In May of last year the Absecon School District Board of Education heard a presentation on a report they commissioned from Vito Gagliardi, managing partner at Porzio, Bromberg & Newman. The report included the findings of a feasibility study prepared by a consulting firm Statistical Forecasting, LLC.

<https://pressofatlanticcity.com/education/hearing-dates-set-for-2021-in-absecon-petition-to-leave-pleasantville-high-school/article_9d17b382-271c-5461-aaa0-a9669ed7170f.html>

<https://pressofatlanticcity.com/education/judge-to-hear-absecon-schools-request-to-leave-pleasantville-attorney-says/article_17a2a748-39ef-54a2-ae1c-9ccff505d6e2.html>

Gagliardi and his team, which included and his associate Kerri A. Wright, Richard Grip a former Bridgewater-Raritan Public School Physics Teacher, Peter Carter, a retired Essex County School Superintendent and Steven Cea, MSA, former accountant for Paramus Public School District presented a “fiscal, educational and demographic analysis” that argued that they (the majority white Absecon school district) can and should separate themselves from the (overwhelmingly black and Hispanic) Pleasantville High School where there is currently in place a send receive relationship

[Here is that presentation](https://nj50000208.schoolwires.net/cms/lib/NJ50000208/Centricity/domain/4/videos/Absecon%20Powerpoint%20Presentation%20for%20Public%20Meeting.pdf). It states the financial impact on Pleasantville of a separation will be “insignificant” and will have “No negative racial impact on Pleasantville HS, remains racially diverse (64% H, 34% B)”

I've linked here the [minutes to the August Absecon BOE](https://buildingoneamerica.org/sites/default/files/attachments/ea_meeting_minutes_08-19-2019.pdf) meeting where they voted to direct Gagliardi to submit their proposal to secede from the Pleasantville High School to the Commissioner of Education. It points to the inadequate “quality of educational services” provided to its students and in “an effort to explore appropriate cost-effective alternatives...retained Statistical Forecasting, LLC...for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study on the possible termination of the sending-receiving relationship between the Board and Pleasantville”

[Here is the study](https://buildingoneamerica.org/sites/default/files/attachments/absecon_final_feasibility_study.pdf) that was commissioned by the board to argue there will be little to no racial impact on their move to “severthe sending-receiving relationship with Pleasantville (1.2% White, 91.2% in poverty - Absecon 62.7% White) and establish a new sending-receiving relationship with (majority white) Greater Egg Harbor Regional without visiting a substantial negative educational, financial, or racial impact on any of the affected districts”

The feasibly study was conducted by [Statistical Forecasting LLC](http://www.statforecast.com/services.html), a firm that advertises their role in supporting efforts to "deregionalize" and to "terminate that sending-receiving relationship" by analyzing "the demographic, financial, racial, and educational impacts on such a reorganization". They claim they have been an "expert witness in school demography in several court cases on issues related to school districts terminating their sending-receiving relationship".

They and Gagliardi, who brags that he is responsible for “Overseeing the only three regional school district dissolutions in New Jersey history”, are involved in Hackensack and Maywood (which recently added to his list of conquests) another racially impactful separation in Bergen County. They also teamed up to assist Merchantville in separating from Pennsauken in Camden County. In fact, Grip and Statistical Forecasting along with Porzio and Gagliardi appeared to have been involved in all secession efforts (withdraw, terminate, dissolve) in the state of New Jersey over the past decade.

Below is a list of places Statistical Forecasting lists as their feasibility study clients all in partnership with Gagliardi and Prozio. Not all the places they have done studies argue for “de-regionalization”. Some places they recommend consolidation or “regionalization”. But it appears that all the places where there is a racially segregated district or segregated part of a district, they make the case for termination, withdrawal or severing from the majority black or black and Hispanic school system.

