

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**May 25, 2021**

**The Verona Board of Education of the Township of Verona, in the County of Essex, New Jersey,**

**convened in regular session on May 25, 2021 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. Timothy Alworth, Mrs. Pamela Priscoe and Mrs. Sara Drappi, Mr. Day was absent. Also present was Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent and Mr. Ernest Turner, Acting Board Secretary.**

**There were 0 members of the public present. There were 0 members of the press present.**

**Public Comment on Agenda Items - None**

**Presentation - None**

**Superintendent Report -**

Good evening everyone. I have a few updates this evening for the Superintendent's Report. National Honor Society Junior Inductions were held this evening at 6:00 pm on Sellitto Field. Congratulations to all of our juniors inductees.

The elementary spring band concerts for all four elementary schools have been rescheduled from tomorrow to Thursday, May 27th @ Laning 2:00 pm due to anticipated rain.

**End of Year Events**-VHS Graduation, 8th Grade Promotion Ceremony & 4th Grade Farewells are scheduled as in-person events. Building principals and administration are coordinating the logistics for these in-person celebrations and will continue to communicate more details as the in-person limitations have evolved and public health guidance changes. Minimum masking and social distancing standards for outdoor extracurricular activities and outdoor events on school property (including [outdoor graduation ceremonies and other end of year school events held outdoors](#)) are governed by [Paragraph 1 of Executive Order No. 241](#). We will continue to monitor the guidance and

attendance limits closely as they may continue to be expanded in the coming weeks that would apply to graduation and other end of school year activities.

**Masks in School**-Mask wearing in school remains a requirement. The CDC recently updated their guidance regarding mask wearing for people who are fully vaccinated. However, this does not apply to schools at this time as per the NJDOH.

**Referendum**-The school referendum construction project update can be viewed at the following [link](#). The HVAC project is in process and substantial completion is planned for August 2021.

That concludes the Superintendent Report for this evening.

**Committees** -

- Finance

**Discussion Items** -



CONFIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 5:30 pm

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA – 7:00 pm

May 25, 2021

CONFIDENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION – 5:30 pm

REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AGENDA – 7:00 pm

VERONA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

May 25, 2021

1. Call to order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Reading of Meeting Notice
4. Roll Call Attendance
5. Presentations - None
6. Superintendent Report - Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent of Schools
7. Committee Reports
  - Finance
8. Public Comments on Agenda Action Items to be Approved
9. Discussion Items
10. Roll Call Vote on Resolutions
11. Public Comments

NOTE: The next scheduled Public Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 8, 2021** beginning with a Confidential Session at 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm Public Session in the Verona High School Auditorium.

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **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.

4. **Roll Call Attendance**

Mr. Alworth	<u>  X  </u>	Mr. Day	<u>  Absent  </u>
Mrs. Drappi	<u>  X  </u>	Mrs. Freschi	<u>  X  </u>
		Mrs. Priscoe	<u>      </u>

5. **Presentations - None**
6. **Superintendent Report - Dr. Rui Dionisio, Superintendent of Schools**
7. **Committee Reports**
  - Finance - Sara Drappi reported
8. **Public Comments on Agenda Action Items to be Approved - None**
9. **Discussion Items**
10. **Roll Call Vote on Resolutions**
11. **Public Comments - None**

Motion by:   Mrs. Drappi    
Seconded by:   Mrs. Priscoe  

**Be it RESOLVED the approval of Resolutions #1 - 13.**

Mr. Alworth	<u>  X  </u>	Mr. Day	<u>  Absent  </u>
Mrs. Drappi	<u>  X  </u>	Mrs. Freschi	<u>  X  </u>
		Mrs. Priscoe	<u>  X  </u>

**VERONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**RESOLUTIONS**  
**May 25, 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 meetings:

Confidential & Regular Public Meeting May 11, 2021

**PERSONNEL**

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

**2.1 New Hire**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Term of Employment on or about</b>
<b>William Neal</b>	VHS	Night Custodian	Step 6/ \$47,222 VHS Custodian \$911 Night Differential \$2,909	Facilities	Jul. 1, 2021 - Jun. 30, 2022
<b>Timothy Adase</b>	VHS	Chemistry Teacher	MA30/Step 15/ \$88,078	Education	Sept. 1, 2021 - Jun. 30, 2022

**2.2 Resignations**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Effective on or About</b>
<b>Deborah Skowronski</b>	FNB	Paraprofessional	Resignation	May 26, 2021
<b>Marjorie Linda Constantino</b>	VHS	Biology and Environmental Science Teacher	Resignation	Jun. 30, 2021
<b>Jonathan Salcedo</b>	District	Network Technician	Resignation	Jun. 14, 2021

### 2.3 Leave of Absence

Name	Reason	Begin Date	Estimated Return Date on or about
#100732	504 Accommodation	May 24, 2021	Sept. 1, 2021
#105493	NJFMLA	May 20, 2021	Sept. 1, 2021
#102793	NJFMLA	May 21, 2021	Sept. 1, 2021

### 2.4 Extra Class

Name	Location	Course	Amount	Term of Employment on or about
Jennifer Kleinknecht	HBW	Language Arts	\$1374.68	Jun. 9 - Jun. 25, 2021
Julia Albretsen	HBW	Language Arts	\$743.60	Jun. 9 - Jun. 25, 2021
Megan Spinelli	HBW	Language Arts	\$736.37	Jun. 9 - Jun. 25, 2021
Jacqueline Miskinis	HBW	Language Arts	\$1,184.76	Jun. 9 - Jun. 25, 2021

### 2.5 Summer Hours

Name	School	Days/Hours of Work	Rate	Position
Erica Tavaglione	VHS	10 days	\$2,960.15	School Counselor
Rachel Garcia	VHS	10 days	\$3,489.50	School Counselor
Bryan Goldsman	VHS	10 days	\$3,388.60	School Counselor
Harriette Warshaw	HBW	5 days	\$2,636.10	School Counselor
Lynn Schussel	HBW	5 days	\$1,678.15	School Counselor
Emerida Radek	District	not to exceed 20 days	\$207.03/per diem	Admin. Asst.

