

VENTNOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session Meeting – May 16, 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 April 25, 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
Mrs. Kim Bassford
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. Facility Update – Ron Fenton

Exhibit: III-2

IV. PUBLIC SESSION

The Board of Education welcomes public comment on any issue at this time. Please state your name and address. Please note that public comment is not a question and answer session. Speaking is limited to three (3) minutes per individual, ten (10) minutes per topic. The Board President has the flexibility to alter these limitations. In accordance with New Jersey Statute, the Board cannot discuss matters regarding specific personnel, students or litigation matters during public comment.

V. FINANCE

1. Recommend to approve Regular Session Minutes of March 25, 2024 as presented in:
2. Recommend to approve the Board Secretary’s Monthly Certification: Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:30-2.12 (b) that as of April 30, 2024 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 April, 2024

Exhibit: V-1

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, 2024, 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 April 30, 2024.

Recommend to approve line item transfers for the months ending April, 2024

3. Recommend to approve May, 2024 Bill List as presented in: Exhibit: V-3

4. Recommend to approve 2024/2025 Frontline Education for 504 Program Management, IEP Direct and Employee Evaluation Management at a total cost of \$17,172.53 as presented in: Exhibit: V-4

5. Recommend to approve 2024/2025 Services Agreement with Interactive Kids for behavior consultation and ABA therapist for a student's IEP at an anticipated annual cost of \$110,880 as presented in: Exhibit: V-5

6. Recommend to renew Custodial and Management Services with SJ Services Inc for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 at a cost \$377,950.

7. Recommend to approve submission of Request for Proposals (RFP) for Food Service Management Company (FSMC) effective September 1, 2024 and to further authorize release of RFP for FSMC upon approval.

8. Recommend to approve 2024/2025 Service Agreement with Automated Building Controls, Inc for Labor Rates for Repairs and Inspections at \$145.00 per hour for 50 hours totaling \$7,250.00.

9. Recommend to approve Automated Building Controls, Inc. to furnish and install ERU#1 compressor #2 at a total cost of \$23,566.03. This is the lowest of two quotes received.

10. Recommend to approve 7/1/2024-6/30/2025 service agreement for inspection and monitoring of alarms with Siemens at a cost of \$7,291. Service panels are proprietary as presented in: Exhibit: V-10

11. Recommend to approve the Dental Plan renewals for 2024/2025 at the same monthly rates as 2023/2024:

One Party	\$32.09
Two Party	\$79.95
Three Party	\$130.47

12. Recommend to approve the Atlantic County Special Services School District Addendum to 2024-2025 Transportation CTSA Agreement for one student as presented in: Exhibit: V-12

13. 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:

Julie Lipshutz	Intro to Gold Creative Curriculum Part 1	Virtual	6/5/2024 and 6/6/2024	No Charge
Alison Richman Kathleen Kresz Taylor Nehmad	CPR Instructor Course; BLS Instructor Course	Somers Point, NJ	7/12/2024	\$250.00 each

All mileage will be paid at the applicable State reimbursement rate.

14. Recommend to approve payment of \$2,109.00 spring course reimbursement for Ashley Eiler as per terms of the Ventnor City Education Association Agreement.
15. Recommend to approve quoted transportation contract ESY1 to Sheppard Bus for summer school to VECC at a per diem cost of \$218.00 with \$1.10 per mile adjustment cost for 15 days, total cost \$3,270.00.
16. Recommend to approve summer 2024 facilities project to paint 26 classrooms 100-200 wings and both commons by Personal Touch Painting at a cost of \$31,200.00 (lowest of two quotes received) as presented in:
17. Recommend to approve one student (ID#161909) tuition contract with Legacy Treatment Services-Mary A. Dobbins School for 2024/25 per IEP. Tuition is \$89,962.20 for 212 days including ESY plus \$46,216.00 for Extraordinary Services.

Exhibit: V-16

VI. POLICIES

VII. PERSONNEL

ALL ITEMS ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

1. Recommend to accept updated retirement letter of Lisa Petullo, Elementary Clerk effective July 31, 2024 with regret and as presented in: Exhibit: VII-1
2. Recommend to accept resignation letter of Christina Tsoplakis, Special Education teacher with regret effective June 30, 2024 and as presented in: Exhibit: VII-2
3. Recommend to accept resignation letter of Cieran McGreevy, Maintenance Worker, with regret effective June 30, 2024 and as presented in: Exhibit: VII-3
4. Recommend to accept resignation letter of Cynthia Summers, Instructional Aide, with regret effective June 30, 2024 and as presented in: Exhibit: VII-4
5. Recommend to approve Mrs. Emily Slaughter BA as full-time Preschool Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year, step placement (2023-24 at step 7) and salary with benefits to be determined by the VCEA negotiated agreement, pending fingerprint and PL 2018, Chapter 5 clearance. This is a resignation replacement.

Mrs. Slaughter holds a New Jersey standard certification in Preschool to Grade 3 as well as students with disabilities. She is currently employed in Dennis Township as a preschool teacher. Previously, Mrs. Slaughter was both an in-class support teacher and an instructional aide here at the Ventnor Educational Community Complex. Described by her references as a "pure leader on our prek team" and "the one I send new teachers to observe". We are excited to welcome Emily back to Ventnor.

6. Recommend to approve 2024 Summer ESY as presented in: Exhibit: VII-6

7. Recommend to approve Mrs. Denise DiLeo MA as full-time Special Education Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year, step placement (2023-24 at step 10) and salary with benefits to be determined by the VCEA negotiated agreement, pending fingerprint and PL 2018, Chapter 5 clearance. This is a replacement position.

Mrs. DiLeo graduated with an undergraduate degree from Molloy College with a degree in Psychology and Elementary/Special Education. She continued her studies in Special Education at Molloy earning a Master's in Special Education. Mrs. DiLeo is excited to join the Ventnor Staff over 14 years at PS 221 in the New York Public Schools where she taught general education, self-contained, inclusion and most recently an IEP/intervention teacher. She has provided professional development on the positive benefits of flexible seating and calm corners. She has completed advanced training in ABA (Applied Behavior Analysis) and has served as a member of the school's MTSS (Multi-tiered System of Support) team. Mrs. DiLeo was described by her reference as a strong advocate for students and willing to assist anywhere and everywhere she can.

8. Be it resolved that the Ventnor Board of Education approves the Memorandum of Agreement and attached salary guides between it and the Ventnor City Education Association dated May 16, 2024 and covering the period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027; and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-8

Be it further resolved that the Board President and Board Secretary are authorized to execute the final contract document incorporating the negotiated terms, once approved by the Board Solicitor.

9. Recommend to approve Mrs. Beth Steinen MA+30 as full-time Special Education Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year, step placement (2023-24 at step 11) and salary with benefits to be determined by the VCEA negotiated agreement, pending fingerprint and PL 2018, Chapter 5 clearance. This is a replacement position.

Mrs. Steinen comes to Ventnor with a wealth of experience. She has taught English, Social Studies and Special Education Inclusion. She has been an active participant on school I&RS (Intervention and Referral Services) teams and most recently worked to enhance the I&RS team at Mainland Regional High School which also provided several MTSS (Multi-tiered System of Support) options for struggling students. Mrs. Steinen is excited about returning to the classroom after several years in administration where she also created the gifted and talented program and worked to increase Advance placement course options.

10. Recommend to approve Ms. Julie Lipshutz BA as full-time Preschool Teacher for the 2024-2025 school year, step placement (2023-24 at step 1) and salary with benefits to be determined by the VCEA negotiated agreement, pending fingerprint and PL 2018, Chapter 5 clearance. This is a retirement replacement.

Ms. Lipshutz completed her undergraduate at Towson University graduating with a degree in Early Childhood. After a few years at the Jewish Community Center as the lead teacher of the four-year-old classroom, Julie joined the Ventnor Preschool staff this past year as a paraprofessional. Ms. Lipshutz has voluntarily taken on the classroom teacher role in the teacher's absence- creating lesson plans and documenting data in GOLD. She is excited to move into the teacher role here at Ventnor.

VIII. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

1. Recommend to approve submission of the Safe return to school plan as mandated every 6 months.

IX. USE OF FACILITY

X. INFORMATION

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| 1. Drills: Fire Drill: 5/2/2024; Security Drill: TBD | |
| 2. VECC Monthly Enrollment | Item: X-2 |
| 3. Monthly Suspension Reports | Item: X-3 |
| 4. Elementary and 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 May, 2024 | Item: X-7 |

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

XII. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

1. Recommend to affirm 2023-2024 M8.
2. NJSBA Workshop 2024 will be held at the Atlantic City Convention Center October 21-24, 2024. Early-bird group rate is \$2,100 BY June 30 for 25 team members. Regular group registration will be \$2,200 and individual registration is \$550. Workshop registration is not required for mandated training. Discussion of Board interest in attending.

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