* Somers Point (NJ) – Feasibility Study (2017) – Analyzed demographic effects of the reconfiguration of the Somers Point School District.
* <https://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/currents_gazettes/mainland/somers-point-school-feasibility-study-suggests-reconfiguration-a-plus-for/article_43907fdd-1b6a-5e07-bf24-34a5068b12af.html>
* Edgewater Park (NJ) – Feasibility Study (2016) – Analyzed demographic effects of the withdrawal of Edgewater Park students for grades 9-12 from the Burlington City School District upon termination of its existing sending-receiving relationship, as well as the demographic effects upon the creation of a new sending-receiving relationship with the Delran Board of Education.
* <https://www.burlingtoncountytimes.com/93a599fc-b33f-11e6-9f81-1b4f61460bb1.html>
* North Haledon (NJ) – Feasibility Study (2016) – Analyzed demographic effects of the withdrawal of North Haledon students from Manchester Regional School District where students would instead attend Manchester Regional School District through a sending-receiving relationship.
* <https://www.northjersey.com/story/news/education/2016/01/13/north-haledon-to-consider-sendingreceiving-relationship-with-manchester-regional-district/94393072/>
* <https://edlawcenter.org/news/archives/other-issues/court-again-rules-state-must-remedy-school-segregation.html>
* <https://caselaw.findlaw.com/nj-supreme-court/1306486.html>
* Seaside Park (NJ) – Feasibility Study (2015) – Analyzed the demographic and racial effects of Seaside Park students upon creating a second sending-receiving relationship with the Lavallette School District in addition to its existing sending-receiving relationship with the Toms River Regional School District.
* <http://lavallette-seaside.shorebeat.com/2017/05/n-j-appeals-court-upholds-seaside-park-students-ability-to-attend-lavallette-school/>
* <https://www.state.nj.us/education/legal/commissioner/2015/oct/348-15.pdf>
* East Newark (NJ) – Feasibility Study (2014) – Analyzed demographic and racial effects of the withdrawal of East Newark students from the Harrison Public Schools upon termination of its existing sending-receiving relationship, as well as the demographic and racial effects upon the creation of a new sending-receiving relationship with the Kearny Board of Education.
* [Getting serious about separating – The Observer Online](https://www.theobserver.com/2013/12/getting-serious-about-separating/)[tmp75.DOC](https://www.merchantvillenj.gov/images/documents/community/MerchantvilleFinalFeasibilityStudy.pdf)
* <https://www.nj.com/hudson/2015/01/east_newark_hopes_for_september_transfer_of_studen.html>
* Cape May (NJ) – Feasibility Study (2013) – Analyzed demographic and racial effects of the withdrawal of Cape May students from Lower Cape May Regional for grades 7-12 and the establishing of a sending-receiving relationship with either Lower Cape May Regional or Middle Township for grades 7-12.
* <https://lcmrschooldistrict.com/brettimages/feasibstudytoreconfigure.pdf>
* Merchantville Borough (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2012) – Conducted a study considering the demographic and racial effects of the withdrawal of Merchantville students from the Pennsauken Public Schools upon termination of the existing sending-receiving relationship, as well as the demographic and racial effects upon the creation of a new sending-receiving relationship with the Haddon Heights Board of Education.
* <https://www.inquirer.com/philly/news/local/20120114_Merchantville_board_votes_to_send_students_to_Haddon_Heights_High.html>
* <https://www.merchantvillenj.gov/images/documents/community/MerchantvilleFinalFeasibilityStudy.pdf>
* Black Horse Pike Regional School District (NJ) Feasibility Study (2009) – Conducted a study considering the dissolution of the Black Horse Pike Regional School District (grades 9-12) whereby a full PK-12 regional district would be created between Bellmawr Borough, Gloucester Township, and Runnemede Borough. Analyzed demographic and racial impacts in each of the scenarios.
* Montvale Borough (NJ) and Woodcliff Lake Borough (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2008) – Conducted a study considering the dissolution of the Pascack Valley Regional High School District whereby a full K-12 regional district would be created between Montvale and Woodcliff Lake Boroughs.
* Carlstadt Borough (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2008) – Conducted a study considering the dissolution of the Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional High School District whereby a full K-12 regional district would be created between East Rutherford and Carlstadt Boroughs or whereby a K-12 district would be created in East Rutherford Borough and high school students from Carlstadt Borough would attend East Rutherford on a sending-receiving basis.
* Watchung Borough (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2008) – Conducted a study considering the withdrawal of Watchung Borough from the Watchung Hills Regional High School District whereby Watchung would send its students to the existing regional district on a sending-receiving basis. The study also considered the dissolution of the Watchung Hills Regional High School District whereby a full K-12 regional district would be created or whereby a K-12 district would be created in Warren Township and high school students from Watchung Borough would attend Warren Township on a sending-receiving basis.
* Park Ridge Borough (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2007) – Conducted a study considering many different organizational structures to the existing PK-12 school district including forming an all-purpose regional school district with adjoining communities and joining an existing limited-purpose regional high school district.
* Merchantville Board of Education (NJ) – Racial Impact Study (2007) – Conducted a study to determine the racial impact of Merchantville terminating its sending-receiving relationship with Pennsauken Township.
* Oradell Borough (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2006) – Conducted a study of dissolving the River Dell Regional School District, a limited-purpose grade 7-12 regional district, with the resulting formation of two independent K-12 districts in Oradell Borough and River Edge Borough. The study explored having Oradell enter into a send-receive relationship with River Edge for its grade 7 and 8 students while River Edge enter into a send-receive relationship with Oradell for its grade 9-12 students.
* Liberty Township (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2006, 2008) – Conducted two studies, one which would dissolve the Great Meadows Regional School District, a grade PK-8 regional district, and create two independent PK-8 districts in Liberty Township and Independence Township. The second study analyzed dissolving the Great Meadows Regional School District, creating a PK-8 district in Independence Township and a PK-5 district in Liberty Township where Liberty Township students in grades 6-8 would be sent to Independence Township on a sending-receiving basis.
* Newfield Board of Education (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2006) – Conducted a study of terminating the existing send-receive relationship between the Newfield Board of Education and the Buena Regional School Board of Education and initiating a new sending-receiving relationship between the Newfield Board of Education and the Delsea Regional Board of Education and the Franklin Township Board of Education. Testified at a deposition and trial as an expert witness in school demography regarding the termination of the sending-receiving relationship of Newfield Borough with the Buena Regional School District.
* Elmer Borough Board of Education (NJ) - Feasibility Study (2004) – Conducted a study of making the Elmer Borough School District a non-operating district by creating a new sending-receiving relationship between the Elmer Board of Education and the Pittsgrove Board of Education. Analyzed the demographic impacts on each school district for the proposed organizational change.
* Elk Township, Franklin Township, and Delsea Regional High School District (NJ) – Feasibility Study (2003-2004) – Conducted a feasibility study exploring the expansion of the Delsea Regional High School District from a limited purpose (grades 7-12) regional concept to an all-purpose (grades PK-12) regional alignment. Other options explored were the dissolution of the Delsea Regional High School District and formation of two independent PK-12 school districts in Franklin Township and Elk Township.

