

September Public Meeting Minutes (Thursday, September 20, 2012)

Generated by Barbara Wyble on Friday, September 21, 2012

The Public Meeting on September 20, 2012 was called to order by Vice President, David Zweier at 7:00 p.m.

The roll call was taken and the following members were present: Cynthia Auberger, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, Robert P. Hughes, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Bradley D. Sparta, David Zweier. Douglas F. Castellana was absent. Also present were John B. Alfieri, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, Barbara Linkenheimer, Assistant Superintendent and Steven A. Kepnes, Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

Following the roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Kepnes read the Meeting Notice.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with provisions of the Act, Vernon Township Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published and adequate notice has been provided.

Mr. Zweier turned the floor over to Dr. Anderson, WRPS Principal, who thanked everyone for attending and talked about new programs this school year at the school including Peaceful Playground. Walk/run has been put on hiatus and the children now eat first and then go to the playground for structure play. She also mentioned Singapore math, a new phonics program and for the pre-school, Tools of the Mind. She introduced Mr. Todd Mitchell who further explained the pre-school curriculum and Tools of the Mind. This program prepares students to learn and uses purposeful play. They are aiming to make Vernon's pre-school program a draw for more students. He thanked the Board of Education, Ms. Linkenheimer and Dr. Alfieri.

Action, Minutes: A. August 2012 Work Session Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the minutes of the August 28, 2012 Work Session.

Motion by Edward A. DeYoung, second by John F. McGowan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Abstain: Bradley D. Sparta

Action, Minutes: B. August 2012 Public Meeting Minutes

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the Board of the August 28, 2012 Public Meeting.

Motion by Lori Parrott, second by Edward A DeYoung.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Abstain: Bradley D. Sparta

Mr. Kepnes read the list of correspondence received.

President's Report – Mr. Castellana was absent. Mr. Zweier reported that he was part of a group that toured the facilities to see all the projects done over the summer. The facilities have never looked better. He specifically mentioned the new high school media center. Mr. Zweier mentioned the Singapore Math Program, the house concept for 5th grade and the possibility of a house concept for 9th grade. He wished everyone good luck for a wonderful school year and thanked everyone for coming.

Committee Reports – Mr. DeYoung, Chairman of the Finance Committee, talked about the Finance Committee Meeting where an update on the loss of state aid was discussed. He mentioned that Mr. Kepnes had given the committee information about the NORESKO bid opening. There was also discussion on the financial comparison with Sparta. More information on that will be forthcoming.

Public Participation - Questions/Comments limited to items listed on the agenda

Mr. Eric Card of the Highland Lakes section talked about the parking fees. His concerns were that he had received no notification. He mentioned that taxes are already high and that they have to "pay to play". Mr. Zweier gave a background on the parking fee issue, explaining that in 2011-2012 the fee was supposed to be raised to \$50, but this did not occur. The fee was raised due to the loss of revenue from the state. He explained that at the September work session the fee was lowered to \$25. Mr. Card asked where we were cutting rather than going after the children. He also had concerns about all the information collected; i.e., insurance information, driver's license number. Mr. DeYoung explained that the parking fee has been in place for years. Parking is a senior privilege and there is always the option of taking the school bus. Mr. Card mentioned all the conditions placed on parking such as grades. He said many students work and need to drive cars. Mr. Zweier thanked Mr. Card for sharing his concerns and frustrations and invited him to attend budget meetings. Information such as the fee for parking was discussed at the time of preparing the budget. Mr. Card thanked the Board for their time.

Superintendent's Report - Informational Matters - John B. Alfieri, Ed.D.

Dr. Alfieri thanked Dr. Anderson and Mr. Mitchell for their presentation and thanked the Walnut Ridge faculty and staff for coming out in support of their school

Information, Recognition: A. Student Artwork

We are pleased to announce that Vernon Township High School artwork is being displayed at the Board Office for the month of September.

Superintendent's Report - Recommendations - John B. Alfieri, Ed.D.

