BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS
IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN

MINUTES

Work Session Meeting
May 31, 2018

Board Auditorium
540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey

The Board of Education held its Public Work Session on Thursday, May 31, 2018 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Mr. Hryczyk, President of the Board.

ROLL CALL:

Present at roll call:
Raymond Hryczyk, President
Jason Kim
William J. Meisner, Ed.D.
Lawrence Meyerson, Ed.D., Vice President

Absent at roll call:
Joseph Zarra, Interim Executive Bergen County Superintendent of Schools

Also in attendance:
Howard Lerner, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
John Susino, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator
Andrea Sheridan, Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Richard Panicucci, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Curriculum and Instruction
William Soukas, Esq., Board Attorney
Gary Hall, Coordinator of Human Resources
Ava Miller, Assistant Board Secretary

All present pledged allegiance to the United States of America.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:

“The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Board of Vocational Education in the County of Bergen has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place thereof posted on a bulletin board prominently displayed in lobby of the Board offices and by: The Record and Herald News

The district is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.”
RETIRED

WALTER TOBE

In 1985, Walter Tobe's career in the public workforce system commenced upon accepting a position as a fiscal clerk during the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. Mr. Tobe was subsequently promoted to the Fiscal Director at the Bergen Workforce Center. In 1998, Bergen County Technical Schools assimilated the Bergen Workforce Center along with Mr. Tobe, who continued to serve the agency as the Fiscal Manager.

During his tenure Mr. Tobe interacted with the fiscal departments of the New Jersey Labor and Workforce Development and BCTS. As the Fiscal Manager Mr. Tobe was responsible to process the grant funding received to assist Bergen County residents in obtaining their HSE, On-the-Job Training or occupation training and a variety of supportive services leading to their re-employment.

We congratulate Mr. Tobe on his many years of service and wish him well in his retirement. The BCTS Board of Education and administration wish Walter the best of health, happiness and a relaxing future as he begins his new journey.

ROBERT GOODMAN

Dr. Goodman is an exceptional educator who continually raises the bar for himself and for all students in the state and in our county. Many years ago Dr. Goodman approached us on a new concept of Physics while he was a new instructor at Teterboro. After several meetings and a lot of research, we gave him the ok to move forward with Physics First as a model of exceptional pedagogy for the Department of Education.

William A. Ward says, "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." He did not have Dr. Goodman in mind, but he did capture the essence of his work as a great teacher of physics.

Dr. Goodman holds an esteemed position among faculty in our district and around the state and country. His energy, wisdom, patience, and methodical nature inspire the production and advancement of a dynamic learning community. His ability to teach and inspire students from a wide variety of backgrounds and abilities has not gone unnoticed by his students, colleagues and by the highest levels of education in New Jersey. Dr. Goodman was named New Jersey Teacher of The Year for 2005–2006.

Dr. Goodman places children in the heart of his approach. He is a central force in collaboration initiatives in the development of project–based instruction. His sense of humor, positive attitude and high expectations, fairness, flexibility, and compassion for the human ingredient not only guides his work, but also provides a compelling model for all educators.

Teaching carries with it many demands that require intelligence, creativity and stamina. In every way, Dr. Goodman has performed professionally, expeditiously and with high standards of ethics. We wish him well on his retirement but know he will continue his work with the Center for Teaching and Learning. He has made a monumental impact on our district, our students and how education should be viewed.

The BCTS Board of Education and administration wish Dr. Goodman the best of health, happiness and a relaxing future as he begins his new journey.
PRESENTATIONS

Teacher Award

Russel Davis, Principal of the Bergen County Academies introduced Irma Seltzer, World Language Teacher to be recognized as a recipient of the Princeton University Distinguished Teacher Award.

ATHS-Teen-Leads Club

Andrea Sheridan introduced 5 students from ATHS who spoke about their activities and future plans for the club. TeenLeads is an extracurricular club at Applied Technology High School, located at BCC, based off of the Bergen LEADS Program. It is facilitated by ATHS teacher Geb Zurburg in partnership with Bergen Volunteer Center’s Director of Youth Engagement Debbie Emery to bring greater civic engagement to our school community. TeenLeads has attended several trips this year to learn different aspects of Bergen County, which the student representatives discussed in their presentation. To establish a connection between these trips and the students, it was determined by the TeenLeads students to narrow their civic and community engagement focus to environmentalism and sustainability. The venue for developing projects based on this dual-focus will be the ATHS Courtyard at Ender Hall with potential to expand into other areas surrounding Ender Hall, and as a result, will build new bridges with members and organizations on the BCC campus, such as the emerging BCC Center for Sustainability.

Student Safety Data System

Pat Cosgrove presented Student Safety Data System: Report Period 1 (see attached)

REVIEW OF RESOLUTIONS

The Board reviewed the following Resolutions:

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DISCUSSION—ANY ITEM ON AGENDA—BOARD ONLY

Mr. Susino advised the Board that the administration removed two travel requests from the resolution #18-A-146T. These two requests were added as additional resolutions.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)

There was no public participation.

ANY ITEM FOR DISCUSSION—BOARD ONLY

Mr. Hryczyk congratulated and commended the students from the TeenLeads Club for their initiative to improve the environment and for their involvement in the community.
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to go into executive session, per the resolution, was made at 5:40 PM by Dr. Meisner second by Dr. Meyerson. All members present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

“Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4–12, certain specified items are exempt from public disclosure and discussion. At this time, the Board of Education intends convene in private session, from which the public shall be excluded, to discuss matters, which fall under the exclusion of pending or anticipated litigation. Therefore, the public portion of this meeting shall now be adjourned. The results of any Board discussion conducted in this private session shall be made public at the earliest possible date.”

A motion to reopen the work session was made at 6:05 pm by Mr. Kim, second by Dr. Meisner. All members present voted in the affirmative.

A motion to close the work session and open the regular meeting was made at 6:05 PM by Dr. Meyerson, second by Mr. Kim. All members present voted in the affirmative.

Respectfully submitted,

John Susino
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

Approved by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of 6/21/18