

**Board of Education of the Vocational Schools  
in the County of Bergen**

**Meeting to Conduct Board Member Training  
and Goal Setting**

**August 30, 2023  
Meeting Minutes**

The meeting of the Board of Education of the Vocational School District in the County of Bergen to conduct Board member training and goal setting for school year 2023-2024 was held in the Board conference room, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, New Jersey. Board President Mr. William Connelly called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present at Roll Call:**

Mr. Connelly, *President of the Board*

Mr. DeLisio, *Executive Bergen County Superintendent of Schools*

Mrs. Jacqueline Gadaleta

**Absent at Roll Call:**

Mr. Kim, *Vice President of the Board*

Dr. Meyerson, Ed.D.

**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 for Curriculum and Instruction*

Matthew Giacobbe, Esq., *Board Attorney*

- All those present pledged allegiance to the United States of America.
- Board Secretary John Susino read the following Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act 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 the notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on a bulletin board prominently displayed in the lobby of the Board offices and by the Record and Herald News.

- The following matters were discussed by the Board:
  - i. Assistant Superintendents Andrea Sheridan and Richard Panicucci provided the Board with an overview of the district's new mission statement.
  - ii. Board Attorney Matthew Giacobbe, Esq., reviewed with the Board the requirements of the NJ School Ethics Act, C.178, P.L. 2001. Mr. Giacobbe presented scenarios

which may present ethical challenges to any board of education. The Code of Ethics for school board members was reviewed by the Board.

iii. Board Secretary John Susino reviewed the Board's self-evaluation for the prior year. All board members concluded that board is functioning at a high level and in accordance with its by-laws and governing statutes.

iv. Establishment of District Goals

1. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Howard Lerner presented the Board with draft district goals for school year 2023-2024. Upon examination, the Board determined to approve the draft goals at an upcoming board of education meeting.

v. Establishment of Board Goals

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vi. Open Discussion/Program Review

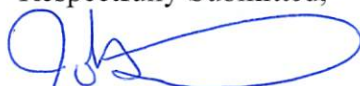
Board Member Gadaleta inquired about the district's procedures regarding harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB). Dr. Lerner and Assistant Superintendent Sheridan outlined the processes in place when HIB complaints are made. They also outlined the proactive programs the district has in place, such as the programs offered by the district's Wellness program.

- The Board opened the meeting to the public for comment on any issue.

There was no public comment on any issue.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs. Gadaleta, seconded by Mr. DeLisio. All members present voted in the affirmative; none opposed. Mr. Connelly adjourned the meeting at 6:24 p.m. No further action was taken by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,



John Susino  
Board Secretary

The minutes were approved by the Board of Education at a meeting dated 9-26-23.