## EDUCATION

- #3 **RESOLVED** that the Board approves the Superintendent's presentation of HIB report as follows:

HIB Case
HBW-CH-221049

- #4 **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the attached job description for the Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

**#5 RESOLVED** that the Board approve the second reading of the following policies:

P 3421.13 - Postnatal Accommodations  
P 4421.13 - Postnatal Accommodations

**#6 RESOLVED** that the Board approve a doctoral student from Centenary University, conducting research for her dissertation that focuses on the implementation of standards based report cards and their effect on teachers' perception of student achievement and their instructional practices.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

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

#### **7.1 Student Home Instruction**

Student #	School	Grade	Hrs./Week/Duration	Beginning on or about
#332740	Forest	K	total of 20 hours	May 17, 2021

#### **7.2 Special Education Summer School**

Name	Position	Stipend	Committee	Term of Employment
Blanca Ortiz	ESY LSS Teacher	\$3,657.00	Education	Jun. 29 - July 27, 2021
Sharon Worth	ESY Occupational Therapist	\$2,600	Education	Jun. 29 - July 27, 2021

**#8 RESOLVED** that the Board contract with Saint Clare's Behavioral Health to provide crisis intervention and back-to-school assessments for the Verona School District for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

### **ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR**

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

Name	Location	Position	Stipend
Gina Condorelli	VHS	Spring Strength and Conditioning Coach	\$3,417

## **FINANCE**

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

<b><u>Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>	<b><u>Check Register Date</u></b>
\$528,548.47	Referendum Checks	May 21, 2021
\$3,474,532.32	Vendor Checks	May 21, 2021

- #11 RESOLVED** that the Board approve a contract with AmeriHealth Trust be renewed for the July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 medical, prescription and vision plans with a rate increase of 2%.
- #12 RESOLVED** that the Board approve a contract with Delta Dental be renewed for a two-year period July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2023 with an increase of 1.5% for year one and a 0% increase for year two.

## **REFERENDUM**

- #11 Public comments**

## **CONFIDENTIAL SESSION IF NECESSARY**

## **RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN**

- #13 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.



**VERONA PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**ADDENDUM RESOLUTIONS**  
**May 25, 2021**

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

**Motion by:** Mr. Alworth

**Seconded by:** Mrs. Drappi

**Be it RESOLVED the approval of Addenda Resolutions #1 - 5.**

Mr. Alworth   X  

Mr. Day   Absent  

Mrs. Drappi   X  

Mrs. Freschi   X  

Mrs. Priscoe   X  

**PERSONNEL**

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

**1.1 New Hires**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Salary</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Term of Employment on or about</b>
<b>Jason Munsch</b>	VHS	Biology Teacher and Environmental Science	MA/Step 14/ \$76,876	Education	Sept. 1, 2021 - Jun. 30, 2022

**1.2 Leave of Absence**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Reason</b>	<b>Begin Date</b>	<b>Estimated Return Date on or about</b>
<b>#100647</b>	Unpaid Leave of Absence	Sept. 1, 2021	Jan. 3, 2022

## **EDUCATION**

- #2     **RESOLVED** that the Board approve Concert Audio and Production Rentals LLC to provide audio services for the 2021 Fourth Grade Farewell at Brookdale Avenue, F. N. Brown, Forest and Laning Avenue Schools promotion ceremony at Verona High School with an estimated cost of \$3,388.75.

- #3     **RESOLVED** that the Board approved the following:

### **3.1 Video/Film Adoption**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Course</b>	<b>Grade</b>
War Games	VHS	Math/CompSci	9,10,11,12
Milk	VHS	US II	11
13th	VHS	US I	10
The Pianist	VHS	Modern World History/Holocaust and Genocide	9,10,11,12
War Horse	VHS	Modern World History	9
Restrepo	VHS	AP US History	11
Three Kings	VHS	AP US History	11
Charlie Wilson's War	VHS	AP US History	11

### **3.2 V-SEA**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Stipend</b>
Tricia Davis	V-SEA Teacher	\$2,743

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

- #4     **RESOLVED** that the Board approve the following:

### **4.1 Student Home Instruction**

<b>Student #</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Hrs./Week/Duration</b>	<b>Beginning on or about</b>
#251096	HBW	8	10 hrs. per week/4-6 weeks	May 21, 2021

**ATHLETICS**

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

**5.1 Coaches**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Stipend</b>
<b>Samuel Coe</b>	VHS	Assistant Varsity/JV Lacrosse Coach	\$4,101

**CONFIDENTIAL SESSION IF NECESSARY - 7:22 pm**

To discuss matters of negotiations

**Motioned by:** Mr. Alworth

**Seconded by:** Mrs. Priscoe

**All in Favor:** AYE

**All Opposed:** None

Mr. Day - Absent

Adjourned out of closed session 8:00 pm

**Motioned by:** Mr. Alworth

**Seconded by:** Mrs. Drappi

Adjourned meeting 8:01 pm

**Motioned by:** Mr. Alworth

**Seconded by:** Mrs. Priscoe

**All in Favor:** AYE

**All Opposed:** None