

The regular meeting of the Board of Education of the City of Vineland was held in the Vineland High School North Theatre, 3010 E. Chestnut Avenue, Vineland, on Wednesday, December 8, 2010, at 6:40 p.m., pursuant to notice with Mr. Franceschini presiding and the following members present: Mr. DeWinne, Mr. DiGiorgio, Mr. English, Mr. Fanucci, Dr. Mounier, Mrs. Phillips, Ms. Rios and Mr. Ulrich. Absent: None.

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

Mr. Franceschini 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:

Special

Presentation (s): Dr. Banks introduced Ms. Vicki Volpe, the Academic Team Advisor.

Ms. Volpe pointed out that the success of our Academic Team was the result of all the educational experiences and teachers the students had from kindergarten to present along with the love and support of their parents. She said it has been her privilege and honor to work with these students every Wednesday after school to practice the potential questions that might appear in a competition. Ms. Volpe said the Academic Team defeated Millville on November 20, 2010 and their next competition is January 26, 2011 with the Vineland faculty. She introduced the Captain of the Academic Team, Sanjay Menghani and Academic Bowl Team Members Sarah Jannarone, Alexandra Yeager, Taylor Wells, Gina Trivellini, Ryne Jones, Lauren D'Ottavio, Cody Carpenter, Matthey McGill and Blake Pescatore.

Mr. English said he attended the Academic Bowl and a great job was done.

Mrs. Phillips congratulated and thanked the team and advisor.

Dr. Mounier said he had the pleasure of witnessing the event and does not think he did quite as well as the students. He also gave compliments to the Millville team for their hard work. Dr. Mounier said it is a worthwhile endeavor whenever young people use their minds in a productive way.

Mr. DeWinne said he attended the Academic Bowl and Vineland did a great job against Millville. He wished the team good luck against the faculty.

Dr. Banks congratulated the students along with Ms. Volpe for her efforts.

Mr. DeSanto arrived at 6:51 p.m.

Dr. Banks announced that two of our elementary schools were float winners in the holiday parade. She said the first acknowledgment goes to Petway Elementary School who won first place.

Ms. Carrie Ellis, President of the Petway Parent School Association (PPSA) thanked the parents and staff for all their hard work. She introduced Mrs. Jennifer Frederico, Principal of Petway Elementary School.

Ms. Frederico thanked the PPSA for making a difference in Petway Elementary School. She also thanked the students, parents and staff for working together to successfully achieve.

Dr. Banks announced that Winslow Elementary School won second place for their float in the holiday parade. She introduced Mrs. Debra Bechtel, Principal of Winslow Elementary School.

Mrs. Bechtel thanked the parents in her school for all their help with the float.

Dr. Banks introduced the Vineland High School Choir under the direction of Eileen Bosco to present musical selections.

Mr. Franceschini thanked the choir for a lovely soothing musical.

Dr. Banks introduced Mr. Keith Nocco, from Sodexo Food Management, to present an update on our food service program.

Mr. Nocco said during the month of November the new menu was started along with new red and black uniforms. He said since the new menu lunches have increased an average of 331 per day and breakfasts 253 per day.

Mr. Nocco said he is hearing positive feedback because there are more selections and a lot more students are purchasing food.

Mr. DeWinne asked Mr. DeSanto if the amount for equipment in the one year agreement covers all costs with no additional equipment costs. Mr. DeSanto said he will look at the contract and provide an explanation to the board. Mr. Franceschini asked Mr. Nocco if there were any kitchen revisions that occurred during the past four months. Mr. Nocco said we have been reviewing the equipment specifications at the high school to see what we would have to do as far as upgrading. He said there may be other schools with equipment problems that may need to be replaced. Mr. DeWinne said in his opinion the refrigeration units should be the district's responsibility.

Approval of Minutes: Upon motion by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Ms. Rios, the Board approved the minutes from November 3, 2010 and November 10, 2010. All Members voted "yes" except for Mr. DeWinne who "abstained" on the November 10, 2010 and Dr. Mounier who "abstained" on the November 3, 2010 minutes.

