

VENTNOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session Meeting – June 21, 2023 – 5:00 PM

In Compliance with the “Open Public Meetings Act” of the State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided. On May 17, 2023 written notice was given to all Board members and posted at the Ventnor Educational Community Complex, Ventnor City Hall and the Ventnor Public Library. It was also e-mailed to the Press of Atlantic City and the Downbeach Current on that same date.

I. ROLL CALL

Mr. Doug Biagi, President
Mrs. Kim Bassford, Vice-President
Mrs. Lori Abbott
Mr. Michael Advana
Mr. Michael Hagelgans
Mr. James Quinlan
Vacancy

Dr. Carmela Somershoe, Superintendent
Ms. Terri Nowotny, Bus. Admin/Board Sec.
Mrs. Audra Pondish, Esq., School Solicitor

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PRESENTATION

1. Superintendent Update – Dr. Carmela Somershoe
2. Facility Update – Ron Fenton
3. Honoring Retired Staff
Michelle Ferranti-Martin
Charles Gaydos
James Higbee
Elizabeth (Lee Ann) Smith
Sharon Weinstein
4. Honoring Teachers of the Year – Jane Garbutt and Dona Hehre
5. Summary of HIB Reports and Investigations – Jenna DiMauro,
Chelsea Hoffman, Brianne Westlake
6. School Climate Survey Data – Jenna DiMauro, Chelsea Hoffman, Brianne Westlake

Exhibit: III-2

IV. PUBLIC SESSION

The Board of Education welcomes public comment on any issue at this time. Speaking is limited to three (3) minutes per individual, ten (10) minutes per topic. The Board President has the flexibility to alter these limitations.

Please state your name and address and if you are here as a representative of a group or organization, identify that entity.

Please understand that our public forum is not structured as a question and answer session, but is offered as an opportunity to share your thoughts with the Board. In instances where the Board feels that there is a misunderstanding or inaccuracy, the Board President or Superintendent may address the comment. In accordance with New Jersey Statute, the Board will not discuss matters regarding specific personnel, students or litigation matters.

Finally, we ask that you direct your comments to the Board President and not engage with other members of the public, the Board or Administration unless authorized by the Board President.

V. FINANCE

1. Recommend to approve Organization and Regular Session Minutes of May 16, 2023 as presented in:

Exhibit: V-1

2. Recommend to approve the Board Secretary's Monthly Certification: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:30-2.12 (b) that as of May 31, 2023 no major budgetary line item account has obligations and payments (contractual orders) which in total exceed the amount appropriated by the Ventnor Board of Education pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.1 and N.J.S.A. 18A:22-8.2, and no budgetary line item has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.11(a)1. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.11(c)2, it is certified that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts and sources for the month of May, 2023

Exhibit: V-2

Recommend to approve the Board of Education's Monthly Certification: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.11(c) 4, the Ventnor Board of Education certifies that as of April 30, 2023, and after review of the secretary's monthly financial report appropriations section as presented, and upon consultation with appropriate district officials, that to the best of the Board's knowledge, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-2.11(b), that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year and

Recommend to approve acknowledging receipt of the Statements of Cash Receipts and Disbursements and the Board Secretary's reports which are in agreement for the period ending May 31, 2023.

Recommend to approve line item transfers for the month ending May, 2023

3. Recommend to approve June, 2023 Bill list as presented in:

Exhibit: V-3

4. Recommend to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ventnor Board of Education approve the following travel expenses and fees for the following conferences and workshops as per State regulation N.J.S.A. 18A:19-1:

Doug Biagi Carmela Somershoe Terri Nowotny	NJSBA Workshop 2023	Atlantic City, NJ	10/23/23, 10/24/23, 10/25/23 and 10/26/23	\$550 Each
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All mileage will be paid at the applicable State reimbursement rate.

5. Recommend to accept the Ventnor Home and School Association additions to the Calendar of Events as presented below:
Donation collection table at Summer Concert Series on June 3, June 28, July 3, July 12, July 26, August 9 and August 23
6. Recommend to accept the following report: Pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47, the Ventnor Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire the following contracts previously awarded by the Board of Education. These

contracts are, and have been, in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey Title 18A:18.et.seq, NJAC Chapter 23, and Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements 2CFR, Part 200. Compliance with new contracts, not listed here, will be addressed prior to Board action.

