

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MINUTES INDEX  
NOVEMBER 24, 2014  
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:02 P.M.  
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.  
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 24, 2014  
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:02 P.M.  
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.  
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. – William Annin Conference Room**

**II. Salute to the Flag**

**III. Roll Call**

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin, Lisa Gorab Bond Counsel

ABSENT: Ms. Kusel, Ms. McKeon

**IV. Executive Session – 6:01 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Conference Room**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education met in closed session to discuss: contract matters; and further

BE IT RESOLVED that the matters discussed in closed session will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public interest or without violation of the confidentiality of personnel.

On motion by Ms. Shah, seconded by Ms. Richman, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 6:02 p.m.

On motion by Ms. Shah, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 6:52 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the William Annin Middle School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

V. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:00 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Auditorium**

VI. **Statement of Public Notice**

This was 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. We do not have a specific time limit, but we ask that you keep your comments brief. Please understand that our public forums 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.

VII. **Student Representative**

Ridge Student Government Treasurer Jad Abousleiman updated the Board on recent student activities at the high school including the Sophomore food drive with donations sent to the Somerset County food bank, and the annual teddy bear drive where students pick up free teddy bears and decorate them for local children's hospitals and shelters.

### VIII. Public Hearing on Bond Refunding

Lisa Gorab explained the refunding process for the 2007 bonds with a current maturity date of 2023-2030. The current bond rate is 4.28%; the new rate should be approximately 3.00%. The Board will realize a savings of between \$200,000 and \$300,000 over time.

In response to a Board member's question Ms. Gorab explained the steps required prior to striking an interest rate on the bonds.

Ms. Gorab explained Finance Item #16 and the reasons behind her recommendation that the district participate in the SEC's amnesty program.

### IX. Approval of Bond Refunding

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

**1) RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS NECESSARY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$6,575,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF REFUNDING SCHOOL BONDS AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO DO ALL ACTS AND THINGS DEEMED NECESSARY AND ADVISABLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE, ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY OF SAID BONDS**

WHEREAS, on August 10, 2007, The Board of Education of the Township of Bernards in the County of Somerset, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) issued \$6,500,000 aggregate principal amount of tax-exempt School Bonds, Series 2007 dated August 10, 2007 (the "2007 School Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the current interest rate environment may enable it to realize going-forward debt service savings for property taxpayers residing in the School District through the issuance by the Board of Refunding School Bonds (the "Refunding Bonds") to refund all or a portion of the \$5,885,000 aggregate principal amount of the outstanding 2007 School Bonds maturing on or after July 15, 2023 (the "Refunded Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Board, pursuant to a refunding bond ordinance (the "Refunding Bond Ordinance") introduced on first reading by resolution of the Board on September 22, 2014, authorized the issuance of the Refunding Bonds for the purpose of refunding the Refunded Bonds; and

WHEREAS, on the date hereof, the Board has held a public hearing on the Refunding Bond Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined to issue and sell such Refunding Bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Board now desires to adopt and enact the Refunding Bond Ordinance authorizing the issuance of the Refunding Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$6,575,000, the net proceeds of which shall be used to refund all or a portion of the Refunded Bonds in accordance with their terms and authorize certain other actions in connection with the sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring), AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** The Refunding Bond Ordinance is hereby adopted and shall take effect immediately.

**SECTION 2.** The Refunding Bonds are hereby authorized to be sold to RBC Capital Markets, LLC, as Underwriter (the “Underwriter”), upon the terms set forth in its proposal to the Board.

**SECTION 3.** There is hereby delegated to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, subject to the limitations contained herein and in consultation with Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Woodbridge, New Jersey, Bond Counsel to the Board (“Bond Counsel”), and Phoenix Advisors, LLC (the “Financial Advisor”), the power with respect to the Refunding Bonds to determine and carry out the following:

a) the sale of the Refunding Bonds at private sale, provided that the purchase price paid by the purchaser thereof shall not be less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the principal amount of the Refunding Bonds so sold;

b) the principal amount of Refunding Bonds to be issued, provided that (i) such amount shall not exceed \$6,575,000, and (ii) such amount shall not exceed the amount necessary to pay the costs of issuance associated with the Refunding Bonds and to fund the deposit to the escrow fund as set forth in the Escrow Deposit Agreement (as defined herein) in an amount that, when invested, will be sufficient to provide for the timely payments required for the Refunded Bonds;

c) the maturity dates and the principal amount of each maturity or sinking fund redemption amount of the Refunding Bonds, provided that no Refunding Bonds refunding the Refunded Bonds shall mature later than July 15, 2030.

