

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
JANUARY 2, 2018
REORGANIZATION OF BOARD MINUTES INDEX 7:04 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:16 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
JANUARY 2, 2018
REORGANIZATION OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES 7:04 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:16 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

I. Salute to Flag – 7:04 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

II. Statement of Public Meeting Notice

This is a regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Bernards Township. Notice of the time and place of this meeting was provided and copies of that resolution were forwarded to the official newspapers as designated by the Board of Education and to the Township Clerk and a copy of the notice was posted on the bulletin board of the Board of Education Offices in accordance with P.L. 1975 Chapter 231A.

We very much welcome input from the public. There are two times during regular meetings that the public is invited to speak. One time is early in the meeting before the Board votes, and you may speak about any item that is listed on tonight's agenda. Towards the end of the meeting, there is another public forum to address any topic whatsoever.

When you approach the microphone, please state your name and address. In order to run efficient meetings and to allow maximum opportunity for members of the public to speak, the Board reserves the right to set a time limit for individual comments and/or public comment portions of the agenda. Please understand that public comment portions of our agendas are not structured as question and answer sessions, but rather they are offered as opportunities to share your thoughts with the Board. Any Board responses to public comment will be addressed during Board Forum, or during committee reports.

There are times when a member of the public makes a comment or asks a question about an employee. New Jersey statute does not permit us to discuss personnel issues in public. Also as a matter of law, a Board of Education may only vote for or against the hiring of an employee upon the recommendation of the superintendent. If the superintendent does not recommend a person, that person's name is not listed on the agenda and there is no vote on that action.

If it is necessary for the Board to go into executive session at the end of the meeting, we will provide an estimated length of time for the session and whether any action is anticipated to be taken upon returning to public session.

III. Reorganization of Board – 7:04 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

IV. Oath of Office

Rod McLaughlin, Board Secretary, administered the Oath of Office to the following newly elected Board members:

Jennifer Korn, Jennifer White, Linda Wooldridge

V. Roll Call of New Board

Present: Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. White, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

ABSENT: Mr. Byrne, Mr. Siet

VI. Election of Board President

Mr. McLaughlin requested nominations for the position of President of the Board of Education.

Ms. Cwerner nominated Ms. McKeon.

Ms. Richman seconded the nomination of Ms. McKeon.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, nominations were closed, and Ms. McKeon was elected President of the Board of Education by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. White, Ms. Wooldridge

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

VII. Election of Board Vice President

Board President Robin McKeon requested nominations for the position of Vice President of the Board of Education.

Ms. Wooldridge nominated Ms. Gray.

Ms. Korn seconded the nomination of Ms. Gray.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, nominations were closed, and Ms. Gray was elected Vice President of the Board of Education by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. White, Ms. Wooldridge
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - None

VIII. Regular Session Agenda – 7:16 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

IX. Approval of 2018-19 Board of Education Meeting Schedule

2018 SCHEDULE OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE SESSION (as necessary)
 PUBLIC SESSION 7:00 P.M.

<u>Meeting Date:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
January 22, 2018	Ridge High School PAC
February 12, 2018	William Annin Middle School
February 12, 2018****	<i>Board Retreat - Board of Education Office 12:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.</i>
February 26, 2018	William Annin Middle School
February 26, 2018****	<i>Board Retreat - Board of Education Office 12:30 P.M. - 2:30 P.M.</i>
March 12, 2018	Cedar Hill School
March 26, 2018	Ridge High School PAC
April 9, 2018	Ridge High School PAC
April 23, 2018	Ridge High School PAC
May 7, 2018*	William Annin Middle School
May 21, 2018**	Ridge High School PAC
June 4, 2018*	Ridge High School PAC
June 18, 2018**	Cedar Hill School
July 23, 2018	Board of Education Office
August 27, 2018	Board of Education Office
September 17, 2018**	Ridge High School PAC
September 24, 2018	Ridge High School PAC
October 8, 2018	Ridge High School PAC
October 29, 2018***	Ridge High School PAC
November 12, 2018	William Annin Middle School
November 26, 2018	Ridge High School PAC
December 17, 2018**	Ridge High School PAC

January 7, 2019*

Ridge High School PAC

*1st Monday of month**3rd Monday of month***5th Monday of month

****Board Retreat - No Action Items

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge, seconded by Ms. Cwerner, the 2018 schedule of Board of Education meeting dates was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. White, Ms. Wooldridge
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - None

X. **Distribute Ethics Act & Administer Code of Ethics**

Board Secretary Rod McLaughlin distributed and collected signed acknowledgements of the code of ethics from each Board of Education member present.