Alarm Monitoring
Architect/Engineer
Attendance Software
Attorney
Auditor
Banking and Investment
Boiler and Generator Repairs and Maintenance
Broadband Services
Cable Services
Cooperative Purchasing
Custodial Services
Energy Supplier
E-Rate Services Consultant
Financial Accounting Software
HVAC Controls and Maintenance
Insurance Agent – Benefits
Insurance Agent – General
Itinerant Services
Labor Counsel
Mobile applications
Network and IT Support
Nutrition Education
Payroll Services
Pest Control
School Boards Association
School Physician/Medical Inspector
Special Education Compliance Software
Special Education Services – Consultants, Evaluations, Therapy Services
Student Information System
Teacher and Principal Evaluation
Technology Services including Website and Software
Telecommunications
Transportation Services
Tuition
Cafeteria Services (Provider)

7. Recommend approval of the following food service prices for the 2023/2024 school year:
LUNCH Full \$3.25; Reduced \$0.40; Student Ala Carte \$2.35; Milk \$0.65
Adult \$4.00; Adult Ala Carte \$2.65; Adult Salad \$4.75
BREAKFAST Full \$2.00; Reduced \$0.30; Adult \$2.55
8. Recommend to approve Atlantic County Special Services Extended School Year tuition contract for 5 students at a cost of \$460 per week for 5 weeks (4 days per week) plus 1 student personal aide charge of \$460 per week for 5 weeks.
9. Recommend to approve Spectrum Fitness, LLC to provide Physical, Speech, and Occupational Therapy Services as needed at the rate of \$80.00 per hour effective July 1, 2023 through September 1, 2023 and September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 as presented in:

Exhibit: V-9

10. Recommend to approve addendum to 2023-2024 Transportation CTSA Agreement with Atlantic County Special Services School District as presented in:

Exhibit: V-10

11. Recommend to approve payment of \$1,050.00 spring course reimbursement for Jill Lombardi as per terms of the Ventnor City Education Association Agreement.
12. Recommend to adopt the following resolution: Transfer of Current Year Surplus to Reserve:

WHEREAS, NJAC 6a-14.3 AND 14.4 permit a Board of Education to deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

WHEREAS, the Ventnor Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into Tuition and Maintenance Reserve Accounts at year end, and

WHEREAS, the Ventnor Board of Education anticipates total tuition costs of \$4,000,000 including tuition adjustments with Atlantic City High School for the 2023/2024 budget of \$400,000, and

WHEREAS, the Ventnor Board of Education has determined that up to \$450,000 is available for such purpose of transfers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Ventnor Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district's School Business Administrator to make a transfer of up to \$400,000 to Tuition Reserve and up to \$50,000 to Maintenance Reserve consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

12. Recommend to approve the 2023/2024 Itinerant/Shared Services Agreement and Rates through Atlantic County Special Services as presented in:
13. Recommend to approve Atlantic County Special Services to provide ESY transportation for up to 5 students at \$1,700 per student, total cost \$8,500.
14. Recommend to approve payment of \$696.60 spring course reimbursement for Rochelle Gimmillaro as per terms of the Ventnor City Education Association Agreement.
15. Recommend to approve 2023-2024 Itinerant Services Agreement with Cape May County Special Services School District as presented:
16. Recommend to revise ESSER II 2022/2023 salary allocation to add classroom teacher Victoria Marchiani January to June 2023, total cost \$35,922.80; classroom aide Jack Baldi \$4,386.00 and classroom aide Zina Garofalo \$16,844.00. No change to total salary allocation.
17. Recommend to approve payment of \$1533.00 spring course reimbursement for Kathleen Smith as per terms of the Ventnor City Education Association Agreement.

Exhibit: V-12

Exhibit: V-15

18. Recommend to approve the Agreement for Professional Services with The Cooper Health System for Neurological Evaluation services at \$375 per evaluation as presented in: Exhibit: V-18
19. Recommend to approve the purchase of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Into Math series for Grades 6-8 using ESSER funding \$35,674.43 and as presented in: Exhibit: V-19
20. Recommend to approve the purchase of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Into Math Professional Development using Title 2 Professional development funding \$12,500 and as presented in: Exhibit: V-20
21. Recommend to approve payment of compensation for unused sick leave at retirement per terms of the Agreement with the Ventnor City Education Association (all days are pending final attendance:
- Michelle Ferranti-Martin - \$3,187.50
(50% of 85 days at \$75 each, half payable July 2023, half Jan 2024)
- Charles Gaydos - \$11,925.00
(75% of 212 days at \$75 each, half payable July 2023, half Jan 2024)
- Elizabeth (Lee Ann) Smith - \$11,255.62
(75% of 130.5 days at \$115 each, lump sum payable July 2023)
- Sharon Weinstein - \$7,676.25
(75% of 891 days at \$115 each, lump sum payable January 2024)
22. Recommend to approve transportation renewal contract with Delaware City Bus Co for the 2023-2024 School Year for YCH1 to YALE Cherry Hill at a cost of \$123,654.60.
23. Recommend to approve Comtec for replacement of existing phone system under PEPPM Cooperative at a total cost of \$49,402.19 and as presented in: Exhibit: V-23
24. Recommend to approve the specifications and advertisement for transportation bid 2023-1 as presented in: Exhibit: V-24
25. Recommend to appoint Capehart Scatchard as Board Solicitor and Labor Relations Attorney/Negotiator Services for the 2023-2024 school year with Sanmathi Dev as primary contact. Retainer \$6,000.00 to cover meeting preparation and attendance, additional hourly services by shareholder at \$180; associates \$170 and paralegals \$75 per hour, no travel fees. The Business Administrator is directed to advertise this appointment in the official newspaper.
26. Recommend to approve quoted transportation contract ESY-VEC to Safety Bus Services, Inc. for summer school to VECC at a per diem cost of \$286.24 with \$1.50 per mile adjustment cost for 14 days, total cost \$4,007.36.
27. Recommend to approve quoted transportation contract ESY-YCH to Loyalty Bus for summer school to YALE Cherry Hill at a per diem cost of \$304.00 with \$1.50 per mile adjustment cost for 22 days, total cost \$6,688.00.
28. Recommend to approve ESY 2023 transportation jointure as host with the Ocean City Board of Education as joiner to provide transportation for 1 Ocean City student on ESY-YCH to YALE Cherry Hill at a cost of \$3,344.00 plus 5% administrative fees totaling \$3,511.20.

29. Recommend to approve the Title III Memorandum of Agreement for the 2023-2024 School Year with Ventnor as fiscal agent for the Consortium allowing Northfield, Little Egg Harbor, Brigantine and Mainland districts to accept the Title III funds as presented in: Exhibit: V-29
30. Recommend to approve contract to provide Margate Board of Education with Cafeteria Services for the 2023-24 school year as presented in: Exhibit: V-30

VI. POLICIES

1. Recommend to approve second reading as presented in: Exhibit: VI-1
- 3327 Relations with Vendors
 - 3542.2 School Meal Program Arrears
 - 3542.31 Free or Reduced Price Lunches
 - 5131.5 Violence and Vandalism (revised)
 - 6145.3 Publication
 - 6164.1 Intervention and Referral
2. Recommend to approve first reading as presented in: Exhibit: VI-2
- 1250 Visitors

VII. PERSONNEL

ALL ITEMS ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

1. Recommend to accept resignation letter of Kiera Webb, part-time Speech Language Specialist, effective June 30, 2023 and as presented in: Exhibit: VII-1
2. Recommend to approve the following substitute teaching (pending paperwork) for the 2022-2023 school year:
3. Recommend to approve Christina Tsoplakis placement from the B.A.+30 scale to the M.A.scale effective September 1, 2023.
4. Recommend to approve Rochelle Gimmillaro placement from the B.A. scale to the B.A.+15 scale effective September 1, 2023.
5. Recommend to approve contract with Ronald Fenton as Supervisor of Facilities for the 2023-2024 School Year, annual salary of \$83,908.00 with benefits as presented in: Exhibit: VII-5
6. Recommend to approve contract with Janet Franconeri as Business Office Confidential Clerk for the 2023-2024 School Year, annual salary of \$44,385.00 with benefits as presented in: Exhibit: VII-6
7. Recommend to approve contract with Alex Pitre as F/T Maintenance Worker/Custodial Supervisor for the 2023-2024 School Year, annual salary of \$60,021.00 plus \$1,000 upon attainment of CEFM with benefits as presented in: Exhibit: VII-7

8. Recommend to approve contract with Lisa Wilson as Superintendent's Secretary for the 2023-2024 School Year, annual salary of \$61,572.00 plus \$2,250.00 longevity with benefits as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-8

9. Recommend to approve Bridget Tracy as Homebound Instructor for the 2022-2023 school year at the contracted hourly rate.

10. Recommending Margie Master for student #162215 homebound instruction.

11. Recommend to approve Mrs. Francine Kurz for case manager hours ESY per negotiated contract rate \$48/hour.

12. Recommend to approve contract with Julio Garcia as F/T Maintenance Worker for the 2023-2024 School Year, annual salary of \$61,048.00 with benefits as present in:

Exhibit: VII-12

13. Recommend to approve contract with Terri Nowotny as School Business Administrator/Board Secretary for the 2023/2024 school year at the negotiated salary of \$130,000.00, with benefits, pending county office approval and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-13

14. Recommend to approve contract with Patricia Pettigrosso as Food Service Director for the 2023-2024 School Year, annual salary of \$48,500.00 plus \$1,750.00 longevity with benefits as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-14

15. Recommend to approve J Smith for summer instructional coach hours at \$48 per hour.

16. Recommend Russ Freeman for student 162159 Homebound Instruction.

17. Recommend to approve Mrs. Francine Kurz and Ms. Odalis DeLaTorre as case managers for ESY at VCEA negotiated hourly rate.

VIII. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

1. Recommend to approve the 2022/2023 Nursing Services Plan as presented in:

Exhibit: VIII-1

2. Recommend to approve the submission of the Safe return to school plan as mandated by NJDOE, 6 month cycle.

IX. USE OF FACILITY

X. INFORMATION

1. Drills: Fire Drill: 6/1/23; Security Drill: Bus Evacuation: 5/18/23; Evacuation Drill: 6/13/23

2. VECC Monthly Enrollment

Item: X-2

3. Monthly Suspension Reports

Item: X-3

4. Middle School Individual Incident Reports

Item: X-4

5. Monthly School Cafeteria Report

Item: X-5

6. VECC Out of District Tuition Report for 2022/2023

Item: X-6

7. Payroll Timesheet Report of June, 2023

Item: X-7

8. The dedication ceremony for the Buddy Bench donated by the Kreischer family was held May 19, 2023.

9. VECC School Store run by Ms. Tspolkis and Ms. Pappan with the self contained class raised \$332 for local organizations FACES for Autism and Down 21, support and advocacy groups for both Autism and Down Syndrome! The School Store not only allowed our school to help our local community members with monetary donations but provided all the students at the VECC with life skills including money management, math skills, prioritization, and social skills such as turn taking, politeness, kindness, and acceptance.

10. Intervention and Referral Services Final report for 2022-2023

Item: X-10

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

XII. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

1. Recommend to affirm HIB 22-23 E#8

2. Recommend to appoint the following delegate to the New Jersey School Boards Association for the 2023-2024 school year:
County Representative _____

3. Recommend to approve 2023-2024 District Goals as follows:

- Ventnor Public Schools will support mental health and social emotional learning through teacher professional development to ensure that all students will receive social and emotional support to become adaptable, confident citizens who embody self-awareness and strong interpersonal skills, and who are capable of responsible decision-making and managing their emotions and behaviors.
- Ventnor Public schools will strengthen mathematics through the implementation of the revised NJSLS with district adoption of a K-8 program and job embedded coaching/professional development.
- Ventnor Public schools will monitor student achievement through local benchmarks, web-based programs to address student needs, and promote student growth in all areas through teacher lead PLCs.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Whereas the Ventnor City Board of Education finds a need to discuss matters that are exempt from public discussion pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, be it resolved that that Ventnor City Board of Education hereby adjourns to a session from which the public must be excluded for the following reasons allowable under the Act (*read or check all that apply*):

- _____ 1. Matters rendered confidential by State or Federal law;
- _____ 2. Matters which could impair the right to receive federal funds;
- _____ 3. Matter which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy if conducted in public;
- _____ 4. Negotiations;
- _____ 5. Discussions involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property, the setting of bank rates, or the investment of public funds, where disclosure could adversely affect the public interest;

- _____ 6. Discussions of tactics and techniques used in protecting the safety and property of the public;
- _____ 7. Discussions of pending or anticipated litigation, contract negotiations, and matters falling under attorney-client privilege;
- _____ 8. Personnel;
- _____ 9. Deliberations after a public hearing.

No formal action will take place, and the results of any discussion will be made public if and when the subject matter is no longer deemed confidential. Executive Session is expected to last _____ (insert number) minutes/hours (select) and action/no action (select) is anticipated afterwards.

XIV. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

1. Recommend to approve superintendent evaluation as presented to Dr. Somershoe.

XV. ADJOURNMENT