d) the interest payment dates and the interest rates on the Refunding Bonds, provided that the true interest cost on the Refunding Bonds shall produce a present value debt service savings of at least three percent (3%) of the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds;

e) the denomination or denominations of and the manner of numbering and lettering the Refunding Bonds, provided that all Refunding Bonds of like maturity shall be identical in all respects, except as to denominations, amounts, numbers and letters;

f) provisions for the sale or exchange of the Refunding Bonds and for the delivery thereof;

g) the form of the Refunding Bonds shall be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, with such additions, deletions and omissions as may be necessary for the Board to market the Refunding Bonds in accordance with the requirements of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, (“DTC”) and the Purchase Contract (as defined herein);

h) the direction for the application and investment of the proceeds of the Refunding Bonds;

i) the terms of redemption of the Refunding Bonds; and

j) any other provisions deemed advisable by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary not in conflict with the provisions hereof.

In addition, the issuance of the Refunding Bonds shall comply with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:30-2.5, including that within 10 days of the date of the closing on the Refunding Bonds, the Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall file a report with the Local Finance Board within the Division of Local Government Services, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs setting forth (a) a comparison of the Refunding Bonds’ debt service and the Refunded Bonds’ debt service, which comparison shall set forth the present value savings achieved by the issuance of the Refunding Bonds; (b) a summary of the issuance of the Refunding Bonds; (c) an itemized accounting of all costs of issuance in connection with the issuance of the Refunding Bonds, and (d) a certification of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary that (i) all of the conditions of Section (b) of N.J.A.C. 5:30- 2.5 have been met, and (ii) this resolution authorizing the issuance of the Refunding Bonds, adopted pursuant to 18A:24-61.5(b), was approved by a two-thirds vote of the full membership of the Board.



The Business Administrator/Board Secretary shall execute a certificate evidencing the determinations or other actions taken pursuant to the authority granted hereunder, and any such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of the actions or determinations of the Business Administrator/Board Secretary as to the matters stated therein.

**SECTION 4.** The President and Vice President of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute by manual or facsimile signature the Refunding Bonds in the name of the Board and the corporate seal (or facsimile thereof) shall be thereunto affixed, imprinted, engraved or otherwise reproduced thereon. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to attest to such signature and to the affixing of said seal to the Refunding Bonds.

**SECTION 5.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor, is hereby authorized and directed to approve the Bond Purchase Contract (the “Purchase Contract”) for the Refunding Bonds, to be dated the date of sale of such Refunding Bonds and to be executed by the Underwriter. The President, Vice President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary are hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver said Purchase Contract.

**SECTION 6.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor, is hereby authorized and directed to apply and qualify for the issuance of any policy of municipal bond insurance and to approve a Commitment for Municipal Bond Insurance (the “Commitment”) setting forth the terms and conditions (including premium charges) upon which a bond insurer proposes to issue its bond insurance policy covering the Refunding Bonds. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver said Commitment.

**SECTION 7.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor, is hereby authorized and directed to approve the Escrow Deposit Agreement (the “Escrow Deposit Agreement”) with an escrow agent (the “Escrow Agent”) to be selected by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor, with respect to the Refunded Bonds, to be dated the date of the closing on the Refunding Bonds. The President and Vice President of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Escrow Deposit Agreement in the name of the Board and the corporate seal (or facsimile thereof) shall be thereunto affixed, imprinted, engraved or otherwise reproduced thereon. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to attest to such signature and to the affixing of said seal to the Escrow Deposit Agreement. The Underwriter and Financial Advisor are hereby authorized to act as the agent and representative of the Board for the purpose of subscribing for the purchase of United States Treasury Securities – State and Local Government Series to be

held by the Escrow Agent. In the alternative, if United States Treasury Securities — State and Local Government Series are not available, the Underwriter or the Financial Advisor is hereby authorized to seek bids for the acquisition of United States Treasury Securities – Open Market Securities.

**SECTION 8.** The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to select a verification agent (the “Verification Agent”), if required, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor, with respect to the Refunded Bonds. The Verification Agent shall prepare the verification report required to verify the sufficiency of the escrowed monies to refund the Refunded Bonds.