Report of the
Secretary/Custodian

Of School Monies: Upon motion by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Ms. Rios, the reports of the Secretary and Custodian of School Monies for the month of October 2010, 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:

Mr. DeSanto said at last week's work session he provided the board with his legal opinion regarding the "Doctrine of Necessity" and distributed a resolution for consideration. Mr. DeSanto said the board could vote on this resolution tonight or defer it to the January meeting. He said this resolution is in regards to the superintendent's evaluation. There are five board members who are technically conflicted because of family members working in the district. Mr. DeSanto said he has determined that the Doctrine of Necessity may be invoked in order for the board to function and prepare the superintendent's evaluation.

Mr. DeWinne asked when the evaluation is due. Mr. DeSanto said around the end of March or April but this is something you should start in January.

Mr. Franceschini asked his colleagues if they are in agreement with voting on this tonight.

Mr. DiGiorgio asked as part of this doctrine are we going to document what the conflicts are in the process. Mr. DeSanto said all of the conflicts involve family members and it was articulated in a general way. He said if this doctrine is adopted tonight it will be filed with the School Ethics Commission. Mr. DeSanto said if for some reason it is not acceptable we have the opportunity in January. He believes the doctrine complies with the requirements.

Mr. Franchetta read the Doctrine of Necessity Resolution.

Dr. Mounier pointed out a typographical error on the document.

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Ms. Rios, to invoke the Doctrine of Necessity to enable the Vineland Board of Education to conduct and prepare the evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools. All Members voted “yes” except for Ms. Rios and Mr. Ulrich who voted “no.” The motion passed.

Mr. DeSanto mentioned that although this doctrine allows all board members to participate in the evaluation, if you still feel conflicted and there is a majority, you can choose to recuse yourself.

Public Comment on
Agenda Items:

Lee Burke, Vineland Resident

Mr. Burke said at a previous meeting he suggested the idea of the board to consider being a committee of the whole with all participating in the budget process, which he supports. Mr. Burke said transparency is what we are hoping to have for the public. He said he is the Cumberland County Volunteer Chairman for the Citizens Campaign, which is a volunteer organization that tries to make local government more efficient by having more engagement of citizens. Mr. Burke expressed his concern in regards to the logistics of having the process of a committee of the whole work. He hopes by supporting this that there will be summary reports explaining the general categories of what goes into a budget for an entity such as the Board of Education. Mr. Burke said it is owed to the public. He also expressed his concern about the timing of this process with contract negotiations coming up.

Mr. Burke suggested having sub-committees of the board to work with the Finance Committee. He mentioned that there is a group in Cherry Hill called the Cherry Hill Reform Group who are 22 volunteer citizens that decided they would produce a report to help the local government and school district be more efficient, effective and open. He said this group has a report called Reducing Local Property Taxes, Increasing Local Government Efficiency and Finding New Sources of Local Revenue, which is available by going to the jointhecampaign.com website. There is a link to this 68 page report of recommendations from this very active group to have more efficiency in government. Mr. Burke also mentioned that Cherry Hill uses a hub to house students for their busing for a way of saving money with a lot of advantages.

Recommendations:

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RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

FRANCESCINI	ULRICH	DEWINE	DIWINGIO	ENGLISH	FANUCCI	MOUNIER	PHILLIPS	RIOS
					1			2
					1			2
					1			2

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

All Members voted "yes" except Dr. Mounier who voted "yes" on all items except under new employment entries labeled open positions he voted "no." (9-0-0)

2. 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.

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

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.)

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

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

- a. General Fund
- b. School Based budget

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FRANCESHINI	ULRICHI	DEWINNE	DIORGIO	ENGLISH	FANUCCI	MOUNIER	PHILLIPS	RIOS
					1			2
					1			2
					1			2

4. The Board approve acceptance of funding in the following amount:

State of New Jersey Department of Children & Families
 Family Friendly Center Grant
 Sabater Elementary School
 July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011
 In the amount of ----- \$45,463.00

All Members
 voted “yes.”
 (9-0-0)

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
 Mennies Elementary School
 In the amount of ----- \$200.00
- b. State of New Jersey Department of Education
 FY 2010 No Child Left Behind Application (NCLB)
 In the amount of ----- \$4,665,894.00

All Members
 voted “yes.”
 (9-0-0)

6. The Board approve travel for district members as required by NJAC 7A:10A-8.3 and school field trips as per lists provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board.

