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BERGEN COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY
WORK SESSION
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016
COMMENCING AT 4:36 P.M.

FREEHOLDERS PRESENT:

- STEVEN A. TANELLI, CHAIRMAN
- TRACY S. ZUR, VICE CHAIRWOMAN
- JOHN A. FELICE, CHAIRMAN PRO TEMPORE
- DAVID L. GANZ
- DR. JOAN M. VOSS
- MAURA R. DeNICOLA
- THOMAS J. SULLIVAN

FREEHOLDERS ABSENT:

NONE

KIM O. FURBACHER, C.C.R., R.M.R.
P.O. BOX 213
ROCHELLE PARK, NEW JERSEY 07662-0213
201-226-9218

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ALSO PRESENT:

LISA SCIANCALEPORE
CLERK TO THE BOARD

DR. DOMINIC J. NOVELLI
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

PAUL SAMOUILIDIS, ESQ.
COUNSEL TO THE BOARD

JARED LAUTZ
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & POLICY

JOHN DANUBIO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & POLICY
and DIRECTOR OF POLICY RESEARCH

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I N D E X

PAGE NO.

4:38 PM REVIEW OF RESOLUTION #158-16 6

4:38 PM UPDATE ON CURRENT TOPICS 6

Dr. Howard Lerner, Superintendent
Special Services/Technical Schools

John Susino, Business Administrator
Special Services/Technical Schools

James J. Tedesco, III
County Executive

4:56 PM PUBLIC COMMENT 20

(No public wishing to comment)

1 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: The meeting is
2 called to order.

3 Before I begin our meeting, I ask
4 everyone to please take a minute to silence their
5 phones.

6 Thank you.

7 Will the Clerk please read the Sen.
8 Byron Baer Open Public Meetings Act.

9 MS. SCIANCALEPORE: In accordance with
10 Section 5 of the Sen. Byron Baer Open Public Meetings
11 Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been
12 provided in the Annual Notice Schedule, which
13 contained the time, date, and location of this
14 meeting, copies of which Notices were forwarded to
15 the official County newspapers, to wit: The Herald
16 News; The Record; and the Star Ledger, and a copy of
17 which was posted on the bulletin board in the Bergen
18 County Justice Center and Administration Building,
19 One Bergen County Plaza, Hackensack, New Jersey, and
20 filed with the Office of the Bergen County Clerk.

21 ROLL CALL:

22 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Will the Clerk
23 please call the roll.

24 (At this point in the proceeding roll
25 call is taken with Freeholders DeNicola, Felice,

1 Ganz, Sullivan, Voss, Vice-Chairwoman Zur, and
2 Chairman Tanelli present.)

3 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

4 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Will you all please
5 rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

6 Freeholder Sullivan, will you lead us,
7 please.

8 FREEHOLDER SULLIVAN: Yes, sir.

9 (At this point in the proceeding all
10 rise for a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance,
11 led by Freeholder Sullivan.)

12 MOMENT OF SILENCE:

13 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Please remain
14 standing. I please ask everyone to remain standing
15 to observe a Moment of Silence.

16 The Board of Chosen Freeholders offers
17 its condolences to Freeholder Tom Sullivan on the
18 passing of his aunt, Ruth Newball. Our thoughts and
19 prayers are given to the entire Newball and Sullivan
20 families.

21 (Whereupon a Moment of Silence is
22 observed.)

23 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Thank you.

24 Before we start, I'd like to welcome
25 everybody. I think this is the first anything we've

1 done with an entire, full board.

2 FREEHOLDER FELICE: And it's May.

3 (Laughter.)

4 4:38 PM REVIEW OF RESOLUTION #158-16:

5 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: We will now review
6 the resolution to be voted on tonight.

7 Will the Clerk please read the title of
8 Resolution #158-16.

9 MS. SCIANCALEPORE: Resolution #158-16
10 is a "Resolution Recognizing February 2016 as 'Career
11 and Technical Education' Month."

12 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: CTE.

13 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Thank you.

14 If everybody is okay, I'd like to just
15 sponsor this as a Body of the Whole.

16 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Yes.

17 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: Please.

18 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ZUR: Please.

19 MS. SCIANCALEPORE: Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Roll call.

21 (At this point in the proceeding roll
22 call is taken and Resolution #158-16 is passed by a
23 unanimous vote.)

24 4:38 PM PRESENTATION: UPDATE ON CURRENT TOPICS:

25 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: We will now have our

1 presentation. Dr. Lerner, superintendent, and John
2 Susino, the Business Administrator for Bergen County
3 Vocational and Technical Schools will provide an
4 update on current topics.

5 DR. LERNER: Thank you, Freeholder
6 Chair, Freeholders. I appreciate you inviting us
7 here to discuss CTE and recognize and honor February
8 as CTE month.

