

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, December 5, 2018 at 5:40 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Bordley presiding and the following members present: Ms. Acosta, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Jennings, Mr. Sbrana, and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: Mr. Fiocchi, Mr. Medio and 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.

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 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 contract negotiations for the leasing of Max Leuchter School property. 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.

The Board retired to executive session at 5:49 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 6:20 p.m.

Mr. Medio arrived at 6:26 p.m.

Flag Salute:

Students from Vineland High School ROTC led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Guccio introduced Lori Cummines-Huck, Vineland High Choir Director, to present the Select Choir.

At this time the Select Choir performed a medley of holiday songs.

Dr. Guccio introduced Eric Burger, VHS Girls Softball Coach, to honor the 2018 Cape Atlantic League American Division Champions as well as the SJ Group IV Sectional Champions, which is the first in our school history.

Mr. Burger said we won the Cape Atlantic League American Division, SJ Group IV Champions and also finished with a record of 21 and 3. He acknowledged his staff and introduced each of the players who were presented with a jacket.

Ms. Spinelli arrived at 6:34 p.m.

Dr. Guccio introduced Michael Garcia, Audit Partner from Ford Scott Associates, to present the 2017-2018 Audit Report.

Mr. Garcia said he is here tonight to present a draft of the Audit Report. He said it is draft because there is a new accounting pronouncement that affects all school districts in New Jersey. Mr. Garcia said all of the districts are waiting for information to be supplied from the Division of Pensions that will go into the report. He said the final report cannot be given until we receive that information. Mr. Garcia said it will not affect the bottom lines that we are discussing tonight. He said on page 1 of the General Fund Budgetary Comparison Schedule are all the revenues for the year followed by the expenditures. Mr. Garcia said on page 11 in the Actual column the last amount of \$(1,298,170.09) is the reduction in surplus and fund balance for the year. He said we started the year with a fund balance of \$21,477,549.98 minus the reduction in surplus and fund balance for the year leaves us with \$20,179,379.89 in fund balance. Mr. Garcia explained why the amount left in fund balance and available in the future is less than what was left in prior years. He said the 2019/20 budget will be very difficult because you will not have the fund balance amounts to use to fund next year's budget. Mr. Garcia said Exhibit B-5 the draft of the food service profit and loss indicates the food service fund loss is \$(213,891.29) for the 2017/18 fiscal year, which comes from a number of places.

Mr. Garcia said although the district does utilize an outside food service management company the majority of the employees in the cafeterias are school district employees. He said the wages and benefits are higher than they would be if you were 100% funded by the food service management company. Mr. Garcia said the loss is around \$88,000 greater in 2017/18 as compared to 2016/17. He said the main reason for that was because fewer breakfast meals were served and there is a federal subsidy for each meal that is served. Mr. Garcia said last year the Board took action and provided general funds to cover last year's loss of \$125,000. He said the Board will have to do something similar this year so the loss is accounted for next year. Mr. Garcia said those were the items that he wanted to highlight tonight. He said there are two components to the school audit verifying the numbers and determining that the district is following all the rules and regulations that the state and federal government imposes on school districts. Mr. Garcia said the second half of the document is the draft of the Auditor's Management Report and the last page is the findings and recommendations. He is happy to report that there are no findings or recommendations in the prior year. Mr. Garcia said it is a credit to the Business Administrator and her entire staff that the transactions are conducted properly and we are able to present a clean Audit Report. He reminded everyone that this report is still in draft and as soon as we receive the final information from the state we will complete the entire report and the Board can formally accept the Audit Report.

Mrs. Haley thanked Mr. Garcia for all his work. She also wanted to publicly thank and congratulate her accounting staff, Scott Musterel, Assistant Business Administrator and Keith Salerno, Executive Director of Purchasing. Mrs. Haley said she is grateful for the staff that she has and could not do her job without them.

Mr. Garcia agrees with Mrs. Haley and said it is a pleasure working with her staff. He said that he will miss Mrs. Haley and wished she was staying.

Mrs. Haley announced that Mr. Medio and Ms. Spinelli are now present.

Mr. Ulrich asked when we are actually going to vote on the final report. Mrs. Haley said if the anticipated date for uploading the CAFR is December 21<sup>st</sup> then the audit would be approved at the January Board meeting. Mr. Ulrich asked if there were 90,000 fewer breakfast meals served. Mr. Garcia said yes. Mr. Ulrich asked what the per breakfast cost is for reimbursement from the federal government. Mr. Garcia said he does not have the numbers but it is a multi-tiered reimbursement schedule. Mr. Ulrich asked if the loss has been accounted for in the current budget. Mrs. Haley said we budgeted \$150,000 but this is over what the number was.

Dr. Gruccio said tonight we are recognizing Purvesh Patel, Sodexo Food Service Director, for his dedication to the Vineland Public Schools. She said Mr. Patel received an Award of Excellence, which is given to a general manager who leads food service teams in showing marked improvements. Dr. Gruccio said Mr. Patel is a top performer with Sodexo and we are very blessed to be working with him in Vineland.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Ross Stanger, Supervisor for Curriculum and Instruction, to recognize a teacher.

Mr. Stanger said it is an honor and privilege to recognize Ms. Terry Kuhnreich, VHS Search for Conscience Teacher, on receiving an Emmy Award for a NJ Classroom Close-Up segment.

Dr. Gruccio introduced Nathan Frey, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, to recognize four phenomenal teachers in our district.

Mr. Frey said he is excited to share some outstanding news about some fantastic teachers. He explained Median Student Growth Percentile (MSGP), which is a growth measurement that describes student academic achievement. Mr. Frey introduced and recognized Amanda Nolan Alliano, Lauren Coia, Deborah McClain and Dave Thies the outstanding teachers who obtained top score on the MSGP results.

HIB:

None.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Spinelli, the minutes from October 17, 2018 and November 14, 2018 were approved. All Members voted “yes” except for Mr. Jennings who voted “yes” on November 14, 2018 but “abstained” on October 17, 2018 and Mr. Sbrana who voted “yes” on October 17, 2018 and “abstained” on November 14, 2018 and Ms. Acosta who voted “yes” on October 17, 2018 and “abstained” on November 14, 2018.

Solicitor’s Report: None.

Public Comment on  
Agenda Items:

Mary Angelo-Moi

Ms. Angelo-Moi expressed her concern in regards to decisions made about English as a Second Language (ESL) and special needs staffing.

Brianna Davis

Miss Davis spoke about the importance of having a Gay Straight Alliance Club at Vineland High School.

Aimee DeLucia

Ms. DeLucia expressed her concern in regards to the ESL teacher transfers.

Maria Laboy

Ms. Laboy expressed her disappointment in regards to the changes that were made to the Bilingual and ESL Program this year.

Annette Lower

Ms. Lower spoke on behalf of the many ESL students who will be effected by the proposed schedule change.

Harry Meyers

Mr. Meyers addressed the current situation in regards to the ESL students and their teachers.

Recommendations:

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				

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

**PERSONNEL (1.1-1.2)**

- 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. Volunteers

**Employee #557 was pulled from the promotion list.**

- 1.2 The Board approve the appointment of Keith A. Salerno as the district's Qualified Purchasing Agent and to establish the bid threshold at the amount pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3.a. and any increase authorized in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3.b.