One of the attorneys at Porzio [David Hespe](http://www.statforecast.com/services.html), is a former Commissioner of Education appointed by Chris Christie and who approved the “successful” de-regionalization efforts while Commissioner. Hespe also was some [kind of viceroy (operating as a private for profit consultant) appointed to run Newark schools](https://www.bobbraunsledger.com/david-hespe-former-nj-ed-chief-hired-at-newark-schools-by-chris-cerf-former-nj-ed-chief/) when they were under state control during the Christie years.

Gagliardi’s father was also a state Commissioner of Education under republican governor Difrancesco.

Gagliardi is the Managing Principal of the Law Firm Porzio, Bromberg & Newman P.C. He is also the President and CEO of the firm's three subsidiaries, Porzio Governmental Affairs, Porzio Life Sciences, LLC, and Porzio Compliance Services.

From what I can see, together with the law firm, they (and Gargaglia) specialize in Education policy and law (with an emphasis on [their word] de-regionalization), Pharmaceuticals - government regulation and labor law (defending Fortune 500 corporations against consumers and employees) and Atlantic City related gaming issues.

One of their attorneys is [Bill Hughes Jr](https://pbnlaw.com/attorneys/hughes-jr-william/)., the son of the former congressman from the 2nd District.

Gagliardi is also the [General Council for the State Chief of Police Association](https://www.njsacop.org/content.asp?contentid=23). It was in that capacity that he argued in cases opposing public records requests for use in the Use of Force Report.