All Members
 voted “yes.”
 except Mr.
 DeWinne and
 Dr. Mounier
 who voted
 “yes” for all
 travel except
 the Success
 trips they
 voted “no.”
 (9-0-0)

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FRANCESCINI	ULRICH	DEWINNE	DIGIORGIO	ENGLISH	FANUCCI	MOUNIER	PHILLIPS	RIOS
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7. The Board approve the 2009-2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditor’s Management Report by Romano, Hearing, Testa & Knorr.

(A summary of the Comprehensive Annual Financial report (CAFR) was presented by Stephen Testa of Romano, Hearing, Testa & Knorr and discussed by the Board at the Wednesday, December 8, 2010 work session.)

Mr. Ulrich said he will be voting “yes” but expressed his concern with the purchasing deficiencies and the E-Rate application being filed late. Mr. Ulrich thanked Mr. Testa for bringing these red flags up to the district.

8. The Board approve and direct the Secretary of the Board to implement each of the following recommendations from the 2009-2010 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and Auditor’s Management Report in accordance with the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) which is provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board:

- a. The district will obtain the disclosures required by Section 2 of P.L. 2005, c.271 from all applicable vendors at least ten (10) days prior to the award of the contract or issuance of the purchase order.
- b. No purchases will be made prior to the issuance of a properly executed purchase order.
- c. The district will reference ‘The Uniform Minimum Chart of Accounts for New Jersey Public School’ and other available reference materials, such as the Budget Guidelines for the proper classifications required to be in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.22(f)

All Members voted “yes.”
(9-0-0)

All Members voted “yes.”
(9-0-0)

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F R A N C E S C H I N I	U L R I C H	D E W I N N E	D I G I O R G I O	E N G L I S H	F A N U C C I	M O U N I E R	P H I L L I P S	R I O S
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					1			2
					1			2
					1			2

10. The Board approve the authorization of the disposal of furniture, electronics and equipment as per the list on file with the Secretary of the Board

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

11. The Board authorize the awarding of a contract with Bentz Entertainment in accordance with Board Policy #3230, Guideline #4, "Outside Activities"

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

12. The Board award Supplemental Educational Services (SES) contract/agreement to the following provider(s), in a form approvable by the Superintendent and Board Solicitor, for tutoring services in Language Arts and/or Math, pursuant to the Federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation:

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

Provider Name	Rate Per Hour
Arline Institute	\$60.00
Educate Online Learning, LLC	\$72.00
#1 in Learning	\$65.00
Sankofa Educational Solutions, LLC	\$53.00

13. The Board approve the Joint Transportation Agreement between Harrison Township Board of Education and the City of Vineland Board of Education for the 2010-2011 school year

All Members voted "yes." (9-0-0)

FRANCESHINI	ULRICH	DEWINNE	DIWINGIO	ENGLISH	FANUCCHI	MOUNIER	PHILLIPS	RIOS
					1			2
						1		2
							1	2

14. The Board accept a donation in the amount of \$448 from Carl Tarabbio for the Petway Elementary School Drama Club to attend the play *Scrooge, the Stingiest Man in Town* on December 10, 2010 in accordance with Board Policy #7230, “Gifts, Grants and Donations”

Mr. DiGiorgio thanked Mr. Tarabbio.

Mrs. Phillips congratulated Petway Elementary School for obtaining the grant. She said the Petway Chorus will be the first public school to entertain at the Landis Theatre, which is an honor.

All Members voted “yes.”
(9-0-0)

15. The Board approve in accordance with New Jersey Administrative code 6A:27-11.2 the bus evacuation drills completed in the month of November as per the list provided and on file with the Secretary of the Board

All Members voted “yes.”
(9-0-0)

16. Bids:

a. The Board approve Change Order #3 in the amount of \$947.00 to provide all labor, material and equipment to remove and dispose existing saw dust collection machine. Additionally, approve \$2,470.00 to provide all labor, material and equipment to install fire dampers at the storage/work room and \$2,642.00 to provide all labor, material and equipment relating to miscellaneous plumbing and HVAC work.