**This item was pulled from the agenda.**

**Mr. Jennings asked why this is being pulled. Mrs. Haley said around 4:30 today she received a phone call from Mr. Weaver who said in prior administrations, when the Business Administrator left, only the Business Administrator or Interim Business Administrator could be designated as the official Qualified Purchasing Agent. Mrs. Haley said Mr. Salerno obtained his QPA certificate in July but unfortunately we cannot designate him as that title. She said at this point we are pulling this designation and will put something back on in January.**

All Members voted "yes" except Mr. Sbrana, Ms. Spinelli, and Ms. Acosta who voted "yes" on all items but the transfers they voted "no." (8-0-0)

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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			1					2
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			1	2				
			1	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 the second reading of the following  
 Bylaws, Policies and Regulations for adoption:  
Mandated Changes  
 Policy 8508 – Lunch offer versus Serve

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

2.3 The Board approve the NJ Department of Education  
 Waiver Application N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3 regarding class  
 size to begin with the 2018-2019 school year.

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

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS (3.1-3.2)**

3.1 The Board approve a resolution authorizing a lease of  
 district owned property known as 519 N. West Avenue,  
 Vineland, New Jersey, to Golden Gate, Inc., a non-  
 profit corporation in accordance with the lease  
 agreement on file with the Board Secretary except that  
 the lease term will be changed from 5 years to 3 years.

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

**Mr. Ulrich thanked the Board for the consolidation  
 of the lease years.**

3.2 The Board approve the Business Administrator and  
 Board Solicitor to submit an application to the City of  
 Vineland Planning Board for approval of a subdivision  
 of District property known as 17 West Landis Avenue.

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

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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			1				2	
			1				2	
			1				2	

**FINANCE (4.1-4.11)**

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

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

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

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

4.3 The Board approve the placement of Special Education students.

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

4.4 The Board approve the submission of the following grant application:

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

- a. Wetlands Institute Environmental Field Trip Program for Mennies Elementary School to attend the Wetlands Ecology Program for 96 students and 6 chaperones.



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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
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			1				2	
			1				2	

4.5 The Board approve the acceptance of the following funding:

- a. Kids in Need Foundation Grant for Rossi Elementary School in the amount of \$100.00.

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

4.6 The Board approve the cancellation of the list of checks provided and on file with the Board Secretary and remittance of the funds to the NJ Department of Treasury, Unclaimed Property Administration.

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

4.7 The Board approve the revised Early Childhood Program Three-Year Preschool Plan for the 2018-2019 school year.

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

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			1				2	
			1				2	

4.8 The Board approve a Shared Services Agreement with Cumberland County Improvement Authority (CCIA) to purchase goods and services from NAPA Store.

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

**Mr. Medio asked what this involves. Mrs. Haley said the corporate NAPA Store and CCIA will house all the NAPA parts locally for us to purchase at a reduced price. Mr. Medio asked where they will be housed. Mr. Salerno, Executive Director of Purchasing, said at Park and West Avenue.**

4.9 The Board approve the bus advertisement for SNJ Today 99.9 FM for one year for 10 ads in the amount of \$2,600.

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

4.10 The Board approve the 2018-2019 Transportation Addendum for the following routes: Sheppard Bus Services Route TTE02AM in the final adjusted amount of \$292.00, DALLA4AM in the final adjusted amount of \$292.00, Route 1151104 in the final adjusted amount of \$167.00, Route 115105 in the final adjusted amount of \$167.00.

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:

- a. 2018-2019 Transportation Quoted Contracts
- b. 2018-2019 Transportation Addendum
- c. 2018-2019 Transportation Jointure

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

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

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Spinelli, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$7,980,781.49).

**Mr. Ulrich asked about the purchases made to Amazon.com. Mrs. Haley said we opened a business account with Amazon.com and we were able to buy from them and get a good rate. She said we had to put them on hold because we cannot go over the bid threshold of \$40,000 that Mr. Salerno, Executive Director of Purchasing, keeps track of. Mr. Ulrich asked if we could get a better deal with a local business. Mr. Salerno responded off the microphone.**

Committee Reports: Mr. Jennings said he attended the Delegate Assembly on November 17<sup>th</sup> and a few points that were discussed were the School Security Study, four year degree, testing and the disparity of the skills taught, Board Member professional development, elimination of non-operating districts, the State of NJ being underfunded, special education to include SFRA and charter school liabilities.

