



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

Based on the recent attention with COVID-19, also known as Coronavirus, and the potential impact on our community, the Verona Public Schools will be conducting the Verona Board of Education meeting remotely via Zoom webinar. This meeting is scheduled to occur with public access and participation availability to ensure the continued regular operation of government and the health, safety, and well-being of our community members. **The next meeting of the Verona Board of Education will be held via zoom webinar. The public shall utilize the following instructions to call into the meeting:**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/94575749740>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13126266799,,94575749740# or +16465189805,,94575749740#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 646 518 9805 or +1 213 338 8477

Webinar ID: 945 7574 9740

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/aqZpou1D2>

- Anyone from the public wishing to address the Verona Board of Education on any matter, when prompted by the Verona Board of Education will be able to raise their hand using the Raise Hand button on their device or dial *9 if you called in (please [click here](#) to determine how to raise your hand using your device). When you are advised it is your turn to address the Verona Board of Education, please state your name and address for the record. You will have time to address the Verona Board of Education. At the conclusion of your comments the Verona Board of Education and/or the Superintendent of Schools may address your comments and/or questions.
- Please make sure you have the current version of Zoom updated on your device in order to have the capability to use the Raise Hand function to make public comments or ask questions.

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs recently stated that “the Division of Local Government Services reminds local units that, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et seq., (the “Open Public Meetings Act,” or “Act”), public meetings may be held in person or by means of communication equipment, N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b), to include streaming services and other online meeting platforms. All meetings, including those held using communications equipment, must be noticed in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Act, unless the meeting is for emergent circumstances and held in a manner consistent with the requirements set forth at N.J.S.A. 10:4-9(b). Local units should also provide guidance to the public for remotely accessing and providing comment at a meeting. Local units should still have an advertised meeting place, which is connected to the meeting through communications equipment, unless otherwise directed by state or local emergency management or health officials, consistent with Executive Order 103 (Murphy 3/9/2020).”

PUBLIC MEETING

January 5, 2021

The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey, convened in regular session on January 5, 2021 via ZOOM webinar at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ernest Turner. A statement was made that the meeting had been

properly advertised in the designated newspapers and the agendas were posted at the appropriate locations.

The following members of the Board were present: Mrs. Lisa Freschi, President, Vice President, Mr. Jim Day, Mr. Timothy Alworth, Mrs. Pamela Priscoe and Mrs. Sara Drappi. Also present was Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent and Mr. Ernest Turner, Acting Board Secretary.

There were 98 members of the public present. There was 1 member of the press present.



BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AGENDA

January 5, 2021

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA – 7:00 pm

VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

VIA ZOOM WEBINAR

1. Election Results
Lisa Freschi - 5,500
Write in - 565
2. Swearing in of Board Members
3. Call to order
4. Pledge of Allegiance
5. Reading of Meeting Notice
6. Roll Call Attendance
7. Superintendent Report - Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent of Schools
8. Presentations - VHS School Reopening Plan Update
HBW School Reopening Plan Update
9. Committee Reports - None to be reported at this time
10. Public Comments on Agenda Action Items to be Approved
11. Discussion Items
12. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions
13. Public Comments

NOTE: The next scheduled Public Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, January 26, 2021** beginning with a Confidential Session at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm Public Session **via ZOOM webinar** pending the evolving nature of COVID-19.

1. Election Results

2. Swearing in of Board Members

The Board Secretary asked for Nominations for President.

Lisa Freschi was nominated by Mr. Day

Seconded by: Mrs. Drappi

All in Favor: AYE

All Opposed: N/A

Mrs. Freschi assumed the position of President of the Board of Education and asked for nominations for Vice President.

Mr. Day nominated Mrs. Drappi

Seconded by: Mr. Alwroth

All in Favor: AYE

All Opposed: N/A

3. Call to Order

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Reading of Meeting Notice

This meeting is being conducted in compliance with the open meeting session that the Verona Board of Education passed a resolution at its annual reorganization meeting held on January 5, 2021. The meeting set forth the schedule of its regular meetings which resolution was within 7 days of passage. The schedule was sent to the Verona Cedar Grove Times, the Star Ledger, the Township of Verona and the VEA. Postings of this meeting setting forth the time location and agenda were posted at the Verona Board of Education Office and on the Verona Public Schools district website. The Verona Board of Education operates under a consent agenda format, any board member has the right to have an item pulled to be voted upon or discussed separately. Copies of tonight's agenda and resolutions have been made available to the public and press.

