

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

**MINUTES**

**Regular Public Meeting**

**June 28, 2022**

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

The Board of Education of the Vocational School District in the County of Bergen held its Regular Public Meeting on Tuesday June 28, 2022 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, N.J. 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*  
Mr. Louis DeLisio, *Executive Bergen County Superintendent of Schools*  
Mr. Jason Kim, *Vice President*  
Dr. Lawrence Meyerson

**Absent at roll call:**

Ms. Ivonne Enrique

**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, *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 Dr. Meyerson, seconded by Mr. Kim, to approve the following minutes:

Public Work Session Meeting:	May 31, 2022
Regular/Public Meeting:	May 31, 2022
Executive Session:	May 31, 2022

A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes:

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

**BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

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

Mr. Susino informed the Board and members of the public that the next scheduled Board of Education meeting is August 30, 2022. The Board will hold its regular monthly meeting as well as the Board’s annual retreat. Mr. Susino wished everyone a restful summer.

**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 and one (1) confirmed HIB incident reported since last month.

- **HIB Incident: Alleged-HIB Case #10 – BCA - School Year 2021-2022**
- **HIB Incident: HIB Case #15 – Teterboro - School Year 2021-2022**
  - *Incident*—insulting or demeaning verbal comments.
  - *Intervention*— parent contact, individual counseling, and restorative group counseling.

❖ **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 are continuing Restorative/ARISE interventions and counseling with Students referred due to HIB incidents or other behavioral/social incidents
  - Began *NSTW Self-Exploration and Social Awareness Through the Arts* which is a 6-session series at ATHS
- **APPLIED TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL**
  - On June 14th, as a culminating project for the Arts & Expression elective taught by the wellness team, the class celebrated with an art gallery.
- **BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES**
  - Congratulations to the BCA FFA (Future Farmers of America) Team for their amazing performance at the State Agriscience Fair. The team took home an impressive sixteen gold

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awards and four bronze awards. Categories included Coral Restoration, Food Science, Veterinary Science and Agricultural Marketing. The 1st place winners will now compete at the FFA National Convention in Fall 2022.

- Here are the latest accomplishments from our fine BCA writers: One student was a Topical Winner in the latest round of the American High School Poets competition and two students competed in the National Council of English Teachers Writing competition. One student received a Certificate of Superior Writing, the organization's highest honor.
  
- **PARAMUS CAMPUS**
  - A BCTS Paramus Sophomore won the Bergen County Stigma-Free Sticker Contest for his original design. Run by the Bergen County Health Department, the student created stickers to support Mental Health Awareness Month.
  - A BCTS Senior completed all required course work and passed the final exam for the New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program (NJMEP) making him a top candidate for future opportunities in his field.
  
- **TETERBORO CAMPUS**
  - Bergen Tech students and faculty have spent the month of May and June partaking in multiple events that brought our school community together. In May, Cultural Day was celebrated on May 24th, followed by Cultural Night on May 27th. In June, the fashion students presented their 2022 fashion show, Glitz & Games, our talented students and faculty performed in Sounds for Hope, and the Law & Justice 9th and 10th graders held their annual debate.
  - On May 17th, 11th and 12th grade Aerospace students launched a high-altitude balloon at Lackawanna State Park in Pennsylvania.
  
- **ADULT EDUCATION**
  - Our trade programs for the daytime program are almost full for the classes starting in Fall of 2022. There is even a waitlist for our electrical program and few spots left for our HVAC and Plumbing course.
  - Adult Education and New Bridge Medical Center have teamed up to create internship and apprenticeship opportunities for our students and alumni within the plumbing and electrical fields.
  
- **INSTITUTE FOR INTERACTIVE DESIGN @ NORTHERN VALLEY – DEMAREST & OLD TAPPAN**
  - The 9th grade students are developing a marketing pitch presentation for the brand's mobile app design.
  - The 10th grade students are designing web-based applications using Augmented Reality on the iPads. We have held in class debate activities for Virtual Reality VS. Augmented Reality
  
- **EMS**
  - EMS conducted two EMS classes with the civilian staff of the United Nations
  - They taught a class via zoom with St. Georges University Medical School, Grenada
  
- **ATHLETICS**
  - Boys Tennis were NJSIAA N1 Group 4 Sectional Champions.
  
- **One-Stop Career Center/Job Center**
  - The BCJC has taken the lead in organizing all agencies which provide services to clients within the WFNJ Program.
  - The Township of Clifton recently hosted the Bergen County Mobile Job Center Experience, which is the fourth Mobile Job Center "Stop" since program inception in March.

- **BELA**
  - BELA is excited to see our students graduate to Kindergarten at our “Moving Up” celebration on June 9.

**BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS:**

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

Administration	22-A-128T	Through	22-A-144T
Personnel	22-P-153T	Through	22-P-175T
Finance	22-F-206T	Through	22-F-234T

**BOARD DISCUSSION - CONSENT AGENDA ONLY**

Mr. DeLisio reported that he will be abstaining from the following resolutions:

22-P-159T, 22-P-161T, 22-P-168T, 22-P-169T, 22-P-170T, 22-P-171T, 22-P-172T, 22-F-206T, 22-F-207T, 22-F-208T, 22-F-209T, 22-F-211T, 22-F-212T, 22-F-213T, 22-F-214T, 22-F-229T, 22-F-232T

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – CONSENT AGENDA ONLY**

There was no public participation on the consent agenda.

**BOARD VOTE - CONSENT AGENDA**

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

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mr. Connelly	X			
Mr. DeLisio	X		22-P-159T, 22-P-161T, 22-P-168T, 22-P-169T, 22-P-170T, 22-P-171T, 22-P-172T, 22-F-206T, 22-F-207T, 22-F-208T, 22-F-209T, 22-F-211T, 22-F-212T, 22-F-213T, 22-F-214T, 22-F-229T, 22-F-232T	
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 public discussion on any issue.

**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 5:54 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 8/30/22