

**VENTNOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Regular Session Meeting – February 28, 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. Facility Update – Ron Fenton
3. Board Recognition

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 January 24, 2024 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 January 31, 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 January, 2024

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 January, 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 January 31, 2024.

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

3. Recommend to approve February, 2024 Bill List as presented in:
4. Recommend to accept the 2024 Teachers Helping Teachers grant to fund bird houses as part of a STEM project. Scholarship grant for \$136.61 was submitted by Denise Tinucci from Xi chapter of DKG.
5. Recommend to approve recycle and/or auction sale of the following equipment:  
Recycle up to 430 Latitude 3189 tablets  
Resell to staff or sell on GovDeals 90 Latitude 5501/5511 teacher laptops  
Recycle or sell on GovDeals Dell EqualLogic PS4100 Storage Array  
Recycle two Dell PowerEdge R420 servers  
Recycle miscellaneous desktop computers
6. Recommend to approve quoted transportation contract VECP to First Student for one student to Pleasantville at a per diem cost of \$159.00 with \$1.50 per mile adjustment cost starting February 13, 2024 through June 30, 2024, 79 days, total cost \$12,561. This was the lowest of 3 quotes received.
7. Recommend to approve quoted transportation contract EHTHS to Student One Transportation for two students to Davenport Elementary School, Egg Harbor Township, at a per diem cost of \$163.00 with \$1.00 per mile adjustment cost starting February 5, 2024 through June 30, 2024, 91 days, total cost \$14,833. This was the lowest of 3 quotes received.
8. Recommend to approve quoted transportation contract EHTD to Student One Transportation for one student to Egg Harbor Township High School at a per diem cost of \$163.00 with \$1.00 per mile adjustment cost starting February 5, 2024 through June 30, 2024, 91 days, total cost \$14,833. This was the lowest of 3 quotes received.

Exhibit: V-3

9. Recommend to accept the Ventnor Home and School Association 2023-2024 Events as listed:

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 29 | Parent Paint Night at Pulia                             |
| March 8     | Spring Dance/Movie Night                                |
| March 14    | Santucci's Dine Out                                     |
| March 23    | Bunny Brunch at Nucky's                                 |
| April 19    | Color Run at Ski Beach                                  |
| May 11      | Participation in the Block party hosted by Ventnor City |

10. Recommend to approve submission of the 2021-2024 ESSER III Learning Acceleration Grant application Amendment #2 as follows:

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Guidance salaries           | \$24,039 |
| School Facilitating coaches | \$ 6,409 |
| Benefits/FICA               | \$ 5,438 |
| Behaviorist                 | \$40,721 |

11. Recommend to approve resolution authorizing execution and delivery of the Grant Agreement with the State of New Jersey Schools Development Authority DOE Project # 5350-040-23-R501; SDA Project # 5350-040-53-G5TP; Grant #G5-6913 for HVAC System upgrades. Total project cost \$1,454,838; Grant amount \$581,935.20.
12. Recommend to approve resolution evidencing Delegation of Authority to School Business Administrator for supervision of the School Facilities Project for HVAC System upgrades under DOE Project # 5350-040-23-R501; SDA Project # 5350-040-53-G5TP; Grant #G5-6913.

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:

|                   |                                     |                   |                        |                                 |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Terri Nowotny     | NJASBO                              | Atlantic City, NJ | 6/5/24, 6/6/24, 6/7/24 | \$500                           |
| Carmela Somershoe | NJASA Women's Leadership Conference | Somerset Park, NJ | 3/18/24, 3/19/24       | \$419<br>\$150<br>Hotel + meals |
| Jenna DiMauro     | NJASA Women's Leadership Conference | Somerset Park, NJ | 3/18/24, 3/19/24       | \$419 + meals                   |

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

14. Recommend to approve 2023-2024 tuition contract agreement effective February 1, 2024 for 2 McKinney-Vento students (ID#163379 and 163378) at Egg Harbor Township Schools at a total cost of \$9,299.36 KF and \$9,693.12 Grade 1.
15. Recommend to approve request for approval to the City of Ventnor Board of School Estimate for the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$4,100,000.00 to fund school Capital Projects over the five year period 2024-2029.
16. Recommend to approve 2023-2024 transportation jointure as host with the Brigantine Board of Education as joiner to provide transportation for 1 Brigantine student from Margate to ACIT effective February 26, 2024 at a cost of \$466.00 plus 5% administrative fees totaling \$489.30.

## **VI. POLICIES**

1. Recommend to approve second reading as presented in:

Exhibit: VI-1

- 5830 Fund Raising/Student Fund Raising
- 6660 Student Activity Fund

## **VII. PERSONNEL**

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

1. Recommend to accept retirement letter of Lisa Petullo, Elementary Clerk effective August 31, 2024 with regret and as presented in:
2. Recommend to accept retirement letter of Terri Nowotny, School Business Administrator effective June 30, 2024, with regret and as presented in:
3. Recommend to approve \$1,200 stipend for Alex Pitre covering Supervisor of Facilities duties from January 3 through February 9, 2024.
4. Recommend to approve Volunteer/Chaperones for the 2023-2024 school year as presented in:

Exhibit: VII-1

Exhibit: VII-2

Exhibit VII-4

## **VIII. CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

## **IX. USE OF FACILITY**

1. Recommend to approve Ventnor Recreation to use the new gym on Saturdays beginning March 2, 2024 through March 23, 2024 from 8:30am to 10:30am for Pre-K and Kindergarten Basketball and as presented in:  
Please Note: Building must be open by 8:30am.
2. Recommend to approve Girl Scouts of Central & Southern NJ to use a room TBD on March 20, 2024 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm for an invitation in joining Girl Scouts and start of a new group and as presented in:  
Please Note: Building must be open by 5:45pm.

Exhibit: IX-1

Exhibit: IX-2

## **X. INFORMATION**

1. Drills: Fire Drill: 1/23/24; Security Drill: TBD
2. VECC Monthly Enrollment
3. Monthly Suspension Reports
4. Elementary and 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 February, 2024

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 2023-2024 HIB M3.

**2. March Board Meetings**

March 6, 2024 Special Meeting 3:30pm to approve preliminary budget

March 20, 2024 Regular Meeting canceled

March 25, 2024 Regular Meeting and Budget Public Hearing 5:00pm

**3. Reminder to Board Members and Administrators to complete the annual Financial Disclosure form.**

**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**