6. Roll Call Attendance

Mr. Alworth X

Mr. Day X

Mrs. Drappi X

Mrs. Freschi X

Mrs. Priscoe X

Motion by: Mr. Day

Seconded by: Mrs. Drappi

- 7. Superintendent's Report** - Good evening everyone, happy new year, and welcome back from what I hope was a well deserved and restful holiday and December break. I would like to start off by offering my congratulations to Mrs. Freschi on being voted to another term as a Board of Education member. Also, congrats to Mrs. Freschi and Mrs. Drappi who will serve as President and Vice-President, respectively. I will keep my Superintendent Report brief and concede my time this evening as we have two presentations this evening to provide updates on the high school and middle school hybrid schedules. Mr. Cogdill, VHS Principal, will present along with Mr. Lancaster and Mrs. Gadaleta the revisions to the high school reopening committee. The update from the HBW committee will be presented by building principals Mr. Galbierczyk and Mrs. McNeal. Following each presentation, the Board and public will have an opportunity to ask questions. Without any further ado, I will turn it over to Mr. Cogdill, Mr. Lancaster & Mrs. Gadaleta who will present the updates to the Verona High School schedule.

8. Presentations - VHS School Reopening Plan Update

HBW School Reopening Plan Update

9. Committee Reports - none to be reported at this time

10. Public Comments on Agenda Action Items to be Approved - None

11. Discussion Items

12. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions

13. Public Comments - **Regina French - 44 Brookside Terr.** - How were committee members selected?

Mr. Cogdill responded. Mrs. French would have liked a larger sample size.

Robert Rowbotham - 260 Grove Ave. - are the Special Education students having their in-school time lowered? **Mr. Galbierczyk** responded yes. **Mr.**

Mauriello further explained.

Carine Zemokhol - 88 Fairview Ave. - Questioned in-school time for Special Education students. **Mr. Galbierczyk** responded.

Lynn Halsey - 53 Linden Ave. - Any discussions with Montclair Health Dept. on vaccinations? **Dr. Dionisio** - had meeting with County Superintendents on distribution of vaccinations.

Jackie Fricke - 65 Grove Ave. - Thanked teachers. What are the criteria to move to stage 4? **Dr. Dionisio** - all aspects of pandemic must be taken into consideration.

Mike Dupree - 47 Cypress Ave. - thanked for the updates on the High School and HBW, FNB closure in December. 2 known cases of the virus. Why was the entire school closed? **Dr. Dionisio** - every situation is examined individually along with guidance from the Health Department.

Chris Pasqualichio - 275 Linden Ave. - Parents were notified after 6:00 pm on a Sunday night that school was closed. Needs to be sooner for parents to make accommodations. **Lisa Freschi** - commented that that was the earliest time to make that call under the circumstances.

Motion by: Mr. Day

Seconded by: Mrs. Priscoe

Be it RESOLVED the approval of Resolutions #1 - 10.

Mr. Alworth X

Mr. Day X

Mrs. Drappi X

Mrs. Freschi X

Mrs. Priscoe X

VERONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTIONS
REORGANIZATION MEETING
January 8, 2021

The following resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent to the Board of Education.

#1 RESOLVED that the Board approve the minutes of the following meeting:

Confidential & Regular Public Meeting December 22, 2020

BOARD RENEWAL RESOLUTIONS

#2 RESOLVED that the Verona Board of Education approve the establishment of the following Board of Education Committees. Appointments to the Committees will be made by the Board President:

Athletics & Co-Curricular - Timothy Alworth/Pamela Priscoe

Education - Timothy Alworth/Sara Drappi

Facilities - Jim Day/Pamela Priscoe

Community Resources - Jim Day/Lisa Freschi

Finance - Sara Drappi/Lisa Freschi

PERSONNEL

#3 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following pending pre-employment paperwork:

3.1 New Hires

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about
Shauna Lodato	District	Sub Secretary	\$90 per diem	Education	SY 20-21
Kimberly Rothenberger	HBW	Maternity Leave Replacement	\$250/per diem	Education	Jan. 4 - Jan. 15, 2021
Rhander Kramer	FOR	Sub Teacher	\$90/per diem	Education	SY 20-21

3.2 Leave of Absence

Name	Reason	Begin Date	Estimated Return Date on or about
#105337	Child Care EFMLEA	Dec. 14, 2020	Jan. 4, 2021
#102721	FFCRA Leave	Dec. 11, 2020	Jan. 4, 2021
#102814	Maternity Leave of Absence	Feb. 26, 2021	Jan. 1, 2022
#105470	Unpaid Leave of Absence	Jan. 19, 2021	Mar. 3, 2021

3.3 Extra Class

Name	Location	Course	Amount	Term of Employment on or about
Angela Salisbury	VHS	Work-Based Learning - Capstone Senior Internship	\$8,911.30	Feb. 8 - Jun. 25, 2021
Raquel Grasso	HBW	Special Education Leave Replacement Teacher	\$4,499.43	Jan. 19 - May 14, 2021

3.4 Permanent Substitutes

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about
Luisa Hirsch	FNB	Permanent Sub Teacher	\$120/per diem	Education	SY 20-21

- #4 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve **Raquel Grasso** to work on a self-contained program combination plan over winter break not to exceed 10 hours at the hourly rate of \$40.39 or total amount of \$403.90.