Action: A. Resignation/Retirement

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the resignation and retirement as listed:

Susan Mize	WRPS Secretary; for reasons of retirement; with regret eff. 12/31/12
Dara Fogge	LHMS part-time aide; resignation; eff. immediately

Motion by John F. McGowan, second by Bradley D. Sparta.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: B. Appointments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved appointments.

Prior to the vote, Ms. Linkenheimer explained the recommendation of Ms. Marencik for Ms. Telgheder

Anthony Ciaburri	VTHS Assistant Drama Stipend; Step 1 - \$3,549; eff. immediately
Tyler Branham	VTHS Assistant Wrestling Coach; Step 1 - \$4,949; eff. Nov. 2012
Donna Picciuto	VTHS Freshman Class Advisor; Step 1 - \$2,904; eff. immediately
David Willer	VTHS Assistant Marching Band; Step 3 - \$3,274; eff. immediately
Jena Toriello	VTHS Green Dot Club Advisor; Step 1 - \$2,094
Allison Petryk	Substitute, Group I
Nicole Nogrady	Substitute, Group I
Denise Bennett	Substitute, Group I
Jacqueline McGrath	Substitute, Group I
Kristina Bolduc	Substitute, Group I

Lauren Kwitchoff	Substitute, Group I
Mariah Levy	Substitute, Group I/Aide
Thomas Zayac	Substitute, Group II
Dara Fogge	Substitute Aide
Meghan Marencik	.8 FTE CST Occupational Therapist to 1.0 FTE Occupational Therapist; MA Step 13; eff. 9/1/12 until the return of Mrs. Telgheder (Repl/Telgheder)
Stacy Kievit	LHMS part-time aide; 2.25 hours .32 FTE;(8:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.); eff. 9/24/12 (New - IEP driven)
Nicole Amati	LHMS part-time aide; 2.25 hours .32 FTE; (11:40 a.m. - 1:55 p.m.); eff. 9/24/12 (New - IEP driven)
Kathleen Catalino	LHMS part-time aide; 2.25 hours .32 FT E: (11:40 p.m. - 1:55 p.m.); eff. 9/24/12 (New - IEP driven)
David Schnebelen	LHMS part-time aide; 2.25 hours. 32 FTE; (11:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.); eff. 9/24/12 (Repl/Fogge)
Elizabeth Pusztay	RHPS part-time aide; 2.5 hours. 36 FTE; (12:15 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.) eff. 9/24/12 (New - IEP driven)
Amelia Quinones	RHPS part-time aide; 4 hours .57 FTE; (9:01 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.); eff. 9/24/12 (New - IEP driven)
Tammy Nolte	CMPS part-time aide; 2.75 hours. 39 FTE; (9:05 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.); eff. 9/24/12 (New - IEP driven)
Monae Burke	CMPS student-specific, part-time aide; 4 hours .57 FTE (11:15 a.m.-3:14 p.m.); eff. 9/24/12 (New/Medical)

Motion by Lori Parrott, second by Robert P. Hughes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: C. Leaves of Absence

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the following leaves of absence:

1. **Marilyn Russo-Tell**, GMMS part-time aide, will be on a medical leave from 9/6/12 for six to eight weeks, per her physician's request.

2. **Jennifer Lafferty**, RHPS Speech Therapist, will be on a maternity leave from on or about 11/2/12 until on or about 4/9/12.

Motion by Edward A. DeYoung, second by John F. McGowan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: D. Salary Adjustments

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved salary adjustments.

Stacy Blanco	BA+15, Step 6 to MA, Step 6 - \$60,121
Suzanne Ross	MA+15, Step 5 to MA+30, Step 5 - \$61,321
Adam Coleman	BA+15, Step 7 to MA, Step 7 - \$61,736
Charlotte Ambrose	MA+15, Step 14 to MA+60, Step 14 - \$96,993
Megan Alongi	BA+15, Step 5 to MA, Step 5 - \$58,931
Kathleen Struthers	BA, Step 1 to BA+15, Step 1 - \$52,226

Motion by John F. McGowan, second by Edward A. DeYoung.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: E. Sixth Period Class

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the following sixth-period classes:

Prior to the vote, Ms. Linkenheimer informed the Board that they had approved the classes last year when they approve the schedule for this school year. The recommendations for the teachers of those classes had just come in.