Items proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members: None.

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

Public: Shirley Santos  
Ms. Santos expressed her concern in regards to the way ESL services are being rendered to bilingual students at Sabater School.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Board Member  
Remarks: Mr. Medio thanked Mr. Bordley for recognizing him. He also thanked Mr. Bordley for his three years of service to the community as a School Board Member. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Mr. Medio said we will see everyone in January.

Mr. Sbrana thanked Ms. Huck and the Select Choir for the Christmas music. He congratulated everyone who was honored tonight. Mr. Sbrana also congratulated Ms. Acosta and Mr. Jennings on being re-elected to the Board and looks forward to working with them. He thanked Mr. Bordley for his service. Mr. Sbrana wished everyone a safe healthy holiday.

Mr. Ulrich wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He congratulated Mr. Jennings and Ms. Acosta on their re-election. Mr. Ulrich thanked Mr. Bordley for this three years of service.

Ms. Spinelli wished everyone a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year and looks forward to what is to come for the challenging year.

Ms. Acosta echoed everyone's comments. She said the Vineland High School Select Choir is really beautiful. Ms. Acosta congratulated the Vineland High School Girls Softball Team. She also congratulated Ms. Kuhnreich on her accomplishment. Ms. Acosta said it is a wonderful accomplishment to obtain top score on the MSGP results. She congratulated Mrs. Haley and her staff for another perfect audit. Ms. Acosta wished Mrs. Haley the very best and continued success on her new position. She said Mrs. Haley has always given the Board 100% plus as well as her staff and she will be truly missed. Ms. Acosta thanked Mr. Bordley for his service to the Vineland Public School District. She said since the first day Mr. Bordley has worked very hard to support the students, staff and community. Ms. Acosta said it has been wonderful to work with Mr. Bordley as a fellow Board member and also wonderful getting to know him and to call him her friend. She hopes that Mr. Bordley's years of public service do not end here but continue on. Ms. Acosta wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. She looks forward to being back in January to deal with the budget.

Dr. Gruccio wished everyone a healthy, happy, joyous holiday season. She said we are very blessed with the wonderful people who work in this district and she is honored to be a part of it. Dr. Gruccio thanked Mrs. Haley and will truly miss her. She said Mrs. Haley has done a phenomenal job since she has been here and it has been a pleasure to work closely with her and to call Mrs. Haley her friend. Dr. Gruccio thanked Mr. Bordley for the fine job he has done on this Board for the past 3 years. She said it has been her honor and pleasure to work with him.

Dr. Gruccio thanked Mr. Bordley for all that he has done for our students and district. She wished him nothing but the best.

Report/Remarks by  
Board President:

Mr. Bordley wished Mrs. Haley the best and said it has been truly an honor to work with her. He appreciates all Mrs. Haley's dedication to the district and we will miss her. Mr. Bordley congratulated Mr. Jennings and Ms. Acosta on their re-election. He wished Scott English the best of luck. Mr. Bordley thanked his family for dedicating a lot of their time.

Mr. Sbrana said Mrs. Haley is a consummate professional and is someone who always answered his phone calls, texts and emails with speed. He wished Mrs. Haley the best and said Voorhees gain is our loss.

Mr. Ulrich echoed the comments made by Mr. Sbrana. He said she will do great in Voorhees with a lot less stress.

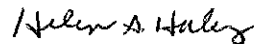
Mr. Jennings thanked Mrs. Haley.

Mrs. Haley thanked everyone for their kind words. She truly did enjoy working in Vineland and said it is a great district with many caring dedicated people. Mrs. Haley said she also enjoyed the love that everyone has for Vineland. She has good memories working here and appreciates her staff. Mrs. Haley said it was a pleasure working with all of the Board members and will miss everyone.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by voice vote at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Helen G. Haley  
Board Secretary

HGH:dt