XI. **Board Presentation**

1) **Post Secondary Report** - Jillian Shadis, Director of School Counseling

Ms. Jillian Shadis, Director of School Counseling, presented the Post Secondary Report that she and Dr. Brian Heineman, the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, prepared. Key points of the presentation were:

- SAT and ACT Testing Trends
- Standardized Testing Part 1 – SAT vs. ACT testing; number of class of 2017 RHS students tested (SAT 291; ACT 353); a review of the SAT scores in the areas of Critical Reading and Math; the RHS ACT and SAT Mean Scores compared with the NJ average and national average over the past five years.
- A breakdown of ACT and SAT scores in comparison to other districts
- ACT benchmarks
- Update on SAT/ACT Test Preparation Method Test Prep 2.0 including annual student usage since the 2013-14 School Year
- AP Class Enrollment for the 2016-17 School Year
- RHS Class of 2017 Snapshot – 487 graduates with 97.1% continuing their education; Mean SAT and ACT test scores
- A five-year class profile comparison of college admissions; list of current popular schools; participating in instant decision/interview days; comparison by category of number of Ridge High students accepted
- College admissions updates

Click [here](#) to view entire presentation.

XII. Superintendent's Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated January 2, 2018.

Board Secretary McLaughlin stepped out of the room briefly and Superintendent Markarian performed roll call for the Superintendents Report.

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge seconded by Ms. Korn Item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - Ms. White

Superintendent Nick Markarian congratulated Ms. Wooldridge and Ms. Korn on their re-election and welcomed new Board member Ms. White.

XIII. Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

XIV. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following minutes:

December 18, 2017 – Executive Session Minutes
December 18, 2017 – Regular Session Minutes

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Ms. Wooldridge the foregoing were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - Ms. White

XV. Finance Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **field trip destination** for the 2017-18 school year:

<u>Destination:</u>	<u>Group Attending:</u>	<u>Number of Students:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
Synchronoss Inc.	Ridge Business Club Students	2	01/24/2018 Wednesday

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge seconded by Ms. Gray Item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Wooldridge
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - Ms. White

Ms. Wooldridge provided a summary from the December 14, 2017 Finance Committee Meeting. Topics included Health Benefits and Self Insurance, the potential impacts to the Aramark contract of a minimum wage increase in the State of New Jersey, the Ridge High School alarm and blue tooth entry system project and the formula used to calculate possible levy adjustments as a function of enrollment.

Board members asked questions regarding the Ridge High School security project. They also inquired about student enrollment and budget cap limitations and possible waivers.

Secretary McLaughlin provided an explanation regarding the stop loss and budget caps and noted that there will be a presentation by the district demographer at the January 22, 2018 Board of Education Meeting.

XVI. Personnel Committee Report

No report.

XVII. Policy Committee Report

No report.

XVIII. Curriculum Committee Report

No report.

XIX. Advocacy Committee Report

No report.

XX. Liaison Committee Reports

No report.

XXI. Ad Hoc SEL Committee Report

No report.

XXII. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Public comments included congratulations to new Board member Ms. White, congratulations to Ms. McKeon on her appointment as Board president and a thank you to the Board for their vigilance and attention to potential enrollment increases.

Superintendent Markarian noted that the district demographer is looking at the school capacities and information will be presented at the January 22, 2018 Board of Education meeting.

XXIII. Board Forum

Ms. Cwerner made board members aware that Project Citizen for the 2017-18 School Year is underway and they may be approached by students to participate and that any willingness from the Board members to participate is appreciated.

Ms. Gray thanked Ms. Cwerner and Ms. Wooldridge for their service as President and Vice President of the Board of Education. Ms. Gray congratulated Ms. McKeon on her appointment as Board President.

XXIV. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Korn, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary