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

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
March 26, 2019

Board Auditorium
540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey

The Board of Education held its Regular Public Meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, NJ. The public meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm by Dr. Meyerson, President of the Board.

ROLL CALL:

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

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
Gary Hall, Coordinator of Human Resources
William Soukas, Esq., Board Attorney
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: The Record and Herald News

The district is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.”
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A motion was made by Dr. Meisner, second by Mr. Connelly to approve the following minutes:

Work Session Meeting: February 21, 2019
Regular Session Meeting: February 21, 2019
Executive Session: February 21, 2019

A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vote</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Connelly</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Kim</td>
<td>Abstain</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Meisner</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Meyerson</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Zarra</td>
<td>Absent</td>
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BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Board Secretary John Susino reported to the Board that it was considering resolution 19-F-139T, approval of a tentative budget for school year 2019-2020. The budget will be presented on April 10 at 3pm to the Board of School Estimate, a board comprising of the members of the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and the president and vice president of BCTS’ Board of Education. The Board of School Estimate will meet to determine and set Bergen County’s financial contribution to the district. After the Board of School Estimate meeting, the BCTS board will review and consider a resolution to approve the final budget for 2019-2020.

Mr. Susino also reminded the audience that district personnel, including board members, are required to complete personal and financial disclosure statements for the New Jersey Ethics Commission. Mr. Susino reminded those in attendance that these forms are due April 30, 2019; however, his office must review and approve the submittal, and as such, Mr. Susino asked that they be completed well in advance of this date.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

The District is required to report specific incidents of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying to the Board of Education. There were two non-HIBs reported.

Dr. Lerner shared some highlights of the many accomplishments our students and staff have had, including the following:

Applied Technology
- On Wednesday, February 27th, 2019, a group of students and staff at ATHS were given the opportunity to take a virtual flight to Ghana, Africa. Travelers were given a “boarding pass” prior to departure. Once “on board,” travelers had the opportunity to Face Time with other high school students from Ghana for approximately one hour. During that time, students from Ghana shared stories about their country and culture. One of the most fascinating observations that students shared was the fact that students from Ghana appeared to be very much influenced by American culture. Students walked away feeling like we were more alike than different.
- On Wednesday, April 13rd, 2019, ATHS will host the third Young Women In Leadership Conference. The Young Women's Leadership program was an idea conceived by students, to empower the young women in our student body, and to create an environment where people can
openly engage in conversation regarding women’s rights. The panelist represented a professionally and ethnically diverse group of women.

- On Thursday, April 14th, 2019,ATHS will welcome Mr. Gian Paul Gonzales, a motivational speaker who is widely credited with inspiring the NY Giants during their successful 2011 Super Bowl run.

**Bergen Academies**

- As part of our District mission to prepare students to “Live, work and lead in a Global Community” ninety-five Academy students and teachers participated in four unique global exchanges with Japan, Italy, London and Israel. In addition, BCA recently hosted students and teachers from Denmark for a music exchange program. This is the first time in our school’s history that this many exchanges took place simultaneously.
- On Sunday, March 3rd over 250 BCA students participated in the 2nd annual BCA Research Expo. This event is affiliated with the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF).

**Paramus Campus**

- Two students in the Green Building Trades program won first prize for their chessboard (photo attached) at the NJIT CIM Decorative Concrete competition on February 26. They plan to donate their project to the Paramus Memorial Veterans Home as part of month long CTE activities supporting our local veterans.

**Teterboro Campus**

- Minorities Represented hosted activities for a week in February to get students involved in Black History Month, which included inviting a speaker to present for all grades, and holding different events celebrating leaders in the African-American community and highlighting current issues faced today.
- Bergen Tech participated in its fifth annual student exhibit at the Belskie Museum in Closter, NJ, where students from the Fashion, Digital Media, and Commercial Art majors display their hard work of media, art, and fashion masterpieces.

**Athletics**

- Bergen Tech sent three athletes to the New Jersey State Meet of Champions. A Teterboro Junior ran a fast 5:18 mile to qualify for the State Championships. Two seniors (ATHS and Teterboro) both qualified for the inaugural long jump showcase where the top 24 jumpers in the state are selected to participate.
- Girls Fencing and Cheering both won their NJTAC events.

**Adult Education**

- The new Management Information Systems program now has an enrollment of eight students.

**EMS**

- The Director of Emergency Medical Services for the New Jersey State Department of Health requested our EMS program to work on a committee to develop the best practices for Bus Accidents (both passenger and school bus). This will include scene management, patient removal, how to extricate patients, patient tracking and documentation.
- EMS staff is working together with the Boy Scouts / Girl Scouts on providing the training they need to get their rope and first aid merit badges
- EMS programs are going well, and we start up the United Nations Training at the end of the month.
Day Care
- BELA was very excited to celebrate Read Across America with our special guest readers.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS:

On the motion of Mr. Connelly, second by Dr. Meisner the following resolutions were presented for action.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>19-P-98T Through</td>
<td>19-P-111T</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>19-F-136T Through</td>
<td>19-F-158T</td>
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BOARD DISCUSSION - CONSENT AGENDA ONLY

There was no discussion.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – CONSENT AGENDA ONLY

There was no participation.

BOARD VOTE CONSENT AGENDA

A roll call vote on the consent agenda was taken as identified above:

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<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Abstain</th>
<th>Absent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Connelly</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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OFF-CONSENT RESOLUTIONS

None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ANY ISSUE)

Mr. Jacob Benharush, a Teaneck parent who had a daughter graduated last year from the Academy, expressed concern regarding how she was treated while enrolled at the Academy. He claimed that she experienced harassment and bullying associated with her religion. He requested the Board to investigate this matter. He advised the board that she is currently a student at the University of Pittsburgh.
ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Connelly, second by Dr. Meisner. All members present voted in the affirmative. Dr. Meyerson adjourned the meeting at 5:55 pm.

NOTE: No further action was taken by the board.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

John Susino  
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

Approved by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of 4/30/19