



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

May 26, 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 May 26, 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

May 26, 2020

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in regular session on May 26, 2020 via teleconference at 7:04 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 were 53 members of the public present. There were 2 members of the press present.



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

May 26, 2020

CONFIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 6:00 pm
VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE
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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
7. Committee Reports
 - Finance
8. Discussion Items
9. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions
10. Public Comments

NOTE: The next scheduled Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 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 | <u> X </u> | Mr. Day | <u> X </u> |
| Mrs. Drappi | <u> X </u> | Mrs. Freschi | <u> X </u> |
| | Mrs. Priscoe | <u> X </u> | |

5. Public comments on Agenda Items - None

6. Presentations - None

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

- Referendum Update
- High School Graduation update on guidelines based on Governor

8. Committee Reports -

Finance - Mr. Alworth reported the auditor completed budget projections. Budget has been frozen.
Will examine new financial software system.

9. Discussion Items

10. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions

Motion by: Mr. Alworth

Seconded by: Mrs. Drappi

Be it RESOLVED the approval of Resolutions #1 - 14.

Mr. Alworth X

Mr. Day X

Mrs. Drappi X

Mrs. Freschi X

Mrs. Priscoe X

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 May 12, 2020

PERSONNEL

#2 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following pending pre-employment paperwork:

2.1 New Hire

| Name | Location | Position | Salary | Committee | Term of Employment on or about | Notes |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Anna Collins | District | Sub teacher | \$90/per diem | Education | SY 20-21 | |
| Lynette Rivera | VHS | Special Education Math | MA/Step 9/ \$68,361 | Education | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 | RESCIND |
| Lynette Rivera | VHS | Special Education Math | MA30/Step 9/ \$67,213 | Education | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 | APPROVE |
| Megan Spinelli | HBW | 7th Grade English | MA/Step 1/ \$56,664 | Education | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 | |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--|
| Samantha Melillo | HBW | Special Education 5th Grade LAL | MA/Step 1/ \$56,664 | Education | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2020 | |
|-------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--|

2.2 Resignations

| Name | Location | Position | Reason | Effective on or About |
|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Ellis Jasenovic | VHS | .70 Woodwind Specialist | Resignation | Jun. 30, 2020 |

2.3 Stipend

| Name | School | Stipend | Position | Employment Date |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Karen Tully | District | \$5,500 | ESY Coordinator | Summer 2020 |

2.4 Staff Changes

| Name | Current Location/Position | New Location/Position | Effective Date on or about |
|--------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|
| Nina Sivoella | FNB/Kindergarten | FNB/Grade 1 | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 |
| Kathleen Amora | FNB/Kindergarten | FNB/Grade 4 | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 |
| Melissa Pesce | FNB/Grade 2 | FNB/Grade 1 | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 |
| Catherine King | Elementary/ Social Worker/70% | BRK/FNB/Social Worker/100% | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 |
| Dana Lustig | District/Student Assistant Counselor | FOR/LAN/Student Assistant Counselor | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 |
| Lakendra McFadden | District/HIB School Safety Specialist .70% | District/HIB School Safety Specialist 100% | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 |
| Abigail Whelan | HBW/Spec. Ed. | Elem/Dist./Resource | Sept. 1, 2020 - Jun. 30, 2021 |

2.5 Leave of Absence

| Name | Reason | Begin Date on or before | Estimated Return Date on or about |
|-------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| #100724 | Maternity leave extension | Sept. 3, 2019 | May 3, 2021 |
| #100924 | Extension of Medical Leave | Oct. 25, 2019 | Jun. 1, 2020 |

EDUCATION

#3 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the second reading of the following policies/regulations:

- P&R 1581: Domestic Violence (Mandatory/New)
- P 2422: Health and Physical Education (Revision) - #17, 18 add in LGBTQ+/Disabled and Financial Literacy (grades 5-8)
- P 3124: Employment Contract: (Mandatory/Revision)
- P&R 5330: Administration of Medication (Mandatory/Revision) - the Policy and Regulation Guides have been revised to align with the new statutes for the administration of hydrocortisone sodium succinate
- P7243: Supervision of Construction (Mandatory/Revision) - addresses criminal history record checks required for a construction contractor's employee(s) serving in a position which involves regular contact with students
- P 8210: School Year (Recommended/Revision)
- P&R 8220 School Day (Mandatory/Revision) and School Closings (Recommended/New)
- P 8462: Report Potentially Missing and Abused Children (Mandatory/Revision) - This new statute requires an APSSD to display specific information in each school building about the Department of Children and Families' State Central Registry, a toll-free hotline for reporting child abuse

#4 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached District Statistical Report for April 2020.

#5 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached job description for Extended School Year (ESY) Coordinator.

REFERENDUM

- #6 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the contract with Degler-Whiting to purchase a center roll curtain for the HBW Gymnasium at a cost of \$21,150.00.
- #7 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve a correction to the contract amount awarded to Picerno & Giordano Construction for playground upgrades at Brookdale Ave., F. N. Brown, Laning Ave. and Forest Avenue Schools. The revised amount is \$59,550 for Add Alternate #1 for a total contract amount of \$796,238

FINANCE

- #8 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the enclosed checklist in the following amount:

| <u>Amount</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Check Register Date</u> |
|----------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| \$8,831,295.22 | Vendor Checks | May 22, 2020 |

- #9 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve additional funding of the Capital Reserve Account in an amount up to \$500,000 as of June 30, 2020. The source of these funds derived from anticipated surplus realized at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 fiscal/school year.
- #10 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve additional funding of the Maintenance Reserve Account in an amount up to \$250,000 as of June 30, 2020. The source of these funds derived from anticipated surplus realized at the conclusion of the 2019-2020 fiscal/school year.
- #11 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached list of individual transfers of line items in the 2019-2020 budget for:

January, 2020

- #12 **RESOLVED** that the Report of the Secretary for the period(s) as follows be approved:

January, 2020

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:20-2.13(e), that as of January 31, 2020 after review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund, has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C 6:20-2.13(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

- #13 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the Report of the Treasurer of School Monies for the following month:

January, 2020

10. **Public Comments** - Mrs. Nancy Leonard thanked Dr. Dionisio for his efforts.

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN

- #14 **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.

No Action will be taken.

Motion by: Mrs. Priscoe

Second by: Mr. Day

All in Favor: 5

All Opposed: 0

Motion to adjourn the meeting:

Motion by: Mrs. Priscoe

Second by: Mr. Day

All in Favor: 5

All Opposed: 0

This meeting is adjourned at (TIME) 8:14 P.M.

NOTE: The next scheduled Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 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.

Ernie Turner

**Mr. Ernest Turner
Acting Board Secretary**