All Members voted “yes.”
(9-0-0)

Change Order #3

Contract: Vineland High School – South
 Life Skills Renovations Project 29067

Contractor: Capri Construction Company, Inc.

F R A N C E S C H I N I	U L R I C H	D E W I N N E	D I G I O R G I O	E N G L I S H	F A N U C C I	M O U N I E R	P H I L L I P S	R I O S
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19. The Board approve the **SECOND** reading of the following policy for adoption:

Policy #4159 – Support Staff Member/School District Reporting Responsibilities (NEW)

WITHDRAWN

Policy #6112 – Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (NEW)

Mr. Fanucci asked how we came up with the 14 day time limit in the first paragraph of Policy #4159. Mrs. Elliott said this is a mandated policy from Strauss Esmay and the 14 days is statutory. Mr. Fanucci asked if this timeframe could be reduced. Mrs. Elliott said it can be reduced. Mr. Fanucci asked if the 14 days is standard. Mrs. Elliott said yes the 14 days is standard. She said with the State of NJ Certification process and criminal background check the notification of a serious crime could potentially come down within 24 hours from the state department based on the criminal background investigations and fingerprints that are on file. Mr. Ulrich said we can review Policy #4159 again. Dr. Banks said she is formally withdrawing her recommendation for approval of Policy #4159 for further discussion and advancing her recommendation on Policy #6112. Mrs. Elliott is recommending for Policy #4159 be placed on the Policy & Personnel agenda for January.

Mr. Ulrich thanked Mrs. Elliott, Dr. Gruccio and Dr. Banks for the overwhelming task of adding and updating all the policies.

All Members voted "yes."
 (9-0-0)

B. Proposed for review or discussion or adoption by Board Members:

Mr. Franceschini requested a recommendation for the board to conduct the budget process as a committee of the whole.

Mr. DeWinne said there was discussion last week regarding closed session, personnel and rifting concerns. He said there are certain positions that can be discussed without mentioning names or sending out Riff Notices. Mr. DeWinne said topics may come up that we may want to discuss. He said a large percentage of the budget is salaries and benefits but there are other aspects of the budget that can be scrutinized by the public. Mr. DeWinne said this year is tricky with contract negotiations. He said this is a majority vote and if it does not carry we will go back to the way it was.

Mr. DeSanto said the board's decision on this issue is a matter of policy among you. He wanted to clarify that he believes there may be some misunderstanding regarding the applicability of Rice Notices. Under the Open Public Meetings Act and the Rice Case if you are going to be discussing an employee or group of employees in closed session you give them Rice Notices to provide them the opportunity to have that discussion in public. If you are going to have the discussion in public to begin with the Rice process is not really applicable. However; rights of privacy are applicable and you may need to have the discussion in closed session, which will trigger the Rice process. Mr. DeSanto said if you are discussing the budget and employees with generic discussions then it can be discussed publicly without Ricing hundreds of people. If the board decides to go in this direction then guidelines will need to be set up as to effective conversations.

Mrs. Phillips asked if the board was voting on not to eliminate the Finance Committee but to do the budget process as a whole. Mr. DeSanto said if you are going to have a committee of the whole you are deciding that the committee of the whole is now going to undertake the budget process. He said you need to clarify in the motion that the Finance Committee will have a role in that process and what the role will be.

Mr. DiGiorgio asked if there is any way to keep this in an executive session type environment. Mr. DeSanto said no.

Dr. Mounier questioned if this change is made what would the longevity of the change be.

Ms. Rios said she would like Mr. Franceschini to ask Ms. Charlene Zoerb, the NJ School Boards Association Representative, how the other school districts are doing their budget.

Mr. Franceschini said because of the size and complexity of our district he would recommend keeping the Finance Committee and extending the work session to allow the Finance Committee to discuss the budget. He said Dr. Banks has two Town Hall meetings in place to discuss the budget and to provide transparency. Mr. Franceschini said this will allow the public more question and answer opportunities to understand the budget. He said it is the board's responsibility to understand the budget before it is voted on.

Mr. DeWinne requested clarification from Dr. Banks on what will be discussed at the Town Hall meetings. Dr. Banks said the plan would be to have a power point presentation with Mr. Franchetta to explain the budget process and what is involved in putting the budget together. She said at some point opening up the floor to questions. Mr. DeWinne said if the motion carries the motion should be to keep the Finance Committee as is and have the budget process done in public then we would not need the Town Hall meetings. Dr. Banks said that is correct if you go to a committee as a whole.

Mr. Fanucci said as Chairman of the Finance Committee he cannot agree with the term transparency as it is used in this context. He said it is being thrown out as if our committee has been non-transparent. Mr. Fanucci said the Finance Committee has always made information available and made the time to answer the questions of the board and public. He said by using the term we need to provide more transparency denotes that we are hiding something. Mr. Fanucci said he does not believe that the terminology is being used accurately.

Mrs. Phillips agrees with Mr. Fanucci however; it does look that way when there are only four Finance Committee Members and everyone is not there. She would like to keep the Finance Committee the way it is and do the budget process as a whole.

Mr. Ulrich said it is the individual's responsibility to be informed and there is a learning curve. He said board members need to ask more questions and do more leg work. Mr. Ulrich said what everybody does not understand that at this point of time we have contract negotiations, which will require lengthy mediation sessions. He thinks that more budget discussions should be added before a work session and not make it a committee of the whole.

Mr. Fanucci said if the other board members are so enthusiastic about being part of this budget process and if we do this we then open the door of undermining the fact that we are a board of committee. He questioned what that would do to other committees when there are hot topics. Mr. Fanucci said if that is the case then his proposal would be to open the Finance Committee to the full board in its entirety and not just the budget process. He does not think it is right to just pick one topic out.

Mr. Franceschini said his opinion is that we should not go to a full board with the budget committee and feels it will bog down the process. He agrees that we need to spend more time on the budget and allowing a half hour extra at our work sessions is reasonable.

A motion was made by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Ms. Rios, to recommend conducting the budget process as a committee of the whole. All Members voted “yes” except for Mr. Fanucci, Ms. Rios, Mr. Ulrich and Mr. Franceschini who voted “no.” The motion carried.

Ms. Phillips said she is voting “yes” as long as we are keeping the Finance Committee.

Mr. DeSanto asked the board to consider the logistics of how the Finance Committee will operate to have a logical productive process.

Mr. Fanucci asked if we will be scheduling a separate public meeting with the entire board for the budget only and all other normal finance items will be done as a committee. Mr. DeSanto said yes.

Mr. Franceschini asked since this is a board committee are we under scrutiny for public comment. Mr. DeSanto said it is a meeting of the board and there has to be a section for public comments. Mr. Franceschini asked if this would be considered a special meeting. Mr. DeSanto said yes it is basically a special meeting of the board. Mr. Franceschini asked if this will be added into the Bylaws. Mr. DeSanto said no the Bylaws allow for Ad Hoc Committees.

Approval of Bills: Upon motion by Mr. Fanucci, seconded by Ms. Rios, the bills were approved and warrants issued for same. All Members voted “yes” (\$6,862,099.55).

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

Public: Lee Burke, Vineland Resident
Mr. Burke said the word transparency does have a different connotation when you are speaking to the public. He said the idea of the community forums would be to explain the process to the public in a synopsis type power point form. Mr. Burke said the understanding was that this would be a mechanism to help the board members learn more. Mr. Burke suggested having a Citizens Advisory Board for comments.

Mr. Burke said citizens have the right to be able to come before the board and speak. He recommends for everyone who cannot attend the meetings to go on-line to read the meeting minutes. Mr. Burke expressed his concern as to why some board members feel they have to direct the superintendent in the instructional matters of the district. Mr. Burke said in his opinion the actual responsibility most clearly is at the principal level.

Mrs. Phillips said at tonight's Curriculum & Technology meeting Mrs. Polof discussed The Clarke School, which is a program for deaf education. Also Mr. Cores, Bilingual Supervisor, spoke about a Parent Advisory group that he has set up and will conduct a survey to discuss centralizing our bilingual population. Mrs. Phillips said at the meeting a presentation was given by Steered Straight, which is a non-profit group that provides school presentations on Gang Prevention, Drug and Alcohol Prevention, and Bullying.

