

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

**MINUTES**

**Regular Public Meeting  
April 28, 2022**

**Board Auditorium  
540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey**

The Board of Education of the Vocational Schools in the County of Bergen held its Regular Public Meeting on Thursday April 28, 2022 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, NJ. The public meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by Mr. William Connelly, President of the Board.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Present at roll call:**

Mr. William Connelly, *President*  
Ms. Ivonne Enrique  
Mr. Jason Kim, *Vice President*  
Dr. Lawrence Meyerson

**Absent at roll call:**

Mr. Louis DeLisio, *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*  
Gary Hall, *Director of Human Resources*  
William Soukas, Esq., *Board Attorney*

All present pledged allegiance to the United States of America.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT:**

John Susino, Board Secretary, read the following statement as required by the Open Public Meetings Act:

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.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

A motion was made by Mr. Kim, seconded by Ms. Enrique, to approve the following minutes:

Public Work Session Meeting: March 29, 2022  
Regular/Public Meeting: March 29, 2022  
Executive Session: March 29, 2022

A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes:

Mr. Connelly	Yes
Mr. DeLisio	Absent
Ms. Enrique	Yes
Mr. Kim	Yes
Dr. Meyerson	Abstain

### **BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Board Secretary John Susino made the following report to the Board.

Mr. Susino updated the Board on the status of the 2022-23 school year budget. He informed the Board that the County has yet to publish its budget schedule, however, Mr. Susino was informed that the Board of School Estimate will likely meet in the month of May. Mr. Susino will update the Board as additional information is received.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **❖ HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING REPORT**

The District is required to report specific incidents of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying to the Board of Education. The District had one (1) Alleged-HIB incident reported since last month.

- **HIB Incident: *Alleged-HIB Case #6 – BCA - School Year 2021-2022***

#### **❖ DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS, ACCOLADES AND OTHER IMPORTANT DISTRICT INFORMATION**

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

- **NAVIGATING SUCCESS THROUGH WELLNESS INITIATIVE**
  - We have now completed Resilience Training with entire 9th grade at Teterboro in conjunction with PE/Health classes; we also completed three more resilience trainings at Paramus
  - We completed Restorative Intervention groups for students on all 4 campuses (HIB related or general non-HIB offenses), and successfully conducted the first parent restorative group (two hour long virtual meetings with parents of students from all 4 campuses)

▪ **APPLIED TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL**

- The TEDxYouth@ATHS event, which is licensed by the [TED](#) organization, occurred March 25 to a full house of students, staff and families. The cafeteria was transformed into an auditorium, in which 9 speakers shared inspiring stories under the theme of *Changing the Narrative*. Speakers were predominately current juniors and also included a BCTS alumni along with industry professionals. The event was organized by ATHS seniors who worked through the planning and execution of the event which included: applying for the TEDxYouth license, raising funds and hosting the entire event from beginning to end. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.
- Two ATHS Health Professions students, a freshman and a junior, placed in the top three in their respective events at the New Jersey Future Health Professionals (HOSA) State Leadership Conference. They faced competitors from around the entire state and their placements have qualified them to participate in the International Leadership Conference, which takes place in June in Nashville, TN.

▪ **BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES**

- A BCA student was recently named a 2022 Coca-Cola Scholar. The Coca-Cola Scholars Program identifies amazing young people who have had a significant positive impact in their schools and communities. 150 Scholars were selected from an initial pool of over 68,000 applicants and each scholar will receive a \$20,000 college scholarship.
- The BCA Model UN team recently won the “School of Excellence Award” at the National Model United Nations competition in New York City. This was the team’s first time competing in person since before the pandemic and they did an outstanding job.

▪ **PARAMUS CAMPUS**

- Two Senior automotive students competed in the Automotive Service Excellence tech challenge April 1st and won first place among the thirty-two teams who participated. The competition included both a written test and five “hands on” work station challenges. In addition to the winning trophy, each student has been granted a full scholarship to Universal Technical Institute and the Paramus campus will receive a tool box valued at \$8,000.00!

▪ **TETERBORO CAMPUS**

- Bergen Tech students competed in the FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) State Leadership Conference in March. Three Bergen Tech students competed and placed in the Star Events and 13 students competed and placed in the State Events.
- Bergen Tech had five 2021 National Merit Finalists.

▪ **ADULT EDUCATION**

- The revised Adult Ed website is nearly complete. The guiding principles of the new website are to make the application process and procuring employment more user friendly.

▪ **EMS**

- During this reporting period we provided a week-long Law Enforcement Emergency Responder training to 63 police recruits at the Bergen County Law & Public Safety Institute

▪ **ATHLETICS**

- Our boys track team won the Season Opener Invitational and the Comet Relays to start the season. Winter Track had athletes qualify for the Meet of Champions.

▪ **One-Stop Career Center/Job Center**

- The BCJC Mobile Job Center conducted a pilot visit in March at the Johnston Public Library in Hackensack. This helped us refine the program processes prior to the launch scheduled for April, 2022 at the Teaneck Municipal Building.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS:**

On the motion of Mr. Kim, seconded by Ms. Enrique, the following resolutions were presented for action.

Administration	22-A-102T	Through	22-A-113T
Personnel	22-P-117T	Through	22-P-129T
Finance	22-F-159T	Through	22-F-175T

**BOARD DISCUSSION - CONSENT AGENDA ONLY**

There was no discussion by the Board.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – CONSENT AGENDA ONLY**

There was no public participation.

**BOARD VOTE CONSENT AGENDA**

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

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mr. Connelly	X			
Mr. DeLisio				X
Ms. Enrique	X			
Mr. Kim	X			
Dr. Meyerson	X			

**OFF-CONSENT RESOLUTIONS**

There were no off consent resolutions.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (ANY ISSUE)**

There was no participation from the public

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Meyerson, seconded by Mr. Kim. All members present voted in the affirmative; none opposed. Mr. Connelly adjourned the meeting at 5:56 p.m.

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 5-31-22