Vicky Smith	VTHS English teacher for Broadcast Journalism; \$51.88 per class
Kavita Ramnarais	VTHS Math teacher for Geometry CP; \$57.69 per class

Motion by Bradley D. Sparta, second by Robert P. Hughes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: F. Change of Hours

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the change in hours for Carolyn Tanis, LHMS part-time aide, from 2.25 hours to 3 hours per day based on IEP needs.

Motion by John F. McGowan, second by Edward A. DeYoung.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: G. Second Reading of Policies/Regulations/Bylaws

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the second reading of the following Policies, Regulations and Bylaws:

Motion by Bradley D. Sparta, second by John F. McGowan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: H. Transfer

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved the transfer of Nancy Krauss - 1.0 FTE LHMS teacher to .5 LHMS teacher and .5 CMPS teacher - grade 3 literacy push-in support model.

Dr. Alfieri clarified for Mr. Zweier the reason for this transfer. The scores at LHMS have improved and there was no longer need for the full-time teacher. Mrs. Krauss' expertise could be shared at CMPS.

Motion by Lori Parrott, second by John F. McGowan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: I. Hiring of 2/5ths Title I Teachers

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved authorizing Dr. Alfieri to hire the eight 2/5th Title I teachers prior to the next public board meeting. The positions are paid at the rate of 40% of the contracted step with no benefits for 2.5 hours per diem through the end of the school year. The salary for these positions is entirely paid with approved Title I funds of \$167,448.

Dr. Alfieri stated that many interviews have taken place and that the number was down to 14 candidates which will be reduced to 8 during the second round which will include different administrators. It was further explained that Jamie Plosia, Esq. is working on contract language for these teachers.

Motion by Robert P. Hughes, second by Edward Gilson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: J. Travel

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved professional development travel that complies with the provisions of the School Ethics Acts (SEA) N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 and 12-24.1.

Motion by Edward A. DeYoung, second by Edward Gilson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Business Administrator's Report - Information - Steven A. Kepnes

Information: A. Field Trip Agenda

Information: B. Use of Building and Fields

Business Administrator's Report - Recommendations - Steven A. Kepnes

Action: A. September Check Register

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board approved September checks #58526-#58820 in the amount of \$2,649,948.62.

Motion by Bradley D. Sparta, second by Robert P. Hughes.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: B. August Hand Checks

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board approved hand checks in the amount of \$889,520.27.

Motion by Robert P. Hughes, second by Bradley D. Sparta.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: C. Transfers

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board approved transfers:

Motion by Edward A. DeYoung, second by Bradley D. Sparta.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: D. August Committed Purchase Orders

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board approved purchase orders in the amount of \$386,548.16.

Motion by Bradley D Sparta, second by Edward A DeYoung.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: E. Secretary & Treasurer Report

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board approved the August Secretary and Treasurer Reports.

Motion by Robert P. Hughes, second by John F. McGowan.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: F. Transportation

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board the approved transportation jointure and quotes.

Motion by Robert P. Hughes, second by Bradley D. Sparta.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Abstain: Cynthia Auberger

Action: G. Contracts

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board approved contracts for tuition and therapy.

Motion by Edward A. DeYoung, second by Lori Parrott.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Action: H. ESIP Payment

Upon the recommendation of the Business Administrator, the Board approved the payment for the Energy Savings Improvement Program - Capital Projects for August in the amount of \$95,000.00.

Motion by Edward Gilson, second by Edward A. DeYoung.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yes: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung, Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Lori Parrott, Robert P. Hughes

Public Participation

Procedural: A. Items on the agenda or any other business

None Heard

13. Adjournment

Action: A. Motion to Adjourn

Upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board approved adjourning the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Motion by Edward A. DeYoung, second by Robert P. Hughes

YES: Bradley D. Sparta, Cynthia Auberger, David Zweier, Edward A. DeYoung,
Edward Gilson, John F. McGowan, Robert P. Hughes, Lori Parrott