

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in regular session on January 8, 2019 in the Verona High School Media Center at 4:59 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Cheryl Nardino. 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: Mrs. Lisa Freschi, Vice President, Mr. James Day and Mr. Glenn Elliott. Also present were Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent and Ms. Cheryl Nardino, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Approximately twenty citizens were present. One member of the press was present.

Reporting of Election Results- Cheryl

- On November 6th the School Board election was held to fill two seats of three year terms
- 7,461 votes were cast which was a 66% turnout
- Total votes cast were:
 - 3,749 for Mrs. Pamela Priscoe
 - 2,269 for Mr. John Quattrocchi
 - 857 for Mr. David Rullo
 - 2,835 for Mr. Timothy Alworth
 - There were 40 write-in votes
 - The full kindergarten results were 3,501 yes and 2,533 no
 - The mental health program results were 3,401 and 2,539 no

Swearing in of Board Members

Ms. Nardino called for a nomination for the position of Board President. Mr. Elliott nominated Mrs. Freschi. Ms. Nardino called for any other nominations. There were none. All Board Members were in favor.

The meeting was turned over to Mrs. Lisa Freschi, Board President.

Mrs. Freschi called for a nomination for the position of Board Vice President. Mr. Day nominated Mr. Elliott. Mrs. Freschi called for any other nominations. There were none. All Board Members were in favor.

Public Comment on Agenda Items- None

Presentations

- CHILD Grant Presentation
- Robert Merkler, Director Athletics and District Special Programs, Fall Sports Update

Superintendent's Report

- HIB 175374 Second Reading
- New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) is the Department of Education's monitoring and district self-evaluation system for public schools and Verona will likely be monitored in 2019-20.

- January Professional development will be reading and writing workshop Next professional development session is February 19, 2019 with literacy training. Next district 2 hour PD will be on Thursday, February 14 with topics TBD
- Homework free weekends. No homework will be due and no assessments will be given on Monday, February 4th and Monday, May 20th.
- Girls Basketball-Won the West Essex Area Holiday tournament for 2nd straight year. Girls Track-Came in 2nd in the SEC Championship.
- Referendum-Roofing 80% needs replacement and 20% still TBD based on infrared scanning results. Awaiting full analysis from architects.

Committees

Education/Special Education

- UBD templates being updated. Continued math training. Professional development, SGO's and observations
- New social and emotional curriculum being developed
- Two no homework nights this year
- Discussed "What Made Maddy Run" presentation scheduled for April
- Conduction preschool open houses
- Rutgers Center for Autism is reviewing our program
- ESS, the company hired for our mental health program, began January 2.

Athletics

- Discussion on parent funded girls field hockey team

Buildings and Grounds-None

Community Resources

- Grant writer position to be filled
- Full day kindergarten beginning January 28
- Mental health program began January 2
- District super blog will have student involvement

Discussion Items-None

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent to the Board of Education:

RESOLVED that the Board approve **Resolutions #1-15**

Moved by: Mr. Day

Seconded by: Mr. Elliott

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

#1 RESOLVED that the Board approve the minutes of the following meetings:

Confidential & Regular Public Meeting December 11, 2018

BOARD RENEWAL RESOLUTIONS

#2 RESOLVED that the Verona Board of Education approve the establishment of the following Board of Education Committees. Appointments to the Committees will be made by the Board President:

Buildings and Grounds - James Day/Lisa Freschi
 Finance - Pamela Priscoe/Glenn Elliott
 Education/Special Education – Glenn Elliott/Timothy Alworth
 Community Resources – Lisa Freschi/Timothy Alworth
 Athletics & Co-Curricular – Pamela Priscoe/James Day

PERSONNEL

#3 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following personnel recommendations pending the completion of pre-employment requirements for the 2018-2019 school year per attached.

3.1 New Hires

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about
Shehzad Chowdhury	District	Sub Teacher	\$90 per diem	Education	SY 18-19
Rachel Teixeira	District	Sub Nurse	\$175 per diem	Education	SY 18-19
Jason Woodward	HBW	Sub Custodian	\$18/per hour	Education	SY 18-19
Albaliz Tello	HBW	School Social Worker	PHD/Step 11, \$74,481 - pro-rated	Education	Jan. 9, 2019 - Jun. 30, 2019
Debra Lawrence	FOR	Sub Teacher	N/A	Education	SY 18-19
Silviana Kolaci	BRK	Paraprofessional	\$14.60/hr.	Education	SY 18-19

3.2 Without Pay

Name	Date/s	Reason
#100732	Jan. 18, 2019	Deduction

3.3 Leave of Absence

Employee	Reason	Begin Date on or about	Estimated Return Date on or about
#102381	Medical Leave of Absence	Dec. 2, 2018	Jan. 9, 2019
#101142	Medical Leave of Absence	Jan. 7, 2019	Apr. 1, 2019
Valerie Useche	Amendment to Maternity Leave of Absence	Sept. 8, 2017	Jan. 28, 2019

3.4 Staff Changes

Name	Current Location/Position	New Location/Position	Effective Date on or about
Joseph Phelan	FOR/LAN/Physical Education Teacher	FOR/Physical Education Teacher FOR/LAN/ Health	Jan. 28, 2019
Scott Watkins	BRK/FNB/Physical Education Teacher/ BRK-FNB-FOR-LAN/ Health Teacher	FNB/Physical Education Teacher FNB/BRK/Health Teacher	Jan. 28, 2019

3.5 Extra Class

Name	Location	Course	6th Period amount	Salary Adjustment with extra amount	Term of Employment on or about
Alexander Cali	VHS	Learning Strategies	pro-rated \$7,260	\$67,762	Jan. 9 - Jun. 30, 2019

3.6 Stipend

Name	School	Stipend	Position	Begin date	End Date on or about
Robert Banks	HBW	pro-rated \$2,504	Head Custodian	Jan. 7, 2019	Apr. 1, 2019

#4 RESOLVED that the Board approve **Roberta Schoenbaum** as a long term substitute teacher at a salary of \$125 per diem for 20 days.

EDUCATION

#5 RESOLVED that the Board approve the Superintendent’s presentation of HIB report as follows:

HIB Case
HBW 175374

#6 RESOLVED that the Board approve the attached revised 2019-2020 Board of Education meeting dates.

#7 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

7.1 Student Observer

Name	School	School/Teacher/ Grade	Duration	Assignment
Brian Lewis	Fairleigh Dickinson Univ.	HBW/Albano,Thomas, Moschella	5 days	Student Observer

#8 RESOLVED that the Board approve Peekapak, a social emotional curriculum for grades K-4 for the 2018-2019 school year.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

#9 RESOLVED that the Board approve David B. Rubin, Esquire, of David B. Rubin, PC and The Busch Law Group LLD, to represent the Verona School District in specific Special Education matters for the 2018 – 2019 school year at the rate of \$185.00 per hour as needed.

ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR

#10 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

10.1 Extra Curricular

Advisor	Club Name	Location	Stipend	Term of Employment	Notes
Christine Garson	Spanish Club	VHS	\$746.00	SY 18-19	rescind

Christine Garson	Spanish Honor Society	VHS	\$650.00	SY 18-19	rescind
Christine Garson	Spanish Club	VHS	\$373.00	SY 18-19	approve
Jessica Calvo-Varela	Spanish Club	VHS	\$373.00	SY 18-19	approve
Christine Garson	Spanish Honor Society	VHS	\$325.00	SY 18-19	approve
Jessica Calvo-Varela	Spanish Honor Society	VHS	\$325.00	SY 18-19	approve
Grace Minervo-Buneo	HBW Musical	HBW	\$1,922	SY 18-19	paid from proceeds
Danielle Kelly	Kind Club	HBW	\$551.00	SY18-19	
Melissa Hanulak	Kind Club	HBW	\$551.00	SY 18-19	

FINANCE

- #11 RESOLVED** that the Board accept an anonymous donation of \$25,000 to be used at Brookdale Elementary School at their discretion.
- #12 RESOLVED** that the Board approve a donation of \$400 from The New Jersey State Bar Foundation to the F. N. Brown Peer Mediation Presentation Program.
- #13 RESOLVED** that the Board approve a donation of \$500 from NJ Energy Corp to Verona High School.

#14 RESOLVED that the Board approve the enclosed checklist(s) in the following amounts:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Check Register Date</u>
\$92,225.20	Cafeteria Checks	January 8, 2019
\$980,115.45	Vendor Checks	January 8, 2019

- #15 RESOLVED** that the Board approve a donation of \$2,300 from Verona C.H.I.L.D.
- \$150 to be used for entering speech students in the event “Gingerbread Wonderland 2018” at Frelinghuysen Arboretum.
 - \$1,250 to be used to purchase 5-7 chromebooks and flexible seating for classrooms.
 - \$500 to be used to purchase high interest books that would be used to encourage critical thinking.

- \$400 to be used to purchase a 2017 Apple iPad (32G with WiFi) with strong protective cover.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Question on a potential field hockey team
- Classroom computer instruction

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Cheryl A. Nardino
Board Secretary**