

VENTNOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session Meeting – December 13, 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 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. 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 November 15, 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 November 30, 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 November, 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 November, 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 November 30, 2023.

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

3. Recommend to approve December, 2023 Bill List as presented in:
4. Recommend to increase Aftercare hourly rate to \$16.50 per hour effective January 2, 2024.
5. Recommend to revise ESSER III Accelerated Learning Coach & Educator Support 2023/2024 salary allocation to extend Jaimee Smith 15.14% salary from October through January at an additional total allocation to salary of \$5,965.16. Line item funds to be transferred from benefits. No change to total grant funding.
6. Recommend to approve submission of the Atlanticare Healthy schools grant in the amount of \$1,500 for Ventnor Middle School. If awarded the grant, funds will be used to provide additional hydroponics system and pods to grow and edible garden that will be started in the greenhouse then moved to outdoor location.
7. Recommend to approve the following resolution:

Exhibit: V-3

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:

Francine Kurz	Break Through Self Regulation Interventions	Virtual	2/2/24	\$249.99
Jenna DiMauro	NJSCA Winter Conference	Glassboro, NJ	1/5/24	\$35

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

8. Recommend to award Transportation Bid #2023-4 Route MDS to Mary A. Dobbins

School to Sheppard Bus Service beginning January 8, 2024 through June 30, 2024 at a cost of \$442.00 per diem; \$74.00 per diem aide; \$1.40 per mile adjustment; total contract \$53,664. This was the lowest of four bids received, with Delaware City Bus Company at \$524.95; Holcomb Transportation at \$577.00 and Safety Bus at \$541.50.

9. Recommend to approve Department of Children and Families, Office of Education transportation for one DCF Regional school student at a fee of \$75 per day.

10. Recommend to approve 2 security cameras and installation from Turn-Key Technologies, Inc. through state contract at a total cost of \$7,670.11 as presented in:

Exhibit: V-10

11. Recommend to approve Delta-T Group for professional services including related services, ABA therapists and Child Study Team not to exceed \$10,000 effective January – June 2024 at Education Rates as presented in:

Exhibit: V-11

VI. POLICIES

1. Recommend to approve first reading as presented in:

Exhibit: VI-1

- 5141.8 Sports Related Concussion and Head Injury

VII. PERSONNEL

ALL ITEMS ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

1. Recommend to accept retirement letter of Linda Renze, Food Service Clerk effective June, 2024, with regret and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-1

2. Recommend to accept retirement letter of Rosemary Sarno, Cafeteria Worker effective June 14, 2024, with regret and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-2

3. Recommend to accept resignation letter of Meaghan Pazar, School Psychologist effective January 22, 2024, with regret and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-3

4. Recommend to accept resignation letter of Lisa Gonzalez, School Nurse effective January 29, 2024, with regret and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-4

5. Recommend to accept retirement letter of Bernadette Caspar, Cafeteria Worker effective June 14, 2024, with regret and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-5

6. Recommend to accept resignation letter of Nancy Guerrero, Security Clerk effective January 31, 2024, with regret and as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-6

7. Recommend to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2023-2024 school year pending paperwork:

Bernadette Southard	State
Ryan Rothstein	County
Kathleen Kersz	State
Frederic Lemmerling	State
Kimberly Fortney	County
Emma Kelly	County

8. Recommend to approve Stephanie A. Simmons-George for Winter/Spring 2024 School Counseling Internship II through Walden University with Mrs. DiMauro, February 26, 2024 - May 10, 2024.

9. Recommend to approve Alex Pitre \$1,000 annual salary increase for attainment of Certified Educational Facilities Manager (CEFM) per contract terms, pro-rated effective December 5, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

10. Recommend to approve 2023-2024 Chaperone List as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-10

11. Recommend to approve Mrs. Kathleen Kresz, BA, Step 7 as full-time School Nurse for the 2023-2024 school year at the VCEA negotiated contracted salary of \$68,987, with benefits, pending fingerprint and PL 2018, Chapter 5 clearance. This is a resignation replacement.

Mrs. Kresz graduated from Seton Hall University where she proudly was the valedictorian of her nursing class. In addition, she swam division 1 through all 4 years. Upon graduation, Mrs. Kresz began as a hospital nurse at CHOP in Philadelphia. During her time at CHOP, she worked on multiple floors gaining experience with all pediatric medical conditions. Most recently, Mrs. Kresz has been a labor/delivery nurse at Shore Medical Center. She completed her school nurse clinical hours last school year here at the Ventnor Educational Community Complex as part of her school nurse program through Rowan University.

VIII. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

IX. USE OF FACILITY

1. Recommend to approve Use of Facilities for Hutch basketball in new gym and old gym beginning on Wednesdays Dec. 6, 2023 through the end of Feb., 2024 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm and as presented in:

Exhibit: IX-1

2. Recommend to approve Use of Facilities for Travel basketball in new gym beginning on Mondays and Thursdays Dec. 4, 2023 through the end of Feb., 2024 from 6:00pm to 8:00 pm and as presented in:

Exhibit: IX-2

X. INFORMATION

1. Drills: Fire Drill: TBD; Security Drill: Lockdown: 11/14/23
2. VECC Monthly Enrollment
3. Monthly Suspension Reports
4. Middle School Individual Incident Reports
5. Monthly School Cafeteria Report
6. VECC Out of District Tuition Report for 2023/2024
7. Payroll Timesheet Report of December, 2023

Item: X-2

Item: X-3

Item: X-4

Item: X-5

Item: X-6

Item: X-7

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

XII. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

1. Recommend to affirm HIB 23-24 E1.
2. Sending-Receiving Board Representation

Item: XII-2

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