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

MINUTES

Regular Meeting
October 17, 2017

Board Auditorium
540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey

The Board of Education held its Regular Public Meeting on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, NJ. The public meeting was called to order at 5:45 pm by Mr. Jason Kim, President Pro Tempore of the Board.

ROLL CALL:

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

Absent at roll call:
Lawrence Meyerson, Ed.D.
Norah Peck, Interim Executive Bergen County Superintendent of Schools

Also in attendance:
Howard Lerner, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
John Susino, Board Secretary/School Business Administrator
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: The Record and Herald News

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

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

Retreat Meeting: August 29, 2017
Work Session Meeting: September 26, 2017
Regular Session Meeting: September 26, 2017
Executive Session: September 26, 2017

A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Result</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Hryczyk</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Kim</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Meisner</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Meyerson</td>
<td>Absent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Peck</td>
<td>Absent</td>
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BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

John Susino, Board Secretary, reported to the board that in the coming weeks, the administration will begin the budget process for school year 2018-2019. This process begins with the business office providing principals and program managers with historical spending data on their budget lines. Principals and managers are given approximately 1 month to review, develop and present their proposed budgets, wish list items, and other recommendations to Asst. Superintendent Andrea Sheridan, and the business office. In December, all recommendations and requests are presented in a draft budget to the Superintendent. Dr. Lerner, along with his central administration staff, will work to draft a balanced budget that takes into account programmatic requests, fixed costs and revenues. Mr. Susino will then present this budget to the board at your February meeting. The board will then have one month to review and comment on the budget with action to follow in March.

Mr. Susino also reported that according to board policy, he was required to report on resolution 18-F-77T, Emergency Expenditure for Data Recovery Services. As the board may be aware, BCTS provides technology services to the Oradell Public School District through a shared services agreement. On or about October 5, 2017 Mr. Susino was notified by Edmund Hayward, Coordinator of Technology, that the server housing critical data for Oradell had suffered a disk array failure causing corruption of the data and permanent loss. The information stored on these drives include all applications of the district, including Oradell’s accounting and HR systems, phone system, file sharing between staff and students, as well as all imaging and their domain controller. Because the data needed to be immediately retrieved and saved, and because BCTS’ staff is not equipped to handle the magnitude of this data recovery effort, Mr. Susino authorized Knoll Ontrack to perform this task in an amount not to exceed $40,000.00. Moving forward, the district will implement data backup and redundancy systems which will serve to safely store copies of all critical information.

Finally, Mr. Susino reminded the audience that the board of education’s next meeting is the reorganization meeting scheduled for November 1 at 5pm.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

The District is required to report specific incidents of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying to the Board of Education. We have had two reportable incidents in the last month as follows:
1. HIB Incident T-1, School Year 17-18
   Incident—racial and sexual orientation harassment
   Intervention—Student schedule change, parental involvement and group counseling along with social
   skills training.

2. HIB Incident T-2, School Year 17-18
   Incident—insulting and demeaning comments about religion
   Intervention—parental meetings, counseling

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

Bergen County Executive Tedesco, the Freeholders and the Latino American Advisory Committee
requested our district select two professionals to be honored in recognition of Hispanic Heritage Month.
Daphne Xamelli Torres (Teterboro Campus) and Raymond Hager (Paramus Campus) were chosen to
represent our district. They were honored on Thursday, October 12 at the County Administration
Building.

❖ **APPLIED TECHNOLOGY**
   On September 27th the Teen LEADS student volunteer group at ATHS spent the morning at Bergen
   County Jail in Hackensack and afternoon at the Bergen County Law and Public Safety Complex in
   Mahwah.

   On October 12, 2017 the 10th graders at ATHS spent the day at NJIT. They were given a campus
tour, which included the labs, Maker Space, and a chance to meet some of the engineering technology
faculty.

❖ **BERGEN ACADEMIES**
   The Bergen County Academies is proud to announce that thirty-eight students were recently named
   National Merit Semifinalists and 146 students were named Commended Scholars. This is the highest
   number of Commended Scholars and Semifinalists in the school’s history.

   Recently, one of our 11th grade science students was notified that his research will be published in
   the “International Journal of Cancer Research and Treatment;” the published work is the direct result
   of a collaboration between one of our current students and one of our Academy alumni who is
   currently in Medical School. Congratulations on this noteworthy achievement.

❖ **PARAMUS CAMPUS**
   The Green Building Trades technical teachers will be featured in Harbor Freight Tools Magazine in
   an article entitled “Saluting Excellence in Skilled Trades Education.” The piece will be printed at the
   start of 2018.

   Pastry Arts teachers and students baked and decorated two cakes that were featured at the unveiling
   ceremony at the New Bridge Health facility (formerly Bergen Regional Hospital).

❖ **TETERBORO CAMPUS**
   A former Bergen Tech Law & Justice student who is currently a paralegal for Bronx Legal Aid
   Society representing tenants in low income housing violations, gave a presentation to the Law class
describing how she advocates for tenants whose landlords violate public housing laws. She attributed her education at BT Law as the motivation for her to work for social justice.

Six Bergen Tech seniors were named National Merit Semifinalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Program.

❖ **ATHLETICS**
Boys Varsity Soccer is off to a 9-1 start and has advanced in NJTAC tournament.

❖ **ADULT EDUCATION**
On September 26, the ESL program manager and two adult students represented NJ from the Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) and NJ Association of Lifelong Learners (NJALL). The three individuals went to Washington, DC and met with the Workforce and Educational policy staff of Senator Booker, Congressman Josh Gottheimer, Congressman Rodney Frelinghuyse, and Congressman Albio Sires. They met with each politician for 30-50 minutes. They shared a video created by one of the adult students, showing successful outcomes of the programs supported by funding. This visit was essential to support WIA Title II, since it is in jeopardy of being cut.

❖ **EMS**
During September we started teaching the United Nations – SSAFE program to their Civilian Humanitarian staff. The program is a three day multi-discipline (Police, Fire EMS) training program. Also during September we started our EMS, Hazmat, Rescue, CPR and Rescue Task Force training program. In addition to these programs the staff at the EMS training Center are providing training for the school teachers/nurses and members of the Bergen County prosecutors Investigative staff.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS:**

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>Through</th>
<th>18-A-48T</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personnel</td>
<td>Through</td>
<td>18-P-40T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Through</td>
<td>18-F-77T</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:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Abstain</th>
<th>Absent</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Hryczyk</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Kim</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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OFF-CONSENT RESOLUTIONS
None

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ANY ISSUE)
There was no participation.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Meisner, second by Mr. Hryczyk. All members present voted in the affirmative. Mr. Kim adjourned the meeting at 6:00 pm.
NOTE: No further action was taken by the board.

Respectfully submitted,

John Susino
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

Approved by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of 12/12/17