

**Special Session Minutes
March 31, 2010**

A Special Session Meeting of the Ventnor Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 pm in the Auditorium of the Ventnor Educational Community Complex by Board President Dave Laveson. Public notice of this meeting was given to all Board Members in a notice dated March 27, 2010. It was also sent to the Press and posted in public places in compliance with the Sunshine Act.

Roll call by Business Administrator/Board Secretary Cohen indicated Board Members present as: Mr. Biagi, Mrs. Callahan, Mr. Gabriel, Mrs. Martinelli and Mr. Laveson. Also present were Superintendent Bonanni, Supervisor Salomon-Lowden, Principal Johnson and Principal Baker. Board Vice-President member Mr. Pacentrilli was absent.

II. Board President Mr. Laveson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board President Mr. Laveson commented that the Board members together with the Budget Committee and administrators reconvened to present the 2010-2011 adjusted Budget for approval before the Board of School Estimates Meeting on April 1, 2010.

Board President Mr. Laveson asked Superintendent Bonanni to present the proposed changes to the 2010-2011 Budget.

III. PRESENTATION OF ADJUSTED BUDGET:

Superintendent Bonanni stated that he would like acknowledge and thank School Business Administrator Jann Cohen for the hard work and dedication that went into preparing the 2010-2011 Budget. Superintendent Bonanni also thanked the administration for their assistance and cooperation with all the modifications necessary to craft this Budget.

Superintendent Bonanni explained that there were other revenues that could be utilized: bus sales, cafeteria and miscellaneous funds which were brought into the Budget. The cuts which have been brought back into the Budget are: the Middle School Industrial Arts Program as Full-Time, one Basic Skills Teacher as Full-Time, the Media Aide as a Part-Time position. Sports that were placed back in the Budget were Soccer and Field Hockey as Intramural Sports. The non-instructional aide Martha Sposaro will remain as Full-Time with different hours. Summer Band was also placed back in the Budget. The other positions that have not changed and remain the same are Middle School Art, Nurse, Speech will all be part-time next year. Five Kindergarten Aides were cut and one part-time Basic Skills teacher was cut. All bus drivers will be eliminated if privatization occurs. One Grade 4 teacher and one Special Ed teacher were cut. Also, one part-time Pre-K teacher would have been hired but was cut from Budget. The final 2010-2011 Budget was brought down 2.44 cents for tax payers to be approved at the Board of School Estimates. Superintendent Bonanni again thanked the Board, Administration and Jann Cohen for their hard work.

Board President Dave Laveson opened the floor for Public Session.

IV. PUBLIC SESSION

Crystal Poser spoke regarding the Summer School Program that the school is required by law to provide. She was concerned about the children who are maintaining “D” averages and who the school is not required by law to provide the Summer School Program.

Superintendent Bonanni responded that they are looking into a credit completion course for students who need it as well as a tutorial program for the Elementary level which would run for about two weeks on a 3 hour basis. Superintendent Bonanni stated that there are opportunities other than the mandated programs.

Board President Mr. Laveson added that whatever number is decided on that the work on the Budget is not done. He stated that the Board requires and demands that the administration constantly look at what is being spent. He also stated that if there is an opportunity to bring back programs for the students, it will be done. This means that the Budget is a 12 month project, whether programs are added or cut.

Dale Schober, a 6th grade student is happy that the Industrial Arts Program is back in and he thanked the Board.

Mrs. Anmuth thanked the Board and administration for their creative work in revising the Budget. She asked whether the School Play would be placed back in. Superintendent Bonanni replied they were looking into charging admission for the event. Another avenue would be the Play Book to raise money. He stated that they are looking to keep the School Play through fund raising.

Former teacher Rita Ritzel spoke on behalf of the Industrial Arts Program and Bob Braverman. She stated that Mr. Braverman and her shared a classroom in which she got to see the work done and if the program would have been cut, it would have been a travesty.

VCEA President and teacher Sonya Bertini thanked Superintendent Bonanni, School Business Cohen for the time and dedication of the Budget. She also thanked the Board for the time volunteered, their work and their concern and a special thanks to her colleagues for their dedication.

Olivia Dellston thanked the Board for keeping the Industrial Arts Program and considering keeping the School Play.

Lucy Morgano, President of VSSA stated that she wanted to thank Jann Cohen, Carmine Bonanni and the Board for the Budget. She also stated that she would like to thank our Transportation Department. She stated that the VSSA is really sad that the bus drivers are leaving us and that their years of service should be acknowledged. At this time all rose to acknowledge the bus drivers.

Board President Dave Laveson asked whether there were anymore comments from the public. No comments at this time.

Public Session Closed

Board President Dave Laveson asked Superintendent Bonanni if he had anymore comments. Superintendent Bonanni stated that the bus drivers were outstanding in their service.

- 1. Motion by Glick, seconded by Laveson, affirmed by a roll call vote of Biagi, Callahan, Gabriel, Glick, Morgan and Laveson with Callahan voting no to approve the 2010-2011 School Budget:**

BE IT RESOLVED to approve the 2010-2011 school district budget of the Ventnor School District for submission to the Board of School Estimate as follows:

General Fund	\$19,967,268
Special Revenue Fund	<u>\$ 1,235,561</u>
Total Base Budget	<u>\$21,202,829</u>

Tax Levy

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED to acknowledge that the 2010-2011 budget described above results in a general fund tax levy of \$17,142,480.

Travel Limits

Whereas, school district policy 9250 and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2(b) provides that the board of education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for the 2010-2011 school year.

Now Therefore BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ventnor Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2010-2011 school year at the Sum of \$50,000,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

VI. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

Item was not discussed. HVAC.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Biagi, seconded by Gabriel affirmed by Biagi, Callahan, Gabriel, Martinelli and Laveson to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 P.M.

Jann L. Cohen
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator