

**VENTNOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session Meeting – January 24, 2024 – 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 Advena  
Dr. John C. Baker  
Mr. Michael Hagelgans  
Mr. James Quinlan

Dr. Carmela Somershoe, Superintendent  
Ms. Terri Nowotny, Bus. Admin/Board Sec.  
Ms. Sanu Dev, Esq., School Solicitor

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. PRESENTATION**

1. Superintendent Update – Dr. Carmela Somershoe
2. Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the year ended June 30, 2023 –  
Terri Nowotny
3. School Board Member Recognition
4. SSDS/HIB incidents Sept-Dec 2023 – Jenna DiMauro, Chelsea Hoffman Exhibit: III-4

**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 Regular Session Minutes of December 13, 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 December 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 December, 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 December, 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 December 31, 2023.

Recommend to approve line item transfers for the months ending December, 2023

3. Recommend to approve January, 2024 Bill List as presented in:
4. Recommend to accept the AtlantiCare Healthy Schools garden grant for Ventnor Middle in the amount of \$1500 written by Ms. Richman and Mr. Capizola. Grant will fund seeds/pods to be used in the hydroponics system. Plants grown indoor will be moved outdoors to school gardens in the spring. Food grown from the gardens will be available to students and as presented in:
5. Recommend to approve payment of fall course reimbursement as follows per terms of the Ventnor City Education Association Agreement:
- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| Ian Campbell  | \$1,800.00 |
| Jenna DiMauro | \$1,416.54 |
| Ashley Eiler  | \$2,109.00 |
| Jill Lombardi | \$3,600.00 |
6. Recommend to accept FY2024 NJ High Impact Tutoring Grant E2400227 in the amount of \$37,999 for Purchased Professional and Technical Services.

Exhibit: V-3

Exhibit: V-4

7. 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:

Alex Pitre	NJSBGA Expo Conference	Atlantic City, NJ	3/18/24, 3/19/24, 3/20/24	\$500
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All mileage will be paid at the applicable State reimbursement rate.

8. Recommend to approve payment of \$5,000 deductible to Highland Claims Service for damages/legal fee on claim SPL003364 as presented in: Exhibit: V-8
9. Recommend to approve Remington & Vernick Engineers professional engineering services proposal for the replacement of packaged rooftop units RAC-1,3,4,5,6,8,9,14,15,16,17&19 at a cost of \$114,000, to be paid through 40% ROD grant funding and City bonding and as presented in: Exhibit: V-9
10. Recommend to approve Remington & Vernick Engineers construction management services proposal for summer 2024 summer HVAC work at a cost of \$90,000.00, to be paid through City bonding and as presented in: Exhibit: V-10
11. Recommend to approve 2023-2024 tuition contract agreement for 1 McKinney-Vento student (ID#TBD) at Galloway Township effective January 2, 2024 through June 30, 2025 at a total cost of \$9,700.56. Transportation will be provided by a jointure with Greater Egg Harbor Regional.
12. Recommend to accept the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and Auditor's Management Report, noting there is no Corrective Action Plan required, for the year ended June 30, 2023, as presented: Exhibit: V-12
13. Recommend to accept the AtlantiCare Healthy Schools grant for Ventnor Elementary School in the amount of \$1500 written by Jenna DiMauro. The grant will fund creation of a student and/or staff mobile cart with equipment and materials that support building resiliency, practicing mindfulness, and developing social skills.

## **VI. POLICIES**

1. Recommend to approve second reading as presented in: Exhibit: VI-1
- 5141.8 Sports Related Concussion and Head Injury
2. Recommend to approve first reading as presented in: Exhibit: VI-2
- 5830 Fund Raising/Student Fund Raising
  - 6660 Student Activity Fund

## **VII. PERSONNEL**

### **ALL ITEMS ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:**

1. Recommend to approve substitute nurse daily rate at \$200.00 per day effective February 1, 2024.
2. Recommend to revise resignation dates for Meaghan Pazar from January 19 to January 30, 2024 and Lisa Gonzalez from January 29 to January 19, 2024.
3. Recommend to approve Jill Lombardi placement from the B.A.+15 scale to the B.A.+30 scale effective February 1, 2024.
4. Recommend to approve Gianna DiSanti, an education student at ACCC, to complete her 40 hours of observation towards her required fieldwork in first grade with Mrs. Winesickle.

## **VIII. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

- |                                                                  |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Recommend to approve Field Trip Request Form as presented in: | Exhibit: VIII-1 |
| 2. Recommend to approve Field Trip Request Form as presented in: | Exhibit: VIII-2 |

## **IX. USE OF FACILITY**

## **X. INFORMATION**

- |                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Drills: Fire Drill: TBD; Security Drill: TBD      |           |
| 2. VECC Monthly Enrollment                           | Item: X-2 |
| 3. Monthly Suspension Reports                        | Item: X-3 |
| 4. Middle School Individual Incident Reports         | No Item   |
| 5. Monthly School Cafeteria Report                   | Item: X-5 |
| 6. VECC Out of District Tuition Report for 2023/2024 | Item: X-6 |
| 7. Payroll Timesheet Report of January, 2024         | Item: X-7 |

## **XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- |                                                          |            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Building & Grounds Committee Meeting January 16, 2024 | Item: XI-1 |
| 2. Engineering Status Report                             | Item: XI-2 |

## **XII. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS**

1. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus for their generous donation of winter coats for our students.
2. Tentative Budget Meeting Dates:  
Special budget meeting – March 6  
Board meeting/public hearing – March 25  
BOSE – March 26 or 27 – pending City availability
3. Recommend to affirm 2023-2024 HIB M2 and M4.
4. A drama club fundraiser for 20% off take out and eat in diners at Bocca restaurant in Margate is tentatively planned for February 5<sup>th</sup>.
5. Recommend to approve SSDS/HIB incidents for period one (September – December 2023) as presented and distributed.

## **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.

## **XV. ADJOURNMENT**