EDUCATION

- #5 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached Statistical report for the month of November 2020.
- #6 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached Board of Education meeting dates for January 2021 – January 2022.

#7 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following:

7.1 Professional Development Planning

Presenter	School	Date	Hrs./Stipend	Total
Jennifer Kleinknecht	HBW	Sept.10, 2020	3 hrs./\$60/per hr.	\$180.00

SPECIAL EDUCATION

#8 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following for the 2020-2021 school year:

8.1 Home Instructors

Name
Eric McElroy
Steven Munoz
Albert Palazzo

8.2 Student Home Instruction

Student #	School	Grade	Hrs./Week/Duration	Beginning on or about
#271711	HBW	6	10 hrs.per wk./5 wks.	Dec. 14, 2020
#222581	VHS	10	10 hrs.per wk./5 wks.	Dec. 14, 2020
#271649	HBW	5	10 hrs.per wk./10 wks.	Dec. 21, 2020

CO-CURRICULAR

#9 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following:

9.1 Extra Curricular

Advisor	Club Name	Location	Stipend	Term of Employment
MaryAnn Halbert	Dream Team	HBW	\$1,500.00	SY 20-21
Meredith Bielen	Dream Team	HBW	\$1,500.00	SY 20-21
Melissa Hanulak	Kind Club	HBW	\$1,167.00	SY 20-21

FINANCE

- #10 RESOLVED** that the Board approve the enclosed checklist(s) in the following amounts:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Check Register Date</u>
\$3,077,118.36	Vendor Checks	December 30, 2020

#13 Public comments

CONFIDENTIAL SESSION IF NECESSARY

RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN

- #10 RESOLVED** that the Board meet in private session, from which the public shall be excluded, to discuss the topics of negotiations and personnel or potential litigation which private discussion is being held pursuant to Section 7b and 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act. The matters under discussion will be disclosed to the public as soon as final decisions are made and voted upon.

Motion by: Mrs. Drappi

Seconded by: Mrs. Priscoe

Mr. Alworth X

Mr. Day X

Mrs. Drappi X

Mrs. Freschi X

Mrs. Priscoe X

All in Favor: AYE

All Opposed: N/A

This meeting is adjourned at (TIME) 9:14 P.M.

NOTE: The next scheduled Public Meeting will be held on Tuesday, **January 26, 2021** beginning with a Confidential Session at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm Public Session **via ZOOM webinar** pending the evolving nature of COVID-19.

VERONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION
ADDENDUM RESOLUTIONS
January 5, 2021

The following resolutions have been recommended by the Superintendent to the Board of Education.

Motion by: Mr. Day

Seconded by: Mrs. Drappi

Be it RESOLVED the approval of Addenda Resolution #1 - 4.

Mr. Alworth X Mr. Day X

Mrs. Drappi X Mrs. Freschi X

Mrs. Priscoe X

PERSONNEL

#1 RESOLVED that the Board approve the following:

1.1 Permanent Substitute

Name	Location	Position	Salary	Committee	Term of Employment on or about
Louella Selby	VHS	Permanent Sub Teacher	\$120/per diem	Education	SY 20-21

1.2 Leave of Absence

Name	Reason	Begin Date	Estimated Return Date on or about
#105382	Unpaid Leave of Absence	Jan. 4, 2021	Sept. 1, 2021

1.3 Resignation

Name	Location	Position	Reason	Effective on or About
Paula Petrucelli	FNB	Paraprofessional	Resignation	January 15, 2021

#2 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following for the 2020-2021 school year:

2.1 Coaches

Name	Location	Position	Stipend
Eric McElroy	VHS	Head Boys Basketball	\$10,920.00
Greg Davidson	VHS	JV Boys Basketball	\$6,866.00
Mark Rossi	VHS	Freshmen Boys Basketball	\$5,182.00
Jessica DelVecchio	VHS	Head Girls Basketball	\$10,920
Al Palazzo	VHS	JV Girls Basketball	\$6,866
Angela Appolito	VHS	Varsity Cheerleading	\$4,899
Jake Farrell	VHS	Volunteer Boys Basketball	NA
Rachel Horowitz	VHS	Volunteer Girls Basketball	NA

SPECIAL EDUCATION

#3 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve **Marla Burns** to work on IEP writing and case management at the hourly rate of \$69.21 for 4.5 hours.

#4 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve to contract Innovative Therapy Group as a vendor for paraprofessional services during the 2020-2021 school year.