

## **PUBLIC MEETING**

January 26, 2014

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in a Special Meeting on January 26, 2014 in the Verona High School Media Center at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Quattrocchi. A statement was made that the meeting had been properly advertised in the designated newspapers and the agendas were posted at the appropriate locations.

The following members of the Board were present: Mr. John Quattrocchi, President, Mr. Michael Unis, Vice President, Mr. Joseph Bellino, Mr. James Day and Mr. Steven Spardel. Also present were: Mr. Steven Forte, Superintendent and Ms. Cheryl Nardino, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Two members of the press and 22 citizens were present.

- Mr. Forte reviewed a report prepared by Robert Caruso, a parent who works in law enforcement, as a result of touring the building with Paul McDevitt, Facilities Manager and Steve Forte.
- There was a presentation for the public at HBW on January 14, 2014.
- Estimate to remediate the upper field and install fencing is \$1,972,100.
- ROD grant letters have been received. \$3.5 million is eligible for the referendum. Fields are not eligible for grant money.
- The board all agreed on the building upgrades.
- Mr. Quattrocchi spoke with the financial advisors on historical bond rates
- He also spoke to Mr. Joseph Martin, Town Manager, about the Hilltop field project, the field dimensions, seating and estimated completion in Spring 2015.
- The following were options to be further discussed at Tuesday night's meeting. A final decision will have to be made on Tuesday night:
  1. Option 1 – no field in the question was Mr. Forte's recommendation from Sunday.
  2. Option 2 – buildings + lower field in either one or two questions. This was the opinion of Mr. Quattrocchi, Mr. Unis, Mr. Spardel and Mr. Day.
  3. Option 3 – buildings + upper field in one question, with second question for additional funds to do lower field instead of upper field. This was Mr. Bellino's opinion.
- Mr. Bellino feels that we should be committed to our co-curricular and athletic programs as much as our educational programs. "Verona deserves a first rate facility."

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Question regarding a twice failed referendum. Doe would then review the project for approval.
- General building needs need to get done. Separate question for the field for a September referendum.
- Question on energy audit
- Question on remediation plan
- Field should be a second question
- Security is extremely important

The Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl A. Nardino  
Board Secretary