

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in regular session on April 10, 2018 in the Verona High School Media Center at 5:59 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Ms. Cheryl Nardino, Board Secretary. 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 and Mrs. Lisa Freschi, Vice-President, Mrs. Michele Bernardino, Mr. James Day and Mr. Glenn Elliott were present. Also present were Mr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent and Ms. Cheryl Nardino, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

One citizen and one member of the press were present.

Public Comment on Agenda Items- None

Presentations

- Robert Merkler, Director of Athletics and Special Programs, Winter Sports Awards

Superintendent's Report

- Budget planning
- Congratulations-Carol Thomas \$2,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey Grants for a water bottle filling water fountain to reduce plastic bottle waste with reusable bottles
- Third Annual VFEE Soiree Inspiring Excellence Awards April 20th Caldwell University

Committees

Education/Special Education

- Preschool enrollment, professional development, mediation cases, 9 home instruction students, Staff evaluations and budget
- Second reading of policies. Social media and recording devices to be revised.
- Elementary math curriculum, observations, new teacher meeting on use of social media
- 2 more delayed openings at VHS for the NJ Science Assessment
- Possibly changing calendar in 18-19 to add one extra snow day

Athletics/Co-Curricular

- Field trips
- Spring sports weather delays. Re-cap of team wins/loses
- Track still needs to be repaired
- Batting cage damaged and submitted claim to insurance company
- Live streaming of games up and running
- "Positive Alliance Coaching" presentation June 7th

Buildings and Grounds

- Second round of tree planting at the high school fields moved to the fall
- VHS lower field wall still being worked on and restroom will be completed by the summer
- Dealing with roof leaks at HBW, Forest and Laning. Removing fallen trees around the district.
- Bed bug issue remediated at VHS
- 5 year plan update next couple of years and referendum list being worked on
- Core switch which gives the district internet access is being replaced and cost split with the township
- School security update and discussion on strobe lights
- Field Turf maintenance plan for spring and fall

Community Resources

- VEA meeting last week and another scheduled for this week. Scheduling conflict with VAA and rescheduling that meeting.
- Discussed 2 separate proposal questions in the budget for November
- Strategic planning committees are meeting and the plan should be completed in June
- Verona magazine to be published in June
- Coordination of the capstone program for seniors this spring
- Harlem Wizards are playing in both gyms at the high school on May 6th

Discussion Items- None

RESOLUTIONS

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

RESOLVED that the Board approve **Resolutions #1-12 excluding #8**

Moved by: Mrs. Bernardino Seconded by: Mr. Day

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

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

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

Confidential & Regular Public Meetings March 27, 2018

PERSONNEL

#2 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following personnel recommendations pending the completion of pre-employment requirements for the 2017-2018 school year:

2.1 New Hire

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Effective Date
Melissa Lotrecchiano	FNB	Paraprofessional	\$14.50/hr.	Education	SY 17-18

2.2 Leave of Absence

Name	Reason	Begin Date on or before	Estimated Return Date on or about
#83482059	Medical leave of absence	Apr. 16, 2018	May 14, 2018
#61766887	Extension of medical leave of absence	Mar. 23, 2018	May 2, 2018

2.3 Reallocation of Days

Employee #	Explanation
#61828380	reallocate 5 sick days to 5 family illness days

EDUCATION

#3 RESOLVED that the Board approve the Superintendent's presentation of HIB report as follows:

HIB Case	HIB Case
HBW OH 119771	VHS 109229
VHS 109231	

#4 RESOLVED that the Board approve the first reading of the following policies/regulations:

- P3437 Military Leave (revised)
- P4437 Military Leave (revised)
- R5460.1 High School Transcripts (M) (revised)
- R7101 Educational Adequacy of Capital Projects (Revised)
- P7425 Lead Testing of Water in Schools (New)
- P&R 7440 School District Security (M) (Revised)

P&R 7441 Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School
Grounds (Revised)
P8630 Bus Driver/Bus Aide Responsibility (M) (Revised)
P9242 Use of Electronic Signatures (New)

#5 RESOLVED that the Board approve Verona High School to add two more Delayed Opening days on Wednesday, May 30, and Thursday, May 31, so that staff can be utilized for the NJSLA-S Pilot Test.

#6 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

6.1 Student Teacher

Name	School	School/Teacher/ Grade	Duration	Hours/ days	Assignment
Emily Menendez	Cald. Univ.	FNB/Staranka/1st Grade	Apr. to May 2018	100 hrs	Student teacher

ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR

#7 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

7.1 Field Trip

Name of Chaperone	School	Club/Destination	Date of Field Trip
Robert Maher	VHS	Model UN Club/Bronx, NY	Apr. 21-22, 2018

7.2 Coach

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Term of Employment
Michael O'Neil	VHS	JV Boys Lacrosse Coach	Step 3/\$6,587	SY 17-18

PERSONNEL

#11 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following personnel recommendations pending the completion of pre-employment requirements for the 2018-2019 school year:

12.1 New Hire

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Effective date to on or about
Lisa Brooks	HBW	6th Grade English - leave replacement	\$235/per diem	Education	Apr. 16 - May 11, 2018
Renee DeLora	HBW	6th Grade Social Studies MLOA	\$235/per diem	Education	Mar. 19 - Jun 19, 2018

12.2 Reallocation of Days

Employee #	Explanation
#61769246	reallocate 5 sick days to 5 family illness days

Building and Grounds

#12 RESOLVED that the Board approve a proposal from Field Turf in the amount of \$17,000 for turf field maintenance.

RESOLVED that the Board approve **Resolution #8**

Moved by: Mrs. Freschi

Seconded by: Mr. Day

Ayes: 4

Nays: 1- Mrs. Bernardino

FINANCE

#8 RESOLVED that the Board of Education approve the tentative 2018-2019 School Budget for submission to the County Superintendent of Schools for approval, using the 2018-2019 state aid figures in the amount of:

	General Fund	Special Revenues	Debt Service	Total
<u>2017-2018 Total</u>				
Expenditures	\$34,399,387	\$1,208,704	\$3,635,638	\$39,243,729
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$ 1,827,519	\$1,208,704	\$ 673,817	\$ 3,710,040
Taxes to be Raised	\$32,571,868	-0-	\$2,961,821	\$35,533,689

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Verona Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for increased costs

in health benefits in the amount of \$97,155. The additional funds are included in the base budget and will be used to pay for the additional increase in health benefits.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED In addition to the regular advertised budget, the board of education will seek approval from the district's legal voters to raise an additional \$215,000 for the expansion of our existing kindergarten program. The program currently is an extended day program. This proposal would be instituted as a full day kindergarten program from January to June 2019. The program would be in the budget in 2019-2020 as a full year program beginning September 2019. The additional levy will provide funds for an increase in teachers and administrative salaries, lunch aides, supplies, and textbooks. The taxes, if raised, will be used exclusively for this purpose. Approval of these taxes will result in a permanent increase in the district's tax levy. These proposed additional expenditures are in addition to those necessary to achieve the NJ Student Learning Standards.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED In addition to the regular advertised budget, the board of education will seek approval from the district's legal voters to raise an additional \$550,000 for the expansion of our in district Mental Health Programming. The additional levy will provide for three mental health clinicians and will increase the Child Study Team staffing. The program will be instituted from January to June 2019. The program will be in the budget in 2019-2020 as a full year program beginning September 2019. The taxes, if raised, will be used exclusively for this purpose. Approval of these taxes will result in a permanent increase in the district's tax levy. These proposed additional expenditures are in addition to those necessary to achieve the NJ Student Learning Standards.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Comments on bullying

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Cheryl A. Nardino
Board Secretary**