Mr. Ulrich commented that Steered Straight is a good program. He said that he attended a Community Criminal Justice meeting and the Warden of Fairton Federal Correctional Institution was at that meeting who informed him that their ROPE Program has restarted again. The ROPE Program was a successful program that involved offenders going into the schools and speaking to the student as to what really happens when they make the wrong choices. Mr. Ulrich said the ROPE Program is offering to come out to our facilities again and will not cost us any money.

Ms. Rios said at the Buildings & Grounds Committee meeting an update was given by Mr. Weaver on the Life Skills Room at Vineland High School South. Mr. Weaver also provided an update on the Rossi School indoor air quality issues. A draft copy of the report was given to Dr. Banks who forwarded the results to Mr. DeSanto for his review. Ms. Rios said the tennis court resurfacing was discussed and would cost approximately \$75,000. She said that Mr. Weaver provided a report on the new running track which is complete and we are waiting for the warranties and certifications. Ms. Rios said Mr. English asked about the hard ball field batting cage surface. She said Mr. Weaver stated he is in the process of obtaining a quote to have an asphalt surface put in. Ms. Rios said Mr. Weaver just submitted a purchase order for a new dimmer rack for the Veterans Memorial School sound booth. She said funding options with the City of Vineland was discussed in regards to sidewalks in front of Wallace School.

Ms. Rios asked Mr. Weaver to give an overview on the Solar Panel Request for Proposal (RFP).

Mr. DeWinne asked if the plan was to put the resurfacing of the tennis courts in this upcoming budget. Mr. Franchetta said the county superintendent removed it from this year's budget and we can make application next year.

Mr. Ulrich asked in the event the county superintendent decides to remove an item that the board feels strongly about is there an appeal process set up. Dr. Banks said yes you can appeal to the commissioner, which will open up the entire budget for review.

Mr. Weaver presented a brief overview on the Solar Panel Request for Proposal process. He said the process is moving along well and they are reviewing the 256 page document. At his point they will make a recommendation to have an attorney, who is well versed in this field, review the document. Mr. DeSanto reviewed the document and has made changes that were implemented into the RFP. Mr. Weaver said we are waiting for the final review. He said a meeting was held with the Vineland Municipal Electric Utilities along with Ray Johnson and the electric utility was impressed with the RFP. He said we are going to meet with the LSA [should be: "Cumberland County Improvement Authority – CCIA"] within the next week. Mr. Weaver said they will offer reduced funding to the developers but at this point we are not sure of the rates.

Mr. DeWinne mentioned that after 15 years the equipment becomes ours. He said there is an appetite for for-profit businesses to invest and put equipment on other people's property. Mr. DeWinne said that he believes we have an option for the boiler system that has been denied as an emergent item for a cost of ten or twenty million to repair. He said possibly we can have a for-profit company do this and replace with some other type of alternative energy and get the same benefits. Mr. DeWinne said Mr. Weaver has done a great job and he is very impressed with Ray Johnson from Tozour Energy.

Mr. Ulrich said this project is a great piece of work and we are going to be on the forefront of clean energy reducing our liability of electric usage and helping the environment. He commended Mr. Fanucci along with the Facilities Committee for doing a fantastic job.

Mr. Weaver mentioned that in the RFP we are looking at doing a walkway between the two schools. The walkway will be lined with solar panels and will be a great asset for the process.

Mrs. Phillips thanked Mr. Fanucci for starting this process.

Ms. Rios also thanked Mr. Fanucci

Mr. DeSanto said he had reviewed the administrative portion of the RFP and recommended several changes for compliance with NJ Law. He said power purchase agreements are very detailed and highly specialized. Mr. DeSanto said it is his opinion that the board will need the advice and counsel of people who deal with this on a regular basis.

Mr. Fanucci thanked Mr. Weaver for working diligently on this and does not know where we would be without his assistance.

Board Member
Remarks:

Mr. Fanucci wished everyone a safe happy holiday season.

