



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

April 14, 2020

CONFIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 pm

VIA TELECONFERENCE

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA – 7:00 pm

VIA TELECONFERENCE

Based on the recent attention with COVID-19, also known as Coronavirus, and the potential impact on our community, the Verona Public Schools will be conducting the April 2, 2020 Verona Board of Education meeting remotely via teleconference. This meeting is scheduled to occur with public access and participation availability to ensure the continued regular operation of government and the health, safety, and well-being of our community members. **The next meeting of the Verona Board of Education will be held via conference call. The public shall utilize the following instructions to call into the meeting:**

- 1) **Dial (857) 799-9782 via telephone.**
- 2) **Anyone from the public wishing to address the Verona Board of Education on any matter, when prompted by the Verona Board of Education will be able to press * (star) 6 on your key pad, then the number 1 when prompted and you will be placed in queue. When you are advised it is your turn to address the Verona Board of Education, please state your name and address for the record. You will have time to address the Verona Board of Education. At the conclusion of your comments the Verona Board of Education and/or the Superintendent of Schools may address your comments and/or questions.**

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs recently stated that “the Division of Local Government Services reminds local units that, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq., (the “Open Public Meetings Act,” or “Act”), public meetings may be held in person or by means of communication equipment, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), to include streaming services and other online meeting platforms. All meetings, including those held using communications equipment, must be noticed in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Act, unless the meeting is for emergent circumstances and held in a manner consistent with the requirements set forth at N.J.S.A. 10:4-9(b). Local units should also provide guidance to the public for remotely accessing and providing comment at a meeting. Local units should still have an advertised meeting place, which is connected to the meeting through communications equipment, unless otherwise directed by state or local emergency management or health officials, consistent with Executive Order 103 (Murphy 3/9/2020).”

PUBLIC MEETING

April 14, 2020

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in regular session on April 14, 2020 via teleconference at 7:08 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. Jim Day, Mr. Timothy Alworth, Mrs. Pamela Priscoe and Mrs. Sara Drappi. Also present was Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent and Mr. Ernest Turner, Acting Board Secretary.

There was 1 member of the public present. There was 1 member of the press present.



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

April 14, 2020

CONFIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 pm

VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA – 7:00 pm

VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Reading of Meeting Notice
4. Roll Call Attendance
5. Public comments on Agenda Items
6. Superintendent Report - Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent of Schools
 - Superintendent Budget Update 2020-21
7. Committee Reports
 - Athletics and Co-Curricular - James Day/Pamela Priscoe
 - Education - Timothy Alworth/Sara Drappi
 - Facilities - James Day/Lisa Freschi
 - Community Resources - Pamela Priscoe/Sara Drappi
8. Discussion Items
9. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions
10. Public Comments

NOTE: The next scheduled Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 beginning with a Confidential Session at 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm Public Session via teleconference pending the evolving nature of COVID-19.

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 7, 2020. 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. Roll Call Attendance

Mr. Alworth X

Mr. Day X

Mrs. Drappi X

Mrs. Freschi X

Mrs. Priscoe X

5. Public comments on Agenda Items - None

6. Presentations - None

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

- COVID-19 Update. Thank you to our education team and community for all of their support during these unprecedented and challenging times. Our return from spring break provided a shift to our new schedule alternating A/B for VHS & HBW and things are reported to be going well. We are currently planning and gathering input from stakeholders on end of year celebrations, especially graduation for our seniors, if we are unable to return to school this year.
- Preliminary budget presentation by Dr. Dionisio and comments by Mr. Turner, Acting Board Secretary.

8. Committee Reports

- Athletics and Co-Curricular - James Day/Pamela Priscoe reported on NJSIAA would extend spring sports til June 30, coaches meet remotely with the players
- Education - Timothy Alworth/Sara Drappi reported - met with Dr. Dionisio, Dr. Miller and Mr. Mauriello on remote learning, AP courses, exams and on-line exams.
- Facilities - James Day/Lisa Freschi reported on the referendum. Bids were received and schedule of bids to come
- Community Resources - Pamela Priscoe/Sara Drappi reported on the referendum
- Finance - Mr. Alworth/Mrs. Freschi reported preliminary budget approved by County Office, reviewed bids, re-bids scheduled for May 1, and recognized Matt Laracy for his assistance

9. Discussion Items - The Board recognized and congratulated Mrs. Doris Peim on her retirement.

10. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions

Be it RESOLVED the approval of Resolutions #1-7 and Addenda Resolutions 1-3.

Motion by: Jim Day

Seconded by: Pamela Priscoe

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 April 2, 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 Hire

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about
Amanda DeCaito	District	Sub Paraprofessional	\$15.25/per hr.	Education	Apr. 13-17, 2020
Amanda DeCaito	District	Sub Teacher	\$90/per diem	Education	SY 19-20

2.2 Staff Changes

Name	Current Location/ Position	New Location/Position	Salary	Effective Date on or about
Abigail Whelan	HBW/5th Grade Special Education Teacher	Brookdale/District/ Elementary Resource Room Teacher	MA/Step 2 \$57,084	Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021

2.3 Leave of Absence

Name	Reason	Begin Date on or before	Estimated Return Date on or about
#100555	Extension of Maternity Leave	Oct. 17, 2019	Sept. 1, 2021

- #3 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve **Robert Merkler** as physical education maternity leave replacement at an additional stipend of \$100 per diem effective May 11 to June 19, 2020.