**SECTION 9.** It is hereby delegated to the Business Administrator/Board Secretary the authority to “deem final” (as defined under the Rule (as hereinafter defined)) a Preliminary Official Statement (the “Preliminary Official Statement”) and such official is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver a certificate to the Underwriter evidencing the same. The preparation and distribution by the Board, in consultation with Bond Counsel, and counsel to the Underwriter, if any, of a Preliminary Official Statement for the Refunding Bonds to be used in connection with the marketing of such Refunding Bonds, is hereby approved and any previous actions undertaken by various representatives and officers of the Board with respect thereto are hereby ratified and confirmed. Upon the sale of the Refunding Bonds to the Underwriter, the Preliminary Official Statement shall be so modified by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel, to reflect the effect of the pricing of the Refunding Bonds and the Purchase Contract and any other revision not inconsistent with the substance thereof deemed necessary or advisable by Bond Counsel, and said Preliminary Official Statement as so modified shall constitute the final Official Statement (the “Official Statement”). The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is authorized and directed on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver said Official Statement.

**SECTION 10.** The Board hereby covenants and agrees that it will comply with and carry out all of the provisions of a Continuing Disclosure Certificate (the “Certificate”) which will set forth the obligation of the Board to file budgetary, financial and operating data on an annual basis and notices of certain enumerated events deemed material in accordance with the provision of the Rule. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver this Certificate evidencing the Board’s undertaking with respect to the Rule. Notwithstanding the foregoing, failure of the Board to comply with the Certificate shall not be considered a default on the Refunding Bonds; however, any Bondholder may take such actions as may be necessary and appropriate, including seeking mandamus or specific performance to cause the Board to comply with its obligations hereunder.

**SECTION 11.** The President, Vice President and Business Administrator/Board Secretary or any other appropriate officer or representative of the Board, are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents and to do and cause to be done any and all acts and things necessary or proper for carrying out the transactions contemplated by this resolution, the Purchase Contract, the Certificate, the Escrow Deposit Agreement and the Commitment, and for the authorization, sale and issuance of the Refunding Bonds. The execution by such officials and officers of any such documents, with changes, insertions or omissions approved by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel, as hereinabove provided, shall be conclusive and no further ratification or other action by the Board shall be required with respect thereto.

**SECTION 12.** The Board hereby covenants to maintain the exclusion from gross income under Section 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, of the interest on the Refunding Bonds. The Refunding Bonds will be designated as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” for purposes of Section 265(b)(3)(B)(ii) of the Code.

**SECTION 13.** All other resolutions adopted in connection with the Refunding Bonds and inconsistent herewith are hereby rescinded to the extent of such inconsistency.

**SECTION 14.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.

On motion by Ms. Shah, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, Item #IX Bond Refunding was brought forward for a vote.

**X. Public Comment on Bond Refunding**

A comment was made regarding the administrative cost to the district.

**XI. Roll Call On Bond Refunding**

Item #IX Bond Refunding was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Richman,  
Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge  
“Noes” - None  
“Abstain” - None

## XII. Board Presentation

### 1) **PARCC: Assessment and Technology**

Brian Heineman Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Matt Hall Supervisor of Science & Technology

Chris Barone IT Director

The presentation defined PARCC and compared it with the NJASK/HSPA tests.

Highlights included:

- PARCC as a better measurement of full range of student achievement
- Results will be compared across state lines
- Assessment expectations in ELA/Literacy & Math
- Testing schedule throughout the year
- The what and why of Performance Based Achievement & End of Year testing
- A sample of PARCC, NJASK, & HSPA English Language Arts items
- A sample of PARCC, NJASK, & HSPA Math items
- Information anticipated for January 2015 includes: new practice tests, updated student interface, training for building & district test coordinators, and access to PARCC training website

A review of the PARCC accessibility system design presented the features for all students, accessibility features, & accommodations.

The technology required to administer the test highlighted the choice of Chromebooks, the number purchased, usage outside of PARCC, tracking teacher/student use, the district's switch to Google Apps and the long-range vision for this change, an update on staff training and the changes made to the district's infrastructure to accommodate PARCC.

Board comments included the impact on instruction, the diagnostic testing in the fall, testing on line, the tools available to students and their ability to utilize them in an efficient manner, making the student comfortable with these tools without loss of additional instructional time, and providing practice items to the students in advance of the test.

Public comments included grading of the essay portion of the test, the length of the testing periods, whether RHS students require remedial assistance in college, if students will have the necessary tools required to complete the test, the security of students' personal information and how login IDs will be generated, disinfecting the Chromebooks, should parents be reviewing the test with their children, the selection process determining the pool of students who participated in field testing, the loss of instructional time due to actual testing time and in addition, the number of delayed openings, the amount of resources allocated to administer the test and train the staff, testing requirements for

graduation, the state choosing to utilize a computer-based testing method, not all testing content visible on the screen at one time, timing of the administration of the test with the district calendar, amending the EOY schedule based on the PBA results, and Google's right to student data.