His brother Vincent is a former NJ Jersey police chief and he has at least one retired chief of police on his staff. His “Compliance” subsidiary appears to provide police security consulting to local school districts.

Vito Gagliardi lives in Mountainside, NJ where the public schools are 1% black and where the Gagliardo children attend catholic schools. Both Gagliardo and wife Patrcia are [active supporters and promoters of private Catholic Education](https://www.tapinto.net/towns/mountainside/sections/education/articles/vito-and-patricia-gagliardi-will-be-inducted-into-1) in New Jersey.

[District Demographic Study Presented at BOE Meeting | Articles](https://www.manchestertwp.org/news/articles/~post/district-demographic-study-20180501)

[Hughes, Jr., William - Porzio](https://pbnlaw.com/attorneys/hughes-jr-william/)

[Gagliardi, Vito](http://porziolifesciences.com/about/our-team/gagliardi-vito/?filter=Executive%20Committee)

[Kerri Wright](https://www.pbnlaw.com/attorneys/wright-kerri/)

[Sal Anderton](http://porziogov.com/our-team/sal-anderton/)

[Our Team](http://porziocomplianceservices.com/our-team/)

[Board of Education / Home Page](https://www.chester-nj.org/domain/76)

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[Feasibility Study - Summer 2019.pdf](https://www.maywoodschools.org/cms/lib/NJ02201168/Centricity/Domain/8/Feasibility%20Study%20-%20Summer%202019.pdf)

[PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS](http://www.pthsd.k12.nj.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_27012/File/BOE/Superintendent's%20Bulletins/18-19/SB20_May-30-2019.pdf)

[Firm Summary - Porzio](https://pbnlaw.com/the-firm/)[Even After 'Metamorphosis,' Litigation Still Central to Porzio | New Jersey Law Journal](https://www.law.com/njlawjournal/almID/1202772435852/Even-After-Metamorphosis-Litigation-Still-Central-to-Porzio/?mcode=1202617207189&curindex=26&slreturn=20190920184233)

[The Two River Times | Sea Bright Explores School District Switch](https://tworivertimes.com/sea-bright-explores-school-district-switch/)

[Microsoft Word - EDU 01927-12 Merchantville v Pennsauken](https://www.merchantvilleschool.org/ourpages/auto/2014/3/12/40523026/Full%20Court%20Ruling%20on%20Send-Receive%20for%20Merchantville.pdf)[The Two River Times | Sea Bright Explores School District Switch](https://tworivertimes.com/sea-bright-explores-school-district-switch/)

[Gagliardi, Jr., Vito - Porzio](https://pbnlaw.com/attorneys/gagliardi-jr-vito/)

[Settlement Agreement and signed Order.pdf](https://edlawcenter.org/assets/files/pdfs/Newsblasts/Settlement%20Agreement%20and%20signed%20Order.pdf)

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[In the Matter of the Withdrawal of North Haledon v. Passaic County Manchester Regional High School District et al | New Jersey Law Journal](https://www.law.com/njlawjournal/almID/900005413163/)

[Commissioner of Education Decision](https://www.nj.gov/education/legal/commissioner/2013/aug/304-13.pdf)

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Use of force reporting opposed by Gagliardi

<https://www.aclu-nj.org/cases/osheavwestmilford>

Haledon

<https://caselaw.findlaw.com/nj-supreme-court/1306486.html>

Charter School Lawyer

<https://pbnlaw.com/attorneys/fabian-marie-laurence/>

Brother Vincent

<https://www.nj.com/morris/2017/03/post_42.html>

<https://ocnjdaily.com/longport-students-will-move-to-ocean-city-high-school/>

Opposed use of force reporting

<https://www.aclu-nj.org/cases/osheavwestmilford>

<https://law.justia.com/codes/new-jersey/2013/title-18a/section-18a-38-13/>

<https://www.merchantvillenj.gov/images/documents/community/MerchantvilleFinalFeasibilityStudy.pdf>

<https://www.abseconschools.org/cms/lib/NJ50000208/Centricity/ModuleInstance/40/Absecon%20BOE%20Press%20Release%20following%20Pleasantvilles%20withdrawal.pdf>

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