Mr. English sends his thoughts and prayers to the Riggins family on the passing of Loren Riggins, who was an outstanding advocate for youth activities. He said that he is speaking tonight to the superintendent and fellow board members as a concerned parent first and board member second. Mr. English said he takes his board position very seriously and being classified as needs to improve or a mediocre district is not acceptable. He said his top two goals are and always will be students and their achievement. Mr. English said times are changing and sacrifices need to be made and all he is asking is to keep the students and their achievements first. If a parent, student or staff member has any questions or issues they feel are urgent or not being attended to properly to contact Dr. Banks. He encourages everyone to come out of the shadows and be heard. Mr. English said he can only hope as the days and months go by we can have a better sense of communication in this district. He said the sensitive word of micromanaging pops up a lot when he tends to speak but he likes to refer to it as caring and wanting to make a positive change for the district. Mr. English said with the lack of parental involvement in our district who negotiates or grieves for the students and their achievement. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ms. Rios thanked the concert choir and JROTC for their participation tonight. She congratulated the Academic Bowl Team along with Petway and Winslow Elementary Schools for their placement in the Christmas parade. Ms. Rios said at last week's work session there was discussion as to what happens when someone goes on a leave, is terminated or resigns. She believes that everyone that carries the same title or position should know each other's jobs so if someone is out they will know what needs to get done and how to do it. Ms. Rios said she visited Winslow and Durand Elementary Schools and the principals and staff are doing a wonderful job with our children. She complimented Dr. Banks for choosing those principals. Ms. Rios thanked the maintenance department for keeping our buildings clean, cafeteria staff for helping with the food given daily to our children, aides for watching over our children, the transportation department for busing our children, teachers and administrators for providing the best education possible to our children, security for protecting our schools, secretaries for their hard work and Wayne Weaver for doing an excellent job with the Buildings & Grounds Committee. She wished Happy Holidays to all Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo

Mr. DeWinne wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Dr. Mounier said despite a certain amount of friction tonight's meeting shows the beauty of our system of government. He said whether the change that was voted for tonight will pan out remains to be seen. Dr. Mounier hopes and trusts that the public will participate eagerly and responsibly. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mrs. Phillips wished all of our Vineland families a beautiful holiday and a wonderful healthy New Year. She urged the students to spend time reading and doing math during their holiday break.

Mr. DiGiorgio congratulated the Academic Bowl Team along with Petway and Winslow Elementary Schools for their parade floats. He thanked Mr. Burke for his continued involvement. Mr. DiGiorgio thanked everyone in the district and wished them a Happy Holiday and New Year.

Mr. Ulrich said Mr. English is a very energetic board member and his heart is in the right place. He said when you look at education from a citizen's perspective what you are seeing is a large expenditure of funds.

Mr. Ulrich said it is fair to note that New Jersey is number one in the country as far as our educational process and setting the standards for other states to achieve. He said we spend a lot of time discussing parent involvement, which is probably the piece that we really have little control over. One of the pieces that we do have control over is teacher reforms and enabling the system to help underperforming teachers. Mr. Ulrich said teachers that are not performing have to find another line of work. He believes in education and is here because of education. Mr. Ulrich said unions are protecting the few that the system needs to do away with. He said the main goal is the education of our children and achievement is the goal that wins out in the end. Mr. Ulrich said during his term on the board there are times he does not see that happening. He has complete confidence that Dr. Banks is trying to set the ship straight and if we do not work together there is no way she can succeed. Mr. Ulrich wished everyone a nice safe holiday. He thanked the teachers in our district who care about our children, come to work every day and stay beyond their hours.

Dr. Banks wished everyone a wonderful holiday and a very happy, healthy prosperous New Year.

Report/Remarks by
Board President:

Mr. Franceschini congratulated the JROTC, the Academic Bowl Team, Petway and Winslow Elementary School. He also thanked the Vineland High School Concert Choir for doing an excellent job. Mr. Franceschini wished everyone a Happy Holiday, Merry Christmas, Feliz Navidad and Buona Natale.

Resolution:

Mr. Franchetta read a resolution to recess into executive session on **Tuesday, December 21, 2010 and Wednesday, January 12, 2011** regarding budget issues, personnel matters, contract negotiations, student residency/disciplinary matters and anticipated or pending litigation.

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

Adjournment: The Board adjourned the meeting by voice vote at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin J. Franchetta, CPA
Board Secretary

KJF:df