

VENTNOR CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Regular Session Meeting – November 20, 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, 2024 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
Mrs. Beth Steinen, Business Admin/Board Sec.
Ms. Sanu Dev, Esq., School Solicitor

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PRESENTATION

1. Superintendent Update – Dr. Carmela Somershoe
2. Facility Update – Alex Pitre Exhibit: III-2
3. Nutri-Serve Presentation – Dawn Janelli, Food Service Manager and Dineen Billingham, Operations Manager

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 October 23, 2024 as presented in: Exhibit: V-1
2. Recommend to approve the Board Secretary’s Monthly Certification: Handout
Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:30-2.12 (b) that as of September 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 months of September, 2024

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 September, 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 periods ending September 30, 2024.

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

3. Recommend to approve November, 2024 Bill Lists 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:

Francine Kurz	CPI Recertification	Virtual/Atlantic City, NJ	10/21/24, 10/24/24 and 11/6/24	No Charge
Francine Kurz	Social Work in Everyday Practice with Children and Adolescents	Ocean City, NJ	11/22/24	No Charge
Jeff Heller	I & RS Online Training	Virtual	12/5/24	7 ETTC Hours
Beth Steinen	Systems 3000 Budget Software	Eatontown, NJ	11/19/24	No charge
Beth Steinen	NJASBO Academy "DOE and Budget Guidelines"	Robbinsville, NJ	12/3/24	\$50.00

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

5. Recommend to approve the Tuition Contract Agreement with Egg Harbor City School District, whereas Ventnor City School District will provide the education of a McKinney-Vento student at the 2022-23 tuition rate of \$29,359 (with adjustment to be made later).

6. Recommend to approve the revised Tuition Contract Agreement with Atlantic City High School District, whereas the cost decreased from \$2,838,784 to \$2,171,198 from the agreement approved at the October 23, 2024 Board of Education meeting. The original contract included an erroneous adjustment from Atlantic City from the prior school year.

7. Recommend to award the Replacement of Packaged Rooftop HVAC RAC Units project to Gaudelli Brothers, Inc. at a total cost of \$1,504,000, including the base bid and alternate Bid No. 1. This work will be completed in Summer 2025. Bids were also received from Kisby Shore Corp, Falasca Mechanical, Inc., LGB Mechanical, Inc., McCloskey Mechanical, Inc., as presented in:

Exhibit: V-7

VI. POLICIES

1. Recommend to approve first reading as presented in:

Exhibit: VI-1

- 3542.2 School Meal Program Arrears
- 3571.4 Audit

- 5113 Attendance, Absences and Excuses
- 5141.8 Sports Related Concussion and Head Injury
- 6114 Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness
- 6140 Curriculum Adoption
- 6146.2 Promotion/Retention
- 6178 Early Childhood Education/Preschool

VII. PERSONNEL

ALL ITEMS ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

1. Recommend to accept retirement letter of Robert Baker, Middle School Principal, with regret effective January 31, 2025 and as presented in: Exhibit: VII-1

2. Recommend to approve, with regret, the resignation of Lucille Morgano, Instructional Aide effective June 30, 2025 as presented in: Exhibit: VII-2

3. Recommend to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2024-2025 school year pending paperwork:

Kristein Hook	State
Wendy Payton	County

4. Recommend to approve the Clinical Field Placement of Stockton student, Emily Garrison, for an 80 hour introductory fieldwork placement in first grade with Mrs. Lombardi.

5. Recommend to approve Jeff Heller as School Play Choreographer stipend for the 2024-2025 school year at the negotiated contracted stipend.

6. Recommend to approve Chaperones for the 2024-2025 school year as presented in: Exhibit: VII-6

7. Recommend to approve, with regret, the resignation of Chenia Diaz, effective December 13, 2024 and as presented in: Exhibit: VII-7

8. Recommend to approve Kelsey Kern for Elementary Teacher position at a rate of \$63,076 BA Step 1 (prorated) per VCEA negotiated agreement, pending fingerprint and PL 2018, Chapter 5 clearance.

Kelsey graduated from Stockton University with BA in psychology with a concentration in mental health, and a minor in childhood studies. She has an Elementary Teacher and Special Education Certificate of Eligibility. She is currently working as an inclusion teacher and previously worked as a basic skills teacher. This is a retirement replacement.

9. Recommend to approve Hannah McClain for Maternity Leave Replacement Mathematics Teacher from January 2nd to June 17, 2025, MA, Step 2 (prorated) per VCEA negotiated agreement, pending fingerprint and PL 2018, Chapter 5 clearance.

Hannah has been a mathematics teacher in Galloway Township Schools and is currently teaching Language Arts at Millville High School. Hannah wishes to return to her love of teaching mathematics and her calling to teach middle level students. Ms. McClain has her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

10. Recommend to approve a leave of absence for employee #4966 effective October 18, 2024 to May 26, 2025. Leave will be a combination of paid sick and personal days, FMLA, and NJFLI.

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**
- 3. Recommend to approve Field Trip Request Form as presented in: **Exhibit: VIII-3**

IX. USE OF FACILITY

- 1. Recommend to approve Girl Scouts of Central and Southern NJ to use the Community room from 9/1/24 through June 30, 2025 on Saturdays from 10:00am to 11:00am for meetings, singing and projects and as presented in: **Exhibit: IX-1**
- 2. Recommend to approve AC Volleyball Factory to use both gyms on Mondays from December 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025 from 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm and as presented in: **Exhibit: IX-2**
Please Note: Building must be opened at 7:00 pm.

X. INFORMATION

- 1. Drills: Fire Drill: TBD; Security Drill: Shelter in Place: 10/30/2024
- 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. VECC Out of District Tuition Report for 2024/2025 **Item: X-5**
- 6. Payroll Timesheet Report of November, 2024 **Item: X-6**

XI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

XII. NEW BUSINESS/OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Recommend to affirm HIB 24-25 E#1

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