EDUCATION

- #4 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following:

4.1 Professional Development Presenters

Presenter	School	Date	Hrs./Stipend	Total
Walker, Corisa	BRK	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Foster, Peter	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Haines, Christopher	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Heckel, Amy	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Kish, Andor	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Manning, Maggie	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Michalowski, Brian	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Rhodes, Heather	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Shaw, Megan	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Sullivan, Bridget	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Zambrano, Julia	HBW	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Samples, Brian	LAN	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Malespina, Elissa	VHS	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00
Tamburro, Christopher	VHS	Mar. 13, 2020	2 hrs./\$60/hr.	\$120.00

REFERENDUM

#5 RESOLVED that the Board approve:

**RESOLUTION
DIRECTING REBID OF PROJECT FOR
BROOKDALE AVE ES, F.N. BROWN ES, LANING AVE ES, & FOREST AVE ES
FACILITIES UPGRADES**

WHEREAS, in accordance with a published bid solicitation for work associated with Facilities Upgrades to Brookdale Ave ES, F.N. Brown ES, Laning Ave ES, & Forest Ave ES, in the Township of Verona, Essex County, New Jersey (hereinafter “the Work”), the date for receipt of bids by Verona Board of Education for the Work was April 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in response to its bid solicitation for the Work, the Board no responses from any interested contractor(s); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined to re-bid the Work, directs the District’s professional staff take any and all action necessary to effectuate the purposes of the Board’s resolution in this matter, and ratifies and adopts any and all actions taken by said professional staff prior to this resolution.

#6 RESOLVED that the Board approve:

**RESOLUTION
DIRECTING REBID OF PROJECT FOR
H.B. WHITEHORNE MIDDLE SCHOOL FACILITIES UPGRADES**

WHEREAS, in accordance with a published bid solicitation for work associated with Facilities Upgrades to H.B. Whitehorne Middle School, in the Township of Verona, Essex County, New Jersey (hereinafter “the Work”), the date for receipt of bids by Verona Board of Education for the Work was April 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in response to its bid solicitation for the Work, the Board no responses from any interested contractor(s); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has determined to re-bid the Work, directs the District's professional staff take any and all action necessary to effectuate the purposes of the Board's resolution in this matter, and ratifies and adopts any and all actions taken by said professional staff prior to this resolution.

FINANCE

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

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Check Register Date</u>
\$321,803.21	Checks	April 9, 2020

ADDENDUM RESOLUTIONS

April 14, 2020

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

PERSONNEL

#1 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following:

1.1 Retirement

Name	Position	Location	Reason	Effective Date of Retirement
Doris Peim	Guidance Counselor	HBW	Retirement	Jun. 30, 2020

1.2 New Hire

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about
Lisa Hagel	Brookdale	Kindergarten Teacher	BA/Step 1/ \$51,397	Education	Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021

REFERENDUM

#3 RESOLVED that the Board approve:

**RESOLUTION
VERONA BOARD OF EDUCATION
AWARDING OF PROJECT FOR
FACILITIES UPGRADES TO VERONA HIGH SCHOOL
TO ENVIRONMENTAL CLIMATE CONTROL, INC.**

WHEREAS, in accordance with a published bid solicitation for work associated with Facilities Upgrades to Verona High School, in the Township of Verona, Essex County, New Jersey (hereinafter “the Work”), the Verona Board of Education received sealed bids on April 9, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in response to its bid solicitation for the Work, the Board received responses from 3 contractors; and

WHEREAS, after receipt of bids, the Board of Education caused an analysis of the bid responses to be undertaken by the Business Administrator, consultant staff as well as the Board Attorney; and

WHEREAS, as a result of that review, the Board makes the following findings of fact:

1. Environmental Climate Control, Inc. was the lowest prospective base bidder with a base bid of \$1,393,500.00, and an add alternate Number 1 of \$289,500.00.
2. The base bid submitted by Environmental Climate Control, Inc. is the lowest responsive and responsible base bid, and does not exceed the cost estimates or the Board of Education’s budget for the Work.

WHEREAS, as a result of these findings, the contract is awarded to Environmental Climate Control, Inc. for the Base Work only, in the amount of \$1,393,500.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the District's professional staff take any and all action necessary to effectuate the purposes of the Board's resolution in this matter.

9. Public Comments - None

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

Motion by: Jim Day

Second by: Pamela Priscoe

All in Favor: AYE

All Opposed: NONE

This meeting is adjourned at (TIME) 8:08 PM.

NOTE: The next scheduled Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 beginning with a Confidential Session at 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm Public Session via teleconference pending the evolving nature of COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernie Turner

**Mr. Ernest Turner
Acting Board Secretary**