

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

MINUTES

**Regular Public Meeting
September 27, 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 September 27, 2022 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, N.J. The public meeting was called to order at 5:30 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*

Dr. Lawrence Meyerson

Absent at roll call:

Ms. Ivonne Enrique

Mr. Jason Kim, *Vice President*

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 Curriculum and Instruction*

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. DeLisio, to approve the following minutes:

Public Work Session Meeting:	August 30, 2022
Regular/Public Meeting:	August 30, 2022
Executive Session:	August 30, 2022
Meeting to Conduct Board Member Training and Goal Setting for SY 22-23:	August 30, 2022

A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes:

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

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Board Secretary John Susino did not provide a report for the month of September.

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. There were no HIB incidents to report this month.

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

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

- **NAVIGATING SUCCESS THROUGH WELLNESS INITIATIVE**
 - Facilitated 9 groups for the summer program, including two sections of 4-part Freshmen Transition Groups, two sections of 4-part Executive Functioning Groups, music expression, journaling, etc.
 - Conducted individual summer counseling (6 sessions each) with approximately 15 students from all campuses

- **APPLIED TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL**
 - On September 6, 2022, 88 AHS freshmen attended the Rising Stars Retreat at YMCA Camp Bernie in Port Murray, NJ. The trip has become an integral part of the AHS experience. Through participating in team and community building activities such as hiking, high ropes challenge courses and candle making, the trip provides students with an opportunity to get to know their peers and teachers. Students go to the camp as strangers and return as friends.

- **BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES**
 - The Class of 2026 recently traveled to Club Getaway as part of their orientation to BCA. Many thanks the chaperones who remained flexible and provided our freshmen with a wonderful experience.
 - We recently reached out to congratulate BCA Alum Ryan Condal, for his success as co-creator of “House of the Dragon” (the prequel to Game of Thrones) Ryan replied “The

Academy fostered my inner nerd at a key time in life, and I don't know if I'd be here today if it wasn't for that place. I will always be grateful for it." We wish Ryan and all our alumni much success moving forward.

▪ **PARAMUS CAMPUS**

- Green building trades seniors have been working with Springboard from our sister-district BCSS, recently installing a deck and making plans to erect an interchangeable lunch menu display for students.

▪ **TETERBORO CAMPUS**

- The Bergen Tech campus congratulates 2 CollegeBoard National Merit Semi-Finalists and 18 CollegeBoard National African American Recognition Award (NAARA) and National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA) recipients.
- A 12th grade Law & Justice student earned the National Speech & Debate Association's Academic All-American Award. Fewer than 1% of students earn this award every year!

▪ **INSTITUTE FOR INTERACTIVE DESIGN @ NORTHERN VALLEY – DEMAREST & OLD TAPPAN**

- Freshman students from both the pilot year of the Sports Medicine and Interactive Design programs were able to share their experiences so far in their programs and seek mentorship from our 11th graders at the wellness luncheon in Old Tappan.
- Upper classmen at Demarest and Old Tappan have offered tutoring with Adobe programs and UX/UI to underclassmen during our club meetings to fulfill their volunteer hour requirements for National Honor Society.
- Sports Medicine students are enjoying their new classrooms at each school and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of more equipment in the coming weeks.

▪ **ADULT EDUCATION**

- The staff has begun preparation for the Council on Occupational Education (COE) visit as part of the reaccreditation process. The school will be hosting the COE team in June.

▪ **EMS**

- The Director and Assistant Director from Florida State EMS came for a visit and collaborate on many ideas regarding our EMT program.
- Our Summer class finished August 19, 2022, our Rescue program started 9/6 and our EMT class started on 9/7

▪ **ATHLETICS**

- Athletics opened up the 2022 Fall Season on 9/8 with wins by varsity- boys soccer, girls soccer, volleyball, tennis and football.

▪ **BERGEN COUNTY JOB CENTER**

- The Bergen County Mobile Job Center hosted a mini job fair & resource event on August 17, 2022 in Overpeck County Park which was a resounding success!
 - 215 candidates registered; 100 additional walk-ins to Employer Tables
 - 112 candidates attended Information Center; then registered for Civil Service
 - We are still working with the 10 employers for their results for those hired or currently in the interviewing phase

▪ **BELA**

- BELA welcomes new and returning students this year!

▪ **NOTIFICATION OF MANDATORY SCHOOL BUS EMERGENCY EVACUATION DRILLS**

- Pursuant to NJAC 6A:27-11.2, Superintendent Lerner informed the Board that the District completed the two mandatory school bus emergency evacuation drills, as required, for school year 2021-2022.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION:

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

Administration	23-A-30T	Through	23-A-41T
Personnel	23-P-20T	Through	23-P-30T
Finance	23-F-52T	Through	23-F-74T

BOARD DISCUSSION - CONSENT AGENDA ONLY

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

23-A-35T, 23-A-40T, 23-F-56T, 23-F-57T, 23-F-58T, 23-F-59T, 23-F-60T, 23-F-61T

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		23-A-35T, 23-A-40T, 23-F-56T, 23-F-57T, 23-F-58T, 23-F-59T, 23-F-60T, 23-F-61T	
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. DeLisio. All members present voted in the affirmative; none opposed. Mr. Connelly adjourned the meeting at 5:40 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 10/20/22