

PUBLIC MEETING

January 28, 2020

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in regular session on January 28, 2020 in the Verona High School Media Center at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ernest Turner. 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, Vice- President, Mr. Timothy Alworth, Mrs. Pamela Priscoe and Mrs. Sara Drappi. Also present was Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent and Mr. Ernest Turner, Acting Board Secretary. Mr. Jim Day was absent.

There were 70 members of the public present at the time of the Football presentation. There was 1 member of the press present. Once the presentation was over there were no members of the public present and 1 member of the press present.

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

Presentations -

- Mr. Merkler made a presentation recognizing the Band, Cheerleaders and Football team.
- PFM Investment Management LLC - Martin Hammond and Samantha Myers made a presentation on investment strategies of the Board procedures.

Superintendent Report

1. Education
 - a. Governor Teacher of the Year 2019-2020
 - b. BRK - Corisa Walker, FNB - Megan Pellegrino, FOR - Tatian Fella, LAN - Linda Wangner, HBW - Meredith Bielen & Norma Palmer (ESP), VHS - Jonathan Thai & Rob Vogel (ESP) - The six teachers who were chosen GEOY are now eligible for the County GEOY.
2. Referendum Bond Sale and Investment conference call scheduled for January 29, 2020 and bond sale in February 2020.
3. Referendum design phase and planning with bids going out February and March and bid openings in March and April. Request for Proposal for a construction management firm to manage the daily summer construction expected to be published next week.

Committees

- Athletics & Co-Curricular - James Day / Pamela Priscoe - None
- Education - Timothy Alworth / Sara Drappi – Yes, Mr. Alworth reported
- Facilities - James Day/Lisa Freschi – Yes, Mrs. Freschi reported and Mrs. Drappi also reported
- Finance - Timothy Alworth / Lisa Freschi – Yes, Mr. Alworth reported

Discussion Items -

Old Business - Mrs. Freschi commented on Dr. Dionisio's contract - last 16 years there have been 7 Superintendents.

RESOLUTIONS

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

RESOLVED that the Board approve Resolutions #

Moved by:

Seconded by:

Ayes:

Nays:

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 8, 2019. 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 Herald News, Township of Verona and the VEA. Postings of this meeting setting forth the time location and agenda were posted in each of Verona's six schools, Board Office and Town Hall. This posting was also sent to the above newspapers all SCA presidents and SCA liaisons, the VBOE 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.

5. Roll Call Attendance

Mr. Alworth X

Mr. Day Absent

Mrs. Drappi X

Mrs. Freschi X

Mrs. Priscoe X

5. Public comments on Agenda Items – None

6. Presentations

- Football State Championship Recognition - Football, VHS Cheerleading, Maroon & White Marching Band
- Mr. Martin Hammond, Bond Referendum Investment

7. Superintendent Report - Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent of Schools

8. Committee Reports

- Athletics & Co-Curricular - James Day / Pamela Priscoe - None
- Education - Timothy Alworth / Sara Drappi – Yes, Mr. Alworth reported
- Facilities - James Day/Lisa Freschi – Yes, Mrs. Freschi reported and Mrs. Drappi also reported
- Finance - Timothy Alworth / Lisa Freschi – Yes, Mr. Alworth reported

9. Discussion Items

10. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions

Motion by: Mr. Alworth

Seconded by: Mrs. Priscoe

Be it **RESOLVED** the approval of Resolutions #1-16.

Mr. Alworth Y

Mr. Day Absent

Mrs. Drappi Y

Mrs. Freschi Y

Mrs. Priscoe Y

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

#1 **RESOLVED** that the Board approves the minutes of the following meetings:

Confidential & Regular Public Meeting January 28, 2020

PERSONNEL

#2 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following personnel recommendations pending the completion of pre-employment requirements for the 2019-2020 school year:

2.1 New Hires

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about	Notes
Jazmine Bridges	FNB	Paraprofessional	\$14.95/hr.	Education	Jan. 7 - Jun. 19, 2020	
Angela Toscano	LAN	Paraprofessional	\$14.95/hr.	Education	Feb. 3 - Jun. 19, 2020	
Patty DeFrance	District	Sub Paraprofessional	\$14.95/hr.	Education	SY 19-20	RESCIND
Patty DeFrance	District	Sub Paraprofessional	\$15.25/hr.	Education	SY 19-20	APPROVE

