

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

MINUTES

**Regular Public Meeting
October 20, 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 Thursday October 20, 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*

Mr. Jason Kim, *Vice President*

Absent at roll call:

Ms. Ivonne Enrique

Dr. Lawrence Meyerson

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 Mr. DeLisio, seconded by Mr. Kim, to approve the following minutes:

Public Work Session Meeting:	September 27, 2022
Regular/Public Meeting:	September 27, 2022
Executive Session:	September 27, 2022

A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes:

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

BOARD SECRETARY/BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

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

Budget Calendar for School Year 2023-2024

In the coming weeks, the administration will begin the budget process for the next school year. This process begins in late October/early November with the business office providing principals and program managers with historical data on their budget lines. Principals and managers are given approximately 1 month to review, develop and present their proposed budgets, wish list items, projected enrollment figures, and other recommendations to the district's Assistant Superintendent, Ms. Sheridan, and to 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. I will present this draft budget to the board at its February meeting. The board will then have one month to review and comment on the budget with action to follow in March. At that time, the administration will submit the approved budget to the NJ Department of Education for its review and approval. Finally board members, we hope to present the approved budget to the board of school estimate in April of 2023.

Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Susino reminded the board that their scheduled meeting is Tuesday November 1st. This is the board's reorganization meeting and it will begin promptly at 5pm.

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 was one (1) Alleged-HIB incident reported since last month which, after investigation, was determined to be found as a non-HIB.

- HIB Incident: Alleged - HIB Case #1 – IIDT - School Year 2022-2023

❖ 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**

- Completed in-person "Wellness Meet & Greets" and wellness assessments on students who missed summer screenings; all four campuses and in person screenings in both NV schools were facilitated;
- Social workers collaborated with CST and BCSS behaviorist to create effective student and family intervention and support to address a complex and challenging set of circumstances negatively impacting the student; parents and student were involved in a series of virtual meetings and were able to resolve the problem with support and guidance from NSTW staff.
- **APPLIED TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL**
 - Applied Technology celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a visit from a Bergen County based Latin dance company. Students and staff had an opportunity to watch professional demonstrations of Salsa, and Merengue, and the dance company also provided lessons following each performance.
- **BERGEN COUNTY ACADEMIES**
 - The Bergen County Academies kicked off the school year with a school convocation. The assembly opened with a video and dance performance, new teachers were introduced, the Student Council President spoke to the students and the new school theme "Stronger Together" was introduced. Finally, a year in review highlight video was shown. Both Students and staff indicated they enjoyed the event.
 - Class of 2003 Alumni Justyn Davis returned to BCA to speak at the School Convocation Assembly and to present his Emmy award for a pre Super Bowl show. Justyn donated the award to the school in recognition of those who inspired him as well as to inspire future students to work hard. Justin chronicled his journey from learning video production at BCA, as well as filming the County Commissioners meetings, to his current work in cinematography. The Emmy for his work on will be on display in the BCA main lobby.
- **PARAMUS CAMPUS**
 - The BCTS Paramus Culinary students baked and donated over 300 cupcakes for the Walk for Women's Cancer event in support of the Lewin Fund. All cupcakes were topped with the Lewin Fund edible logo. This was part of the Paramus Campus ongoing CTE In-Service initiative presented at last month's meeting.
- **TETERBORO CAMPUS**
 - 3 Bergen Tech 11th graders were selected to serve on the Bergen County Junior Commission on the Status of Women. These students will spend the next year serving as a bridge between government and community, studying the needs of women and promoting the expansion of women's rights in areas such as domestic violence, child care, and elder care.
 - 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**
 - **UX/UI Design**
 - Students watched and discussed a series of award-winning animated shorts touching on anti-bullying topics for Week of Respect
 - Old Tappan and Demarest held their first UX/UI club meetings of the year this week where club officers were nominated
 - Old Tappan had an IIDT "Gaming" luncheon where students from all grade levels bonded over games and discussed the extracurriculars they have enjoyed so far with the wellness coordinator.
 - **Exercise Science/Sports Medicine**

- Old Tappan and Demarest Sports Medicine students watched a clip of a specific injury and discussed the type of injury which led to a discussion of the legal and ethical issues within sports medicine.
- Old Tappan and Demarest Sports Medicine students utilized the classroom skeleton and then themselves to identify the bones of the body.

- **ADULT EDUCATION**
 - Our daytime trade programs 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.

- **EMS**
 - During the month we continued our training for the civilian side of the United Nations
 - Our Rescue Instructors conducted a rappelling demonstration from the sixth floor of the new burn building at the Bergen County Law & public safety Institute.

- **ATHLETICS**
 - The Big North Liberty and Patriot Championships were held on 10/3 with the following results:
 - Varsity Boys- Number 1 Individual Finisher, Number 2 Team Finish
 - Varsity Girls- Number 3 Individual Finisher, Number 2 Team Finish

- **BERGEN COUNTY JOB CENTER**
 - The Bergen County Job Center hit 29 (almost 30) Individual Training Accounts for the month of September -- a big increase from the previous month!

- **BELA**
 - BELA's Pre-K class had the opportunity to go to BCA and be "Little Chefs" with Chartwells.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION:

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

Administration	23-A-42T	Through	23-A-52T
Personnel	23-P-31T	Through	23-P-40T
Finance	23-F-75T	Through	23-F-84T

BOARD DISCUSSION - CONSENT AGENDA ONLY

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

23-A-48T, 23-P-34T, 23-F-75T, 23-F-76T, 23-F-77T, 23-F-79T

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-48T, 23-P-34T, 23-F-75T, 23-F-76T, 23-F-77T, 23-F-79T	
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 Mr. Kim, seconded by Mr. DeLisio. All members present voted in the affirmative; none opposed. Mr. Connelly adjourned the meeting at 5:41 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 12/13/22