Superintendent Markarian explained that he would post a Q&A to the district's website and update it with information as it becomes available.

For complete presentation click [here](#).

### **XIII. Superintendent's Report**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated November 24, 2014.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve participation of the Ridge High School Varsity Competition Cheerleading Team in the **National High School Cheerleading Competition** in Orlando, Florida from February 5 – February 8, 2015.

Superintendent Markarian stated Item #2 has been an annual request since 2011. Thirteen cheerleaders, parents, and coaches will attend this year's competition. The trip is solely funded through parent support and fundraising efforts.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Richman, Items #1 & #2 were approved by the following roll call vote:

"Ayes" - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Richman,  
Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge  
"Noes" - None  
"Abstain" - None

Superintendent Markarian highlighted several fall student accomplishments including those of the cheerleaders, girls volleyball team, girls cross country team, girls tennis team, the marching band, and the Ridge drama organization.

### **XIV. Public Forum on Agenda Items**

Public comments were made regarding parents limited access to district meetings, students readiness for college, and Algebra II. Comments continued to focus on PARCC testing and the impact on both students and the district's educational policy. Specific

comments included performance results, amount of time teachers are out of the classrooms, consequences of refusal to take the test and providing alternate instruction to those students, the schedule of PARCC and end of year AP exams, impact on differentiated instruction, stress level to students by the volume of testing, impact on extra assistance students receive based on the NJASK results, the cost of PARCC, and making the education the focus not the test. The public requested the Board consider passing a resolution opting out of the testing.

**XV. Approval of Minutes**

October 20, 2014 – Executive Session Minutes  
October 20, 2014 – Regular Session Minutes  
November 10, 2014 – Regular Session Agenda

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

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Richman,  
Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge  
“Noes” - None  
“Abstain” - None

**XVI. Committee Reports**

**FINANCE**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated Nov 24, 2014 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$3,920,790.33.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the October 2014 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the monthly Investment Report for October 2014, and the Treasurer of the School Monies Report for October 2014.

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), the Bernards Township Board of Education, after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, and to the best of their knowledge, certifies that as of the date of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Report, no major account or fund has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the October 2014 line item transfers totaling \$572,669.38 to the 2014-15 school budget, list on file in the Board office.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve professional development expenses in accordance with P.L. 2007 An Act Concerning School District Accountability and annual Board resolution for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
K. Bobowicz	Helping Struggling Readers Succeed by Developing Ownership, Agency, and Independence	\$150	12/12/2014
K. Taccarino	Helping Struggling Readers Succeed by Developing Ownership, Agency, and Independence	\$150	12/12/2014
B. Heineman	ISTE National Conference	\$660	6/29/2015 – 7/1/2015
M. Hall	ISTE National Conference	\$660	6/29/2015 – 7/1/2015

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **field trip destination** for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>Destination:</u>	<u>Group Attending:</u>	<u>Number of Students:</u>
Goryeb Children’s Hospital, Morristown, NJ	Ridge High School Students	12

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an aide for student # 303915 from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 at **Lakeview School** not to exceed \$28,782.60.

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve occupational therapy services for student # 201082 from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 at **AJL Therapy for Kids, LLC** not to exceed \$4,680.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve regular school year tuition for student # 305468 from September 15, 2014 to June 30, 2015 at **Sage Day** not to exceed \$51,975.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an aide for student # 203481 from September 4, 2014 to June 30, 2015 at **Rock Brook School** not to exceed \$33,620.40.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following parental contract for student transportation for the 2014-15 school year:

<b><u>Student #:</u></b>	<b><u>Transportation:</u></b>
202693	\$2,771

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following transportation routes with **Somerset County Educational Services Commission** for the 2014-15 school year:

#### Summer 2014

<b><u>Route #:</u></b>	<b><u>Destination:</u></b>	<b><u>Per Annum:</u></b>
14033	Non-district	\$5,294.70
13003	Non-district	\$9,301.18
14030	Non-district	\$6,079.10
S1411	Non-district	\$4229.40
12024*	Non-district	\$8,578.69
12040*	Non-district	\$7,299.90
13019	Non-district	\$4,862.54
13016	Non-district	\$4,728.99
12018	Non-district	\$7,977.03
13030	Non-district	\$2,831.68
SC8-2*	Non-district	\$2,156.68