Elizabeth Shabazian	District	Sub Teacher	\$90/per diem	Education	SY 19-20	
Elizabeth Shabazian	District	Sub Secretary	\$90/per diem	Education	SY 19-20	
Michelle Siddons	HBW	MLOA - Math	\$250/per diem	Education	Feb. 3 - Jun. 19, 2020	
Gina Fazzini	District	Sub Teacher	\$90/per diem	Education	SY 19-20	
Judy Berkowitz	FNB	1st Grade Leave Replacement	\$90/per diem	Education	Jan. 21 - Feb. 28, 2020	
Amanda DeCaito	LAN	Extension of Leave Replacement	\$235 per diem	Education	Feb. 20 - Apr. 3, 2020	

2.2 Resignation

Name	Location	Position	Reason	Effective on or About
Lameese Zaitoun	VHS	Paraprofessional	Resignation	Jan. 8, 2020
Samira Khalil	LAN	Paraprofessional	Resignation	Jan. 23, 2020
Deborah Capozzoli	LAN	Paraprofessional	Resignation	Feb. 10, 2020

2.3 Without Pay

Name	Date/s	No. of Days/Reason
#103295	Jan. 9, 2020	Half Unpaid Day
#105233	Jan. 10, 2020	Unpaid Day
#105464	Jan. 13- 17, 2020	Unpaid Days
#105158	Jan. 13, 2020	Half Unpaid Day
#105158	Jan. 14, 15, 16, 17, 2020	Unpaid Days
#105460	Jan. 14, 2020	Half Unpaid Day
#105198	Jan. 21, 22, 23, 2020	3 Unpaid Days
#105242	Apr. 13, 2020	1 Day Without Pay
#105085	Apr. 13-14, 2020	2 Days Without Pay
#105344	Jan. 23, 2020	Half Unpaid Day

2.4 Staff Changes

Name	Current Location/Position	New Location/Position	Salary	Effective Date on or about
Vera Lynn Pezzino	Laning/Part Time Paraprofessional	Laning/Full Time Paraprofessional	\$14.95/hr.	Jan. 21 - June 19, 2020

2.5 Leave of Absence

Name	Reason	Begin Date on or before	Estimated Return Date on or about
#100686	Medical Leave	Jan. 10, 2020	Feb. 3, 2020
#100776	Medical Leave	Jan. 20, 2020	Feb. 28, 2020
#101774	Medical Leave	Jan. 15, 2020	Feb. 3, 2020
#103274	Maternity Leave Extension	Feb. 19, 2020	Apr. 13, 2020

2.6 Stipends

Name	School	Stipend	Position	Employment Date
Matthew Rosa	VHS	\$3,107	PBSIS Coordinator	SY 19-20
Marie Meyer	VHS	paid for by student enrollment per the contract	SAT Instructor	SY 19-20
Michelle DellaFortuna	VHS	paid for by student enrollment per the contract	SAT Instructor	SY 19-20

2.7 Extra Class

Name	Location	Course	6th Period amount	Term of Employment on or about
Julianne Curro	HBW	Math	\$515.47	Jan. 23 - Feb. 10, 2020
Colleen Fernandez	HBW	Math	\$619.22	Jan. 23 - Feb. 10, 2020

- #3 **RESOLVED** that the Board approves **Elnor Zeqiri and Jonathan Salcedo** for overtime hours at their daily rate not to exceed 50 hours for the 2019-2020 school year.

EDUCATION

- #4 **RESOLVED** that the Board approves the Superintendent's presentation of HIB report as follows:

HIB Case		HIB Case
VHS 205962		VHS 11-21-19
VHS 205487		

- #5 **RESOLVED** that the Board approves the following:

5.1 Attendant at Conference

Name	School	Event/Location	Date	Cost	Notes
Frank Mauriello	District	2020 Law Conference/Edison, NJ	Feb. 4, 2020	Registration \$235.00	
Brandon Adler	LAN/BRK	2020 NJAHPERD Convention for Physical Education and Health/ Long Branch, NJ	Feb. 24-25, 2020	Registration \$80.00 Mileage \$76.65 Total \$156.65	
Nicole Shanley	VHS	2020 NJAHPERD Convention for Physical Education and Health/ Long Branch, NJ	Feb 24-25, 2020	Registration \$200.00	
Jason Calo	VHS	EATA Convention, Mashanutucket, CT.	Jan. 10-13, 2020	Registration \$240.00 Hotel \$596.85 Mileage \$48.36 Meals \$168.00 Total \$1053.21	RESCIND
Jason Calo	VHS	EATA Convention, Mashanutucket, CT.	Jan. 10-13, 2020	Registration \$240.00 Hotel \$596.85 Mileage \$107.10 Meals \$248.50 Total \$1192.45	APPROVE

- #6 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for the 2019 school year.
- #7 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached District Statistical Report for the month of December 2019.
- #8 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the first reading of the following policies and regulations:
- P&R 1642: Earned Sick Leave Law (M)
 - P 3159: Teaching Staff Member/School District Reporting (M)
 - P&R 3218 Use, Possession, or Distribution of Substances (M)
 - P&R 4218 Use, Possession, or Distribution of Substances (M)
 - P 4219 Commercial Driver's License Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use Testing (M)
 - P&R 6112 Reimbursement of Federal and Other Grant Expenditures (M)
 - P&R 7440 School District Security (M)
 - P 8600 Student Transportation (M)
 - P&R 8630 Bus Driver/Bus Aide Responsibility, Emergency Procedures (M)
 - P 8670 Transportation of Special Needs Students (M)
 - P 8561 Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs (new)
- #9 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following merit goal for Dr. Dionisio (attachment).
- NJ Governor's New Jersey Educator of the Year Program Process and Teacher Selection
- #10 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve a doctoral student to conduct research in the Verona School District.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- #11 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve an out-of-district placement for Student #231014 for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, commencing January 24, 2020, at the cost of \$32,595.

#12 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

12.1 Student Home Instruction

Name	School	Grade	Hrs./Week/Duration	Beginning on or about
#200177	VHS	12	10 hrs./4-6 weeks	Jan. 6, 2020
#200188	VHS	12	10 hrs./4-6 weeks	Jan. 6, 2020

ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR

#13 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

13.1 Field Trips

Name of Chaperones	School	Club/Destination	Date of Field Trip
Christine Sepcie	VHS	Fed Challenge/ New York, NY	Feb. 5 and Mar. 10, 2020

#14 RESOLVED that the Board approve the attached Spring Coaches for 2019-2020 school year.

FINANCE

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

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Check Register Date</u>
\$1,182,272.15	Vendor Checks	January 24, 2020

#16 RESOLVED that the Board approve a donation from The Quattrocchi Family of a VOX amplifier valued at \$75.00 to Verona Public Schools.

ADDENDUM RESOLUTIONS

January 28, 2020

#1 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

1.1 New Hire

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about
Ivonne Reyes	VHS	Specialized Teacher Assistant	\$18.36/hr.	Education	Feb. 10 - Jun. 19, 2020

1.2 Resignation

Name	Location	Position	Reason	Effective on or About
Desaret Resuli	VHS	Night Custodian	Resignation	Mar. 24, 2020
Kimberly Vandervalk	VHS	Special Services - English	Resignation	Jun. 30, 2020

FINANCE

#2 RESOLVED that the Board approve the attached resolution determining the form and other details of \$27,771,000 school bonds of the Board of Education of the Township of Verona in the County of Essex, New Jersey and providing For their sale.

#3 RESOLVED that the Board approve S&P Global Ratings to proceed with the rating engagement and to begin the analytical rating process. The cost for these services is \$24,750 plus all applicable value-added sale, use and similar taxes.

Be it RESOLVED the approval of Addenda Resolutions #1-3.

Motion by: Mrs. Priscoe

Seconded by: Mr. Alworth

RESOLVED to adjourn meeting.

Moved by: Mr. Timothy Alworth

Seconded by: Mrs. Sara Drappi

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Mr. Day was absent.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Ernest Turner
Acting Board Secretary