

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**September 20, 2022**

**The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in special session on September 20, 2022 at 6:18 p.m.**

**The meeting was called to order by Jorge Cruz, 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: Mrs. Lisa Freschi, President, Mrs. Pamela Priscoe, Vice President, Mr. Christopher Wacha, Mrs. Sara Drappi, and Mr. Day. Also present was Diane DiGiuseppe, Superintendent and Mr. Jorge Cruz, School Business Administrator.**

**There were 2 members of the public present. There were 0 members of the press present.**



SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA – 6:00 pm  
VERONA HIGH SCHOOL LEARNING COMMONS  
September 20, 2022

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Reading of Meeting Notice
4. Roll Call Attendance
5. Agenda Item - Appointment of Director of Special Services
6. Public Comments on Agenda Action Items
7. Discussion Items
8. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions
9. Public Comments

Live streaming link: <https://youtu.be/Qb7oJgD-NQ4>

The next scheduled Special Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, September 27, 2022** beginning with Confidential Session at 6:00 pm, followed by Public Session at 7:00 pm in the Verona High Learning Commons.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Reading of Meeting Notice**

This meeting is being conducted in compliance with the open meeting session that the Verona Board of Education passed a resolution at its annual reorganization meeting held on January 4, 2022. The meeting set forth the schedule of its regular meetings which resolution was within 7 days of passage. The schedule was sent to the Verona Cedar Grove Times, the Star Ledger, the Township of Verona and the VEA. Postings of this meeting setting forth the time location and agenda were posted at the Verona Board of Education Office and on the Verona Public Schools district website. The Verona Board of Education operates under a consent agenda format, any board member has the right to have an item pulled to be voted upon or discussed separately. Copies of tonight's agenda and resolutions have been made available to the public and press.

**4. Roll Call Attendance**

Mr. Wacha   X                        Mr. Day          X    
Mrs. Drappi   X                        Mrs. Priscoe   X    
Mrs. Freschi   X  

- 5. Agenda Item - Appointment of Director of Special Services -** The Board of Education anticipates the appointment of a new Director of Special Services effective on or about November 21, 2022. The Board will introduce the new Director and pass a resolution to approve the Director's contract at this meeting.

- 6. Public Comments on Agenda Action Items**
- 7. Discussion Items**
- 8. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions**
- 9. Public Comments**

Please note that the public participation portion of the meeting affords an opportunity for the public to share thoughts and comments about school related topics. By law, administrators and Board of Education members are not permitted to publicly discuss personnel matters, student discipline, or other issues requiring confidentiality. While we may not respond to comments during the meeting, all input that is shared with the Board of Education is taken very seriously, and helps inform future deliberations and work by the Board and its committees. Answers appear in many forms including, but not limited to: email, Superintendent/ Committee reports, Board statements, FAQs on website, or after

public comment is closed. We appreciate and thank all members of the public for your input.

**Motion by:**     Mrs. Priscoe    

**Seconded by:**     Mr. Day    

**Be it RESOLVED the approval of Resolution #1**

Mr. Wacha     X                          Mr. Day     X    

Mrs. Drappi     X                          Mrs. Priscoe     X    

Mrs. Freschi     X    

**VERONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**RESOLUTIONS**  
**September 20, 2022**

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

**PERSONNEL**

**#1 RESOLVED** that the Board approve, based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of **Tania Symmons** as the Director of Special Services effective on or about November 21, 2022 at an annual salary of \$171,000.

**#9 Public comments**

**Kristen Donohue - 31 So. Prospect St.** - Welcomed Mrs. Symmons to Verona and looks forward to working closely with our SEPAC and Mrs. Symmons.

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to: email, Superintendent/ Committee reports, Board statements, FAQs on website, or after public comment is closed. We appreciate and thank all members of the public for your input.

**CONFIDENTIAL SESSION IF NECESSARY**

**RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN**

- #2      **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.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting:**

**Motion by:**     Mrs. Drappi    

**Second by:**     Mrs. Priscoe    

**All in Favor:**     AYE    

**All Opposed:**     NONE    

**This meeting is adjourned at (TIME)     6:25     P.M.**