9 Our state is now a national leader in
10 making career and technical education an educational
11 and economic priority, and our county
12 vocational-technical schools are well-recognized for
13 innovative programs that give all types of students a
14 head start on college and career success.

15 I just wanted to give the Freeholder
16 Board some highlights and some of the new things that
17 we're doing that you may or may not know about in our
18 schools and programs.

19 I'll start off at Bergen County
20 Technical High School, Paramus campus.

21 We accepted our first class of the new,
22 consolidated building trades program called "Green
23 Building Trades." This CTE program exposes students
24 to core construction trades, such as carpentry,
25 electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and masonry, as well as

1 the latest in green building materials, renewable
2 energy solutions, and smart home technology.

3 We also began articulating a new track
4 within our Small Animal Care program to prepare
5 students for advanced standing entry into Bergen
6 Community College's Veterinary Technology AAS degree.
7 New BCTS coursework will now include medical
8 terminology, anatomy, and physiology, and college
9 chemistry.

10 At Bergen County Technical School
11 Teterboro campus:

12 We are now in our second year of a new
13 CTE program in aerospace engineering. With support
14 from Bergen Community College, students have used
15 state-of-the-art aircraft simulators and developed
16 foundational pre-engineering skills in CAD,
17 electronics, and materials, as well as the physics of
18 flight. We also developed a very nice partnership,
19 thanks to some of the Freeholders here, with the
20 Aviation Hall of Fame Museum at Teterboro Airport,
21 right across the street.

22 Additionally, in partnership, still at
23 Teterboro, with the Princeton Plasma Physics Lab, our
24 students and physics teachers constructed our first
25 plasma generator, in an effort to study the science

1 behind fusion power, which is the generation of
2 energy by nuclear fusion.

3 At the Bergen County Academies here in
4 Hackensack, student research programs in areas such
5 as biotechnology, mathematics, nanotechnology, and
6 interactive design have produced 28 Intel
7 semifinalists --

8 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Wow!

9 DR. LERNER: -- and five Intel
10 finalists in the past five years.

11 That's really unheard of in a school in
12 New Jersey. In fact, there were five semifinalists
13 this year in the State of New Jersey, and the
14 Academies had four of the five.

15 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: Wow! That's
16 wonderful!

17 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Wow!

18 DR. LERNER: We opened a new research
19 program in electro-mechanical systems, or,
20 mechatronics. Student projects include a SIDS-proof
21 crib and an EMS vehicle detector for the hearing
22 impaired designed in conjunction with our sister
23 district, Bergen County Special Services.

24 We will be opening a new Environmental
25 Center this winter to provide student research

1 opportunities in agricultural science and
2 sustainability. A team of students is currently
3 constructing a "smart" aquaponics system for this new
4 facility.

5 Applied Tech High School, which is
6 located on campus at Bergen Community College, it's
7 our newest high school. It serves currently 31
8 students. It's ninth grade only right now. We have
9 approximately 75 applications for next year's ninth
10 grade class, of which we're going to accept another
11 30 students. Each year we're going to accept about
12 30. It will be 120 students when it's 9-12.

13 This training will be coupled with the
14 dual enrollment coursework needed to allow students
15 to earn advanced standing into several technical
16 associate's programs at Bergen Community College.

17 In partnership with Stryker
18 Orthopedics, students engaged in our first design
19 task simulation. Stryker engineers presented
20 students with specifications for a fixture design
21 challenge that mirrored one of their actual
22 engineering tasks. With Stryker engineers providing
23 electronic and in-class feedback, students created
24 original design solutions and presented them to the
25 Stryker team.

1 I was there for the presentation. It
2 was really amazing to see these ninth grade students
3 presenting to the engineers and CEOs of Stryker. It
4 was really fascinating. It was a great program.

5 Bergen County Technical Schools' Adult
6 Ed Center:

7 We recently opened Bergen Makerspace as
8 a community learning center formed in partnership
9 with Bergen Community College to support local
10 teachers, inventors, entrepreneurs, and craftsmen.
11 It serves students of all ages and adults from around
12 the entire county. A total of 238 people have
13 attended Makerspace classes this year. We support
14 "makers" by providing them with the tools and
15 information necessary for them to achieve their
16 goals. This includes instruction in electronics,
17 programming, CAD, and 3D printing.

18 And EMS:

19 We provide training annually for
20 approximately 450 professionals around the county in
21 emergency medical technician, heavy rescue, and
22 hazardous materials courses.

23 Lastly, we were just informed, through
24 the EMS director, that the Rescue Task Force program
25 was approved, and we will be training police and EMTs

1 for active shooter events in schools.

2 There's a new protocol where police
3 used to go in and no one else can go in as a first
4 responder until everything was secured in the entire
5 building.

6 Now, because people might be hurt along
7 the way, as soon as they secure a hallway, EMTs could
8 then get into that area of the building. And there's
9 special training for that, and we're going to be
10 doing it through the EMTs.

11 Freeholder Chair, I very, very much
12 appreciate you asking us to come and give the
13 Freeholder Board an update on some of the new things
14 that we're doing in the Bergen County Technical
15 Schools. We're really proud to be here and to be
16 honored. So thank you very, very much.

17 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: So I would like to
18 say thank you. I'm sure you know the commitment of
19 this Board to our vo-tech schools and our technical
20 schools, as well as Bergen Community College, based
21 on, not to sound like a broken record, but based on
22 the fact that we continue to refund money that was
23 taken to make sure that we're fully funding these
24 schools.

25 And just by the list of things that you

1 just talked about, our partnerships and how much work
2 goes into that, on behalf of myself and the Board, I
3 want to say thank you for your hard work.

4 DR. LERNER: And I want to thank you,
5 you're absolutely 100 percent, everything that I just
6 mentioned, is due, in large part, because of the
7 County Executive and his staff and the Freeholder
8 Board here. So we very much appreciate that, for all
9 the students and adults in the county.

10 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Would anyone else
11 like to make a comment?

12 Freeholder Ganz.

13 FREEHOLDER GANZ: I just want to say
14 that, as always, your presentation is cogent, it's to
15 the point, and it shows the outstanding job and
16 leadership that you've done over the last number of
17 years. I'm proud to be part of the contingent that
18 continues to fund this at record levels.

19 DR. LERNER: Thank you. I appreciate
20 it.

21 FREEHOLDER GANZ: For record results.

22 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Freeholder DeNicola.

23 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: I agree with
24 everything that was said.

25 I just want to commend you as well for

1 constantly staying current. Everything you present
2 is state-of-the-art, and you very often can't say
3 that about education or government, for that matter.
4 Change takes a lot of time. But you have such
5 commitment, from yourself, right on down --

6 DR. LERNER: Thank you.

7 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: -- and it really
8 shows. I think the only thing that you may do wrong
9 is that you make it look so easy.

10 (Laughter.)

11 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: But very proud of
12 everything you've done. Thank you very much.

13 DR. LERNER: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Freeholder Voss.

15 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Well, you know how I
16 feel about education, and you are the most
17 outstanding superintendent that I have ever
18 encountered.

19 DR. LERNER: Thank you, Freeholder.

20 FREEHOLDER VOSS: I can't thank you
21 enough for what you do. You know that I am so
22 committed to doing away with a one-size-fits-all
23 education system, and you have done that in spades.
24 I just can't wait to see all these programs. I think
25 our Bergen County school system should be the role

1 model for the entire nation, because you're doing
2 everything that's right and good for the kids. So
3 God bless you. Thank you.

4 DR. LERNER: Well, thank you.

5 And with one of our schools rated No. 5
6 in the country and the other No. 28, we are the role
7 models.

8 FREEHOLDER VOSS: I know.

9 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: That's right.

10 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Not just by the
11 state, by the entire country.

12 DR. LERNER: Yes.

13 FREEHOLDER FELICE: I just want to say,
14 I want to thank you for reaching over to working with
15 Teterboro and the museum. That's where Lindbergh's
16 engine was built, that's where Amelia Earhart
17 trained, that's where Arthur Godfrey buzzed the tower
18 back in the '60s, when my dad worked there, and
19 there's great history there.

20 But also reaching into the future with
21 Stryker, they're one-seventh of our economy, I think,
22 maybe that changed in the last couple months, in
23 health care. But what better way for those companies
24 to see a wealth of brain power that exists here in
25 Bergen County, and that's what we need to do. We

1 just don't need to, you know, have great schools, but
2 we need to make sure that the kids who go off the
3 college or stay in Bergen County, who go on to
4 associate's degrees or technical programs, stay here.
5 And that's been one of the challenges that we fight
6 every day.

7 So thank you, Dr. Lerner, for your
8 leadership. Thank your staff. Go back and tell them
9 that we're going to support you in this budget
10 process as best we can with the restrictions placed
11 upon us, but I don't think there's anyone here who
12 disagrees with the importance of a good school
13 system, and you've proven that, so thank you.

14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Freeholder Sullivan.

16 FREEHOLDER SULLIVAN: I just want to
17 say thank you. You guys do a great job. I go to a
18 lot of events, and every time I go to an event that
19 you're around, it's fantastic. And Freeholder
20 DeNicola said it the best, the dedication that you
21 have is unbelievable and we're lucky to have you, and
22 I thank you.

23 Yes, we can fund the program, but it
24 takes people with innovative thinking to move things
25 along. I appreciate what you do. Thank you very

1 much.

2 DR. LERNER: I appreciate that.

3 Thanks.

4 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Last but not least,
5 Vice Chair Zur.

6 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ZUR: I want to echo so
7 much of what has been said around this table, but
8 also specifically thank you, I know that whenever we
9 pick up the phone, you're tremendously responsive to
10 all our sometimes crazy connections that we're trying
11 to make that are all minded towards making sure that
12 we are broadening the opportunities for all our
13 students. And what you do to inspire a fabulous
14 inspired faculty that's there at your schools is also
15 tremendous. You know, the fact that it does trickle
16 down into every aspect of the educational process at
17 all of the schools is truly fabulous. So thank you
18 for your energy and your responsiveness, and for
19 really partnering with us in truly innovative ways.

20 DR. LERNER: Thank you. And I really
21 appreciate the connections that come my way, because
22 there's a lot of individuals I don't necessarily meet
23 up with and a lot of you do, and when you put us
24 together, you know the great things that can come out
25 of that. So I appreciate when all of you do that.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Okay. So I have
3 resolution from this Board that I'm sure you're going
4 to study, and I've asked them --

5 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: There will be a
6 quiz.

7 (Laughter.)

8 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: I asked them to
9 print the type a little bit bigger, so I wouldn't
10 have to use my glasses. I am not going to read the
11 whole thing, I'd like to just point out one paragraph
12 before we present.

13 Whereas, the recent accomplishments by
14 the district and its students include 100 percent
15 high school graduation rate; designation of Bergen
16 County Academies as a 2016 National Blue Ribbon
17 School of Excellence; recognition of the Academies
18 and the Teterboro campus at Bergen Tech of the No. 5
19 and No. 28 schools respectively in Newsweek's 2015
20 Top High Schools in America; the establishment of the
21 green buildings trades program at BCTS, Paramus
22 campus, in partnership with the Home Building
23 Institute; and the creation of the Applied Technology
24 High School in partnership with Bergen Community
25 College.

1 This just covers a little bit of what
2 you covered, so it's important that we enter that
3 into the record.

4 So on behalf of the Bergen County
5 Freeholder, I'd like to present to you this
6 resolution.

7 DR. LERNER: Thank you very much,
8 Freeholder.

9 (Applause.)

10 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Photo op.

11 (A short recess is held.)

12 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: While we are up
13 here, we also have the County Executive in the room
14 today who would also like to make a presentation.
15 Please.

16 COUNTY EXECUTIVE TEDESCO: Thank you,
17 Chairman.

18 Well, I'm not going to give a big
19 speech, because everybody said everything good about
20 it.

21 The only thing I'll tell you is, in the
22 budget presentation that I'll be presenting to the
23 Freeholders, we made a commitment last year to fund
24 the school district with the funding necessary to
25 continue the good things that you're doing. And in

1 this budget, you'll be happy to know that we've done
2 that again this year, to increase the funding for the
3 school district. And I just said that to John, he
4 said he should have asked for more. But the results
5 speak for themselves, and so I'm very proud and glad
6 that we're able to give you the funding to get the
7 results that you're getting and that the students are
8 the winners in this. They truly are the ones that
9 are going to benefit from this.

10 So I'm not going to read this to you.
11 Thank you.

12 (Whereupon, a presentation is made by
13 County Executive Tedesco.)

14 4:56 PM PUBLIC COMMENT:

15 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: May I have a motion
16 to open the meeting to the public?

17 FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

18 FREEHOLDER DeNICOLA: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: All in favor?

20 (All present Freeholders respond in the
21 affirmative.)

22 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Opposed?

23 (No response.)

24 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: The ayes have it.

25 We will now have a Hearing of the

1 General Public, with a three-minute time limit in
2 effect.

3 The Board Attorney will keep the time.
4 Would anybody in the public like to
5 speak?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: Not seeing anyone,
8 can I take a motion to close?

9 FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

10 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ZUR: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: All in favor?

12 (All present Freeholders respond in the
13 affirmative.)

14 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: There being nothing
15 further to come before this meeting, may I have a
16 motion to adjourn?

17 FREEHOLDER GANZ: So moved.

18 VICE-CHAIRWOMAN ZUR: Second.

19 FREEHOLDER VOSS: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN TANELLI: All in favor?

21 (All present Freeholders respond in the
22 affirmative.)

23 (Whereupon, the Work Session is
24 adjourned at 4:56 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, KIM O. FURBACHER, License No. XIO1042, a Certified Court Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Realtime Court Reporter, and Notary Public of the State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the foregoing is a verbatim record of the testimony provided under oath before any court, referee, board, commission or other body created by statute of the State of New Jersey.

I am not related to the parties involved in this action; I have no financial interest, nor am I related to an agent of or employed by anyone with a financial interest in the outcome of this action.

This transcript complies with Regulation 13:43-5.9 of the New Jersey Administrative Code.

KIM O. FURBACHER, CRCR, CCR, RMR
License #XIO1042, and Notary Public
of New Jersey

My Commission Expires:
7/11/19