

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 12, 2008 at 7:03 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Giordano presiding and the following members present: Mr. Bernardini, Mr. DeWinne, Mr. Evans, Mr. Franceschini, Ms. Rios, and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: Mr. Spinelli and Mr. Fanucci.

Also present: Mr. Ottinger, Superintendent, Dr. Gruccio, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Franchetta, Board Secretary, Mr. DeSanto, Board Solicitor, Ms. Greenfield, Executive Director of Personnel, Mrs. Polof, Special Education Director, press and public. Absent: Dr. Figgs, Assistant Superintendent.

Mr. Giordano 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.

Flag Salute:

Ronald Franceschini, Emily Jones, Selena Perez, Leslie Perez, Ethan Shadinger, and Kineth Somerville, students from Petway Elementary School, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, Jennifer Frederico, Principal of Petway Elementary School was also in attendance.

Special

Presentation (s):

Mr. Ottinger introduced Paul Cohen, a senior at Vineland High School, who is the New Jersey Future Business Leaders of America State President and the National Future Business Leaders of America Eastern Regional Vice President along with Mrs. Banko, FBLA Advisor.

Ms. Banko said she is very proud of Paul who has been so involved with the activities of the high school and community. She said Paul is also involved with quite a bit at the National level. Ms. Banko said Paul was the State Webmaster last year and the National Director of Relations. She said as an advisor it is a dream to have a student like Paul who is interested in the organization and wants to succeed, which he has done.

Mr. Cohen thanked the Board of Education and administration at Vineland High School for supporting him so graciously.

Mr. Giordano said Dr. Gruccio has one additional issue to address in regards to the test score results.

Dr. Gruccio said we have received some very good news that the benchmarks have be re-analyzed and adjusted. She said due to the new benchmarks all of our middle schools have now made AYP (Annual Yearly Progress) along with all but two of our elementary schools.

- Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Mr. Ulrich, seconded by Mr. DeWinne, the Board approved the minutes from October 1, 2008 and October 8, 2008. All Members voted “yes.”
- Report of the
Secretary/Custodian
Of School Monies: Upon motion by Mr. DeWinne, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, the reports of the Secretary and Custodian of School Monies for the month of September 2008, which are in agreement were approved as submitted and on file in the Minute Book, and the Board approved its monthly certification of budgetary major account fund status and the Board Secretary’s monthly certification as on file with the Secretary. All Members voted “yes.”
- Solicitor’s Report: None.
- Public Comment on
Agenda Items: None.
- Recommendations: See page 3 of this document

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. The Board approve the following personnel items in accordance with the lists provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board:

- a. List of retirements
- b. List of resignations/terminations
- c. List of leaves of absence
- d. List of employment of personnel
- e. List of transfers, assignments and/or promotions
- f. List of student assistants and New Jersey Youth Corps
- g. List of substitute personnel
- h. List of extracurricular assignments

Mr. DeWinne said he is voting “no” on A.1 (e) name #10 assistant principal position. He said that he is sure this individual is qualified but his opinion is that we could realign the personnel we currently have.

Mr. Ulrich commented that this assistant principal position is in the budget for this year. He said with the new budget cuts coming up in the next fiscal year the feasibility exists that we are going to have to do realignment. Mr. Ulrich said that he will be voting “yes” that the condition will be met.

Mr. Evans voted “yes” on A.1 (e) but echoed Mr. Ulrich’s view.

Mr. Giordano said he also echoes the sentiments of Mr. Ulrich.

Mr. Ottinger wanted to make sure that the board understands that those positions have been analyzed and he has already made plans for realignment for the next school year. He congratulated Mr. Sullivan on his promotion.

2. The Board approve the creation of the title of Bus Attendant.

All Members voted “yes” except Mr. DeWinne who voted “yes” on all items but A.1(e) name #10 he voted “no” and Mr. Giordano who voted “yes” on all items but “abstained” on transfers name #9 Daniel Smith. (7-0-0)

All Members voted “yes.” (7-0-0)

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G I O R D A N O	B E R N A R D I N I	D E W I N N E	E V A N S	F A N U C C I	F R A N C E S C H I N I	R I O S	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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3. The Board authorize the assignments of the pupils, whose names are provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board, to special education programs outside the district with tuition costs to be borne by the Board.

Further, the Board approve the acceptance of the tuition pupil(s), whose names are on file with the Secretary of the Board, for placement in special education programs offered in Vineland with tuition costs to be borne by the sending district(s).

(Tuition payment and assignments shall be regulated by Chapter 46, Laws of 1966, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the State Department of Education.)

All Members
voted "yes."
(7-0-0)

4. The Board approve budgetary transfers in accordance with the list provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board:

- a. General Fund
- b. Early Childhood Program Aid (ECPA)

All Members
voted "yes."
(7-0-0)

G I O R D A N N O	B E R N A R D I N I	D E W I N N E	E V A N S	F A N U C C I	F R A N C E S C H I N I	R I O S	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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5. The Board approve submission of the following grant(s) as provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board:

- a. National Constitution Center
 Young Citizens Scholarship Grant
 Mennies Elementary School
 In the amount of ----- \$ 400.00
(admissions)
\$ 200.00
(transportation)
- b. Target Field Trip Grant
 21st Century After School Program
 Landis Middle School
 In the amount of ----- \$ 800.00
- c. Target Field Trip Grant
 Winslow Elementary School
 In the amount of ----- \$ 1,500.00
- d. Teaching American History Grant
 For Professional Development
 In the amount of ----- \$500,000.00
(Estimated)

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

6. The Board accept funding in the following amount(s):

- a. National Constitution Center
 Young Citizens Scholarship Grant
 Mennies Elementary School
 In the amount of ----- \$ 400.00
(admissions)
\$ 200.00
(transportation)

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

G I O R D A N O	B E R N A R D I N I	D E W I N N E	E V A N S	F A N U C C I	F R A N C E S C H I N I	R I O S	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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6. Grants (continued)

- b. Cumberland County
Office of Employment and Training
WIA Out-of-School Youth Program
Vineland Adult Education Program
October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009
In the amount of ----- \$ 45,000.00

- c. Cumberland County
Office of Employment and Training
WIA In-School Youth Program
Vineland Adult Education Program
October 1, 2008 – September 30, 2009
In the amount of ----- \$263,987.20

7. Bids:

- a. The Board approve the amount of \$70,211.00 for the installation, licensing, training and integration of a new payroll system into the district’s Fusion software products and services supplied by Keystone Information System, Inc. of Maple Shade, New Jersey in accordance with 18A: 18A-5 (19).

- b. The Board approve a revision to the Special Education Consultant List as on file with the Secretary of the Board in accordance with 18A: 18:-5.a (1).

- c. The Board exercises the option to renew the contract for two years in accordance with 18A: 18A-2y and 22a.

Gasoline (purchases at vendor’s retail fuel stations)
Reject all bids

Mr. Bernardini asked if we needed to have the state contract on the agenda. Mr. Franchetta said it was done at the reorganization meeting.

All Members
voted “yes.”
(7-0-0)

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G I O R D A N N O	B E R N A R D I N I	D E W I N N E	E V A N S	F A N U C C I	F R A N C E S C H I N I	R I O S	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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8. The Board approve travel for district members as required by NJAC 6A:10A-8.3 and school field trips as per lists provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members
voted "yes."
(7-0-0)

9. The Board approve changes to the consultant contract for the 2008 – 2009 school year whose name is on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members
voted "yes."
(7-0-0)

10. The Board approve the hourly rate of \$40.00 per hour for the provision of speech and language services.

All Members
voted "yes."
(7-0-0)

11. The Board approve the submission of the FY 2009 No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Application to the State of New Jersey, Department of Education, in the amount of \$3,742,751.00 for the period September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009.

All Members
voted "yes."
(7-0-0)

12. The Board approve the contract with the State of New Jersey, Department of Human Services, Office of Education, for tuition of State responsible eligible students under the New Jersey Facilities Education Act. (State Child Study Placements.)

All Members
voted "yes."
(7-0-0)

G I O R D A N N O	B E R N A R D I N I	D E W I N N E	E V A N S	F A N U C C I	F R A N C E S C H I N I	R I O S	S P I N E L L I	U L R I C H
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13. The Board approve the tuition contract with Gloucester County Vocational Technical School district for the Southern New Jersey Academy of Performing arts for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

All Members voted “yes.”
(7-0-0)

14. The Board approve the Settlement Agreement for the student whose name is on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members voted “yes” except for Mr. Ulrich and Mr. Giordano who voted “no.”
(5-2-0)

15. The Board approve a Resolution urging the New Jersey State Legislature to enact legislation allowing municipalities and school districts to opt out of the Civil Service System.

All Members voted “yes.”
(7-0-0)

16. The Board authorize a Resolution which awards contracts to the childcare providers in accordance with the list on file with the Secretary of the Board for the 2008 – 2009 school year in accordance with the form of contract approved by the Department of Education.

All Members voted “yes.”
(7-0-0)

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17. The Board approve the Written Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Program for district-owned facilities.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

18. The Board approve the Partnership Agreement between U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Interior, and Vineland High School for The Nature of Learning Program (a fish and wildlife conservation education program.)

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

19. The Board approve the affiliation agreements for teachers in training with Temple University.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

Mr. Ottinger said that the University of Phoenix Contract was pulled from the agenda for further review.

20. The Board approve the Winter Season Athletic Schedules as list provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

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21. The Board accept the following donations in accordance with Board Policy #7230, "Gifts, Grants and Donations:"

- a. FUEL Series with educator's guide & videos
 From the Alliance's Healthy Schools Program
 To Veterans Memorial Middle School
 At a cost of ----- \$ 500.00
- b. Nutrition Learning Module with lesson plans,
 activities, and 3-D models
 From the Alliance's Healthy Schools Program
 To Veterans Memorial Middle School
 At a cost of ----- \$ 600.00
- c. Lifestyles 2800 Treadmill
 From Tina Panzino
 To Veterans Memorial middle School
 At a cost of ----- \$1,000.00

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

22. The Board approve a trip from Children's Charitable Foundation to provide Mrs. Luko's students at Petway Elementary School the opportunity to visit Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida for one day at no cost to the Board.

All Members
 voted "yes."
 (7-0-0)

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

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Franceschini, seconded by Mr. Ulrich, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$6,163,512.87).

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

Public: Lisa Munoz, Parent
Ms. Munoz invited the board to Sabater School’s Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting being held on December 3, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss security issues they are having.

Mr. Giordano mentioned that the board has a scheduled work session on December 3 so it will be difficult for to attend the PTO meeting. He asked if it were possible to change the date of the PTO meeting.

Ms. Munoz said she will contact the PTO members to change the date.

Paul Cohen, VHS Senior
Mr. Cohen said he is a strong believer in constructive criticism and believes it is an important way to be involved by receiving criticism from people. He said what he has noticed in the district and Vineland High School is that there is a lack of communication. Mr. Cohen suggested the establishment of a free flow system of communications. He urged the board members and administration to make there presence known and speak to the students to see what they think.

Board Member
Remarks: Mr. Ulrich welcomed Mr. Sullivan to the administration staff and wished him the best of luck. He thanked Mr. Cohen for his student perspective and thinks we are lacking in communication. Mr. Ulrich said an open and free flowing communication can be honest and constructive. He noted that this is his second term on the board and has seen less then twelve students come forward to voice their concerns. Mr. Ulrich encouraged more involvement by students to speak their feelings.

Mr. Giordano mentioned that in the past we had a student senior representative attend the meetings and maybe we could continue that again.

Mr. Ulrich said that is a great idea because there should be a group represented by everyone.

Mr. DeWinne thanked Mr. Cohen for all that he has done and he wished him good luck in the future.

Mr. Franceschini expressed his concern in regards to the safety issue going on at Sabater School. He said hopefully we can make it a safer learning environment both inside and outside the school. Mr. Franceschini wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Ulrich said from a police perspective if there are any parents who have individualized complaints about an area to please contact him.

Mary Frisco, Parent

Ms. Frisco said she thinks the center city school has its own unique issues and it is very important to know that parents could speak to the board about it. She is concerned about her child's safety and feels the park is a big problem.

Ms. Rios asked why we do not have a safety committee. Mr. Giordano said a few years ago we did have a safety committee and maybe it could be continued. Ms. Rios said it is important to have a safe environment in all the schools. She thanked the students who took part in the Pledge of Allegiance and congratulated Mr. Sullivan on his promotion.

Mr. Evans thanked Mr. Cohen for speaking and said that he reflects the best qualities in students in our district. He said the board's scope of availability is somewhat limited however; everyone is available via email at any time.

Mr. Bernardini congratulated Mr. Sullivan on his new position. He said he has been visiting the high school for the past eleven years and has been listening to student complaints, which he takes back to the superintendent. Mr. Bernardini said he has discussed the safety issue problem at Sabater School with the principal, chief of police and Mr. Weaver and they are working on it.

Mr. Ottinger said he has received many emails about Sabater School and has been their several times between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. He said that the director of security, juvenile unit and entire police department are aware of what is going on. Mr. Ottinger pointed out that he does not think there are any problems going on within the school.

Report/Remarks by
Board President:

Mr. Giordano asked his colleagues to email him ideas and suggestions on the Ad Hoc Committee. He wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Bernardini said tomorrow there will be a dedication of the six statues at Veterans Memorial School at 1:30 p.m. and everyone is invited to attend.

Resolution:

Mr. Franchetta read a resolution to recess into executive session on **Wednesday, November 12, 2008** and **Wednesday, December 3, 2008** regarding personnel matters and pending litigation.

Motion:

Upon motion by Mr. Franceschini, seconded by Mr. DeWinne, the resolution was passed. All Members voted “yes.”

Adjournment:

The Board adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin J. Franchetta, CPA
Board Secretary