

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in regular session on December 10, 2013 in the Board Office Conference Room at 7:29 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 and Mr. Glenn Elliott. Mr. Steven Spardel was absent. Also present were: Mr. Steven Forte, Superintendent and Ms. Cheryl Nardino, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Resolved that the Board meet in private session, from which the public shall be excluded, to discuss the topics of negotiations and personnel or potential litigation which private discussion is being held pursuant to Section 7b and 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act. The matters under discussion will be disclosed to the public as soon as final decisions are made and voted upon.

Moved by: Mr. Unis

Seconded by: Mr. Bellino

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

The Board convened to a confidential session on December 10, 2013 in the Board Office Conference Room at 7:30 p.m.

The Regular meeting reconvened to the regular session, in the Verona High School Media Center, at 8:00 p.m.

Four citizens and two members of press were present.

Public Comment on Agenda Items- Clarification on resolution number seven and eleven.

Presentations

- Mr. Gary Vinci, Partner of Lerch, Vinci and Higgins CPA- Mr. Vinci presented the June 30, 2013 Annual Audit and audit findings.
- Mr. Forte presented the semi-annual HIB Report

Committee Reports

Education and Special Services

- Staff medical leaves
- Update on G&T district committee and identifying G&T students
- Special education enrollment numbers
- Reviewed academic presentation set for January 7th
- Curriculum changes on agenda for January

Community Resources

- Reviewed the district fact book

Athletics and Co-curricular

- Fall sports presentation rescheduled for January
- Field trips and athletic events
- Waiting for legislation to be passed on cardiac arrest screening
- JV coaching position will be approved tonight
- Mr. Lynch nominated music students from Verona High School to tour and perform in Europe with other students from the United States over the summer. The trip is paid for by the parents.

Buildings and Grounds

- ROD grant funding
- ESIP program and projects in the referendum
- Security committee met last week
- Board will advertise a request for proposal on mechanical engineering at VHS

Finance

- Audit meeting with Mr. Vinci
- Cafeteria is operating at a loss.

Superintendent's Report

- Student attendance on the inclement snow day was 86% and staff was 93.5%. Normal for students is approx. 96%
- Using the new graduation formula, our graduation rate for the class of 2013 was 98.62%. The new formula includes students who did not graduate on time, or may have moved out of the district and not enrolled in another school.
- The winter concerts are off to a great start:
 - HBW- finale of the Jazz concert featured the singing talents of Mr. Rossi and Mr. Moschella- it was amazing. The music program is flourishing!
 - FNB- all students involved- great crowd- featured the duet with Dr. Lanzo and the FNB kindergarten
 - Dec 11 Brookdale
 - Dec 13 Laning
 - Dec 17 Forest
 - Dec 18 VHS
- Very productive meeting of the ad hoc security committee on Dec 4th
 - 15 members discussed the plans for the referendum
 - APG Security proposal
- 2013-14 District Fact Book should be posted on the website by Friday
- HBW5th Grade Trip- the HBW administration conducted a survey of the grade 5 students and parents, to see if a one day trip without the sleepover would increase participation. They have determined that the one day trip would improve participation. The overnight trip cost of \$100 had less than 70% attendance. We expect better attendance for the one day trip at a cost of \$60.

Discussion- None

RESOLUTIONS

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

RESOLVED that the Board approve **Resolutions #1-13**

Moved by: Mr. Bellino

Seconded by: Mr. Elliott

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Confidential & Regular Public Meeting **November 26, 2013**

PERSONNEL

#2 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following personnel recommendations pending the completion of pre-employment requirements:

2.1 New Staff

Name	Location	Assignment	Salary	Term of employment	Department Committee	Replacing/ Notes
Radek, Emerida	Board Office	Temp. Clerk	\$16.50/hr.	12/16/13-6/30/14	Education	M. Dimeck
Kiefer, Tricia	Laning VPP	Clerk/ Receptionist	\$10.50/hr.	work add'l. 3.5 days 12/3,5,12 and .5 on 12/19/13	Education	

EDUCATION/SPECIAL EDUCATION

#3 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

3.1 Home Instructor

Name	Position	Stipend	Term of Employment
Witter, Luisa	Teacher/HBW	\$38/hr.	SY 13-14

3.2 Home Instruction

Student #	School	Grade	Hrs./Week	Beginning
103100	HBW	6	10 hrs./wk. - 2-3 weeks	12/9/2013

3.3 Volunteers

VOLUNTEERS			
Name	School	Name	School
Cassandra Farmer	Brookdale	Ursula Konrad	FOR
Christin Repoli	Brookdale	Nicole Rizzi	FOR
Jen Crithley Quinn	Brookdale	Linda Farley	FOR
Jennifer Ghingo	Brookdale	Jennifer Byrnes	FOR
Leigh Brady	Brookdale	Lisa Carroll Remler	FOR
Margaret Lambert	FNB	Robyn Caruso	FOR
Janice Garthwaite	FNB	Heidi Dunphy	FOR/HBW
Michele Palmer	FNB	Melissa Collucci	Laning
Jeanine Nigro	FNB	Sarah Latson	Laning
Jennifer Marchese	FNB	Lisa McGrath	Laning
Eileen Petrino	FNB	Marie Dorval-Andre	HBW
Palma Quagliata	HBW	Nancy Ziebert	BRK
Kelli Strlekar	BRK	Lynne Lewis	BRK