\*Includes Aide

±Includes Nurse

#### Regular School Year

<b><u>Route #:</u></b>	<b><u>Destination:</u></b>	<b><u>Per Annum:</u></b>
CH09*, CH10*, CH11*, CH12*	Cedar Hill School	\$36,900.35 each
MPSPED5*, MPPE01*, MPPE02*, MPP02*, MPP01*, MP05*, MPSPED3*, MP06*, PSPED6*	Mount Prospect School	\$36,900.35 each
MPSPED4*±	Mount Prospect School	\$44,172.35
MPSPED7*	Mount Prospect School	\$20,000.00
RHS101*, RHS102*, RHS1* LC10*, LC11*	Ridge High School	\$36,900.35 each
LC10*, LC11*	Liberty Corner School	\$36,900.35 each
WASPED01*, WASPED02*, WA120*	William Annin Middle School	\$36,900.35 each
15184	Non-district	\$25,051.41
9015	Non-district	\$34,445.69
15213*	Non-district	\$69,935.19
13037*	Non-district	\$70,979.00
12018	Non-district	\$50,102.83



15188	Non-district	\$46,971.40
13003	Non-district	\$80,373.28
12024*	Non-district	\$64,716.15
12037	Non-district	\$33,401.88
SC8-2*	Non-district	\$85,592.33
12040*	Non-district	\$65,759.96
15189	Non-district	\$60,540.92
15185	Non-district	\$36,533.31
Q5224	Non-district	\$41,752.35
Q5237	Non-district	\$49,059.02
Q5229	Non-district	\$42,796.16
15201	Non-district	\$53,234.25
14033*	Non-district	\$63,672.38
SC523	Non-district	\$68,891.39
DV01A	Non-district	\$38,012.00
DV01T	Non-district	\$3,536.00
N2028	Non-district	\$12,376.00
N2029	Non-district	\$29,172.00
99184	Non-district	\$11,492.00
NP7010	Non-district	\$35,360.00
SJ01	Non-district	\$31,824.00
SJ02	Non-district	\$13,260.00
SJ03	Non-district	\$32,708.00
CH01, CH02, CH03, CH04, CH05, CH06	Cedar Hill School	\$32,930.04 each
LC01, LC02, LC03, LC04, LC05	Liberty Corner School	\$32,930.04 each
MP01, MP02	Mount Prospect School	\$32,930.04 each
RH01, RH02, RH03, RH04, RH05, RH06, RH07, RH08, RH09, RH10, RH11, RH12, RH13, RH14, RH15, RH16, RH17, RH18, RH19, RH20, RH21, RH22, RH23, RH24, RH25, RH26, RH27	Ridge High School	\$32,930.04 each
RHVOTECH	Ridge High School	\$42,874.50
OS01, OS02, OS03, OS04, OS05, OS06	Oak Street School	\$32,930.04 each
WA01, WA02, WA03, WA04, WA05, WA06, WA07, WA08, WA09, WA10, WA11, WA12, WA13, WA14, WA15, WA16, WA17, WA18, WA19, WA20, WA21, WA22, WA23, WA24, WA25, WA26, WA27	William Annin Middle School	\$32,930.04 each

\*Includes Aide

±Includes Nurse

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby acknowledge receipt of the **FY 2014 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report**.

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby adopt the corrective action plan for the **FY2014 Audit Findings** (attachment F13).

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **Ridge High PTO** in the amount of \$20,000 to purchase 10 Elkay Water Bottle Filling Stations.

15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **William Annin PTO** in the amount of \$12,781.26 to purchase a chromebook cart.

**16) RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY DIRECTING THE UNDERTAKING OF A CONTINUING DISCLOSURE REVIEW AND AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE "MUNICIPALITIES CONTINUING DISCLOSURE COOPERATION" INITIATIVE OF THE DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT OF THE U.S. SECURITIES EXCHANGE COMMISSION.**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Education of the Township of Bernards in the County of Somerset New Jersey (the "Issuer") has previously issued one or more series of bonds and or notes, including in the past five (5) years pursuant to one or more preliminary and final official statements (collectively, the "Bonds"); and

**WHEREAS**, in connection with the issuance of such Bonds, the Issuer covenanted with Bondholders to provide certain secondary market information on an annual basis to the Nationally Recognized Municipal Securities Information Repositories (pre-2009) and to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access Data Port (2009 to present) ("EMMA"), including, but not limited to, audited financial statements, budgets, other financial and operating data and ratings changes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") has recently focused attention on what it alleges is widespread failure of local government issuers across the nation to meet their continuing disclosure obligations and misrepresentation through material misstatements in an official statement (innocently, inadvertently or otherwise) of past compliance with continuing disclosure obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to remedy these perceived issues, the SEC has implemented the Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative (