ceremony at Veterans Memorial School for the veterans. He thanked the staff and students for honoring them. Mr. DiGiorgio thanked the citizens of Vineland for allowing him to serve on the board again for another three years.

Mr. Fanucci wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He thanked the staff members who stay late at the meetings. Mr. Fanucci congratulated the newly elected members of the Vineland Board of Education.

Mr. English wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and congratulated the newly elected board members.

Mr. Mercado thanked everyone who spoke tonight along with the students who did the flag salute. He wished the new basketball coach the best of luck and congratulated the newly elected board members. Mr. Mercado also thanked the band and congratulated the retirees. He offered his condolences to newly elected board member Christopher Jennings on the passing of his father along with the family of community leader, Sam Clark and fire fighter, David DiGiovacchino. Mr. Mercado wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Medio asked if we can require students to wear uniforms if we give them the uniforms. Mr. DeSanto said we can require them but need to have a mechanism to assist the economically disadvantaged.

Mrs. Phillips asked if we will have consequences in the policy if someone refuses to wear a uniform. Mr. DeSanto said that is being discussed with the principals.

Board President  
Comments:

Mr. Ulrich echoed Mr. Mercado's comments regarding our community leaders. He offered his condolences to the Swanson family on the loss of their father. Mr. Ulrich congratulated the middle school students who were accepted into the National Junior Honor Society. He also congratulated the newly elected board members. Mr. Ulrich said there is a lot of devastation in our jersey shore area and we need to keep in mind how fortunate we are in this community.

Dr. Gruccio welcomed Mr. DiGiorgio back as well as our two new board members. She said today's assembly at Veterans Memorial School was very touching and a great job was done. Dr. Gruccio wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Adjournment:           The Board adjourned the meeting by voice vote at 10:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cherie Ludy  
Board Secretary

CL:df