3.4 Leave of Absence

Name	Position	Location	Reason	MLOA Begin Date	Estimated Return Date
Bangia, Sumit	Supervisor - Humanities	District	Maternity Leave	1/2/2014	5/16/2014
Conklin, Sarah	2nd grade teacher	Forest	Maternity Leave	1/23/2014	6/9/2014

#4 RESOLVED that the Board approve **Larry Siegel** to attend the EbD TEEMS training sessions at TCNJ from January 6, 2014 – January 9, 2014:

Registration	\$400.00
Travel 486mi. x \$.31	<u>\$150.60</u>
Total	\$550.60

#5 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following student teachers and field observers:

Name	School	School/teacher/ Grade	Duration	Hours	Assignment
Collette Ryan	Cald.Coll.	FOR/Sapienza/Spec.Ed.	1/27/14-5/1/14	25-50 hrs.	Field Observ.
Colleen Begley	Cald. Coll.	FOR/Till/Gr. 4	1/27/14-5/1/14	60 hrs.	Field Observ.
Jess Lab	Fairleigh	VHS/Tamburro/SS	1/6/14-1/10/14	5 days	Field Observ.
Raquel Rodriguez	Seton Hall	BRK/Symczak/Gr. 2	1/21/14-5/5/14	70 hrs.	Field Observ.
Dominick Foster	Seton Hall	VHS/Tamburro/SS	1/21/14-5/5/14	60 hrs.	Field Observ.
Deanna Iovine	Seton Hall	VHS/Ramos/Bio.	1/21/14-5/5/14	25 hrs.	Field Observ.
Nicole Montemarano	Cald. Coll.	VHS/Ramos/Bio.	1/21/14-5/8/14	5 days/wk.	Std. teacher
April Horne	Seton Hall	FOR/LaStella/Gr. 1	1/13/14-5/5/14	60 hrs.	Observer
Linda Connolly-Schoner	Cald. Coll.	FOR/Petronico/Nurse	1/20/14-4/28/14	75 hrs.	Field Observ.
Florence Romaine	Cald. Coll.	VHS/Barone/Eng.	1/27/14-5/1/14	5 hrs./wk.	Field Observ.
Caitlyn Prigge	Cald. Coll.	VHS/Maka/Cashill/Math	1/21/14-5/8/14	5 days/wk.	Std. teacher
Louis Capurso	MSU	VHS/Smith/English		1 class period	Observer
DeNotaris, Joelle	Rutgers	VHS/Schiff/Soc. Worker	1/2/14-6/20/14	3 days/week	Intern
Erin Fitzpatrick	Cald. Coll.	HBW/Sewell/SS SE	1/27/14-5/14/14	25 hrs.	Field Observ.

CO-CURRICULAR/ATHLETICS

#6 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

6.1 Coaches

Name	Location	Position	Step	Stipend	Notes
Roshong, Mitchell	VHS	JV Baseball	2	\$5,070	
Joe Phelan	VHS	JV Baseball Coach	3	\$6,202	Rescind

Arlette, Heather	VHS	Winter JV Cheerleading Coach	1	\$2,315	Rescind
Arlette, Heather	VHS	Winter JV Cheerleading Coach	2	\$2,392	Approve

6.2 Field Trips

Name of Chaperone	School	Club/Destnation	Date of Field Trip
Mordkovich/Sherman/Leporati	VHS	French/Art/Jewish Museum, NYC	12/16/2013
Gene Leporati	VHS	Indoor Track/Rockland Community College, NY	12/27/2013
Gene Leporati	VHS	Indoor Track/168th St. Armory, NYC	1/29/2014

BUILDING AND GROUNDS/REFERENDUM

#7 RESOLVED that the Board approve APG Security to assess the district security at a cost of \$5,040.00.

FINANCE

#8 RESOLVED that the Board approve the enclosed check lists in the following amounts:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Check Register Date</u>
\$35,900.00	Maintenance Reserve	12-10-13
\$14,395.15	Cafeteria	11-27-13 and 12-4-13
\$2,600,847.65	Vendor Checks	12-6-13

#9 RESOLVED that the Board accept the 2012-2013 CAFRA Report ending June 30, 2013 as prepared by Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, CPA's.

#10 RESOLVED that the Board approve the Corrective Action Plan for the audit year ended June 30, 2013. As attached.

#11 RESOLVED that the Board approve Phoenix Advisors, LLC to serve as financial advisors for the upcoming referendum in the amount of \$15,000. (Fee is paid only if the referendum passes).

#12 RESOLVED that the Board approve TSA Consulting Group to monitor compliance for the 403(b) retirement plans at a cost of \$600 per year.

#13 RESOLVED that the Board accept the Fidelity Charitable grant employee give back donation of \$250.00 to Laning Avenue School from Mr. & Mrs. Kaulback.

Mr. Quattrocchi thanked Mr. Elliott for his nine and a half years on the board. Mr. Elliott thanked the Verona community for all their support throughout the years. He thanked his fellow board members, past and present, for all he had learned from them.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Board's planning and the referendum decision making
- Security film on windows

The Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Cheryl A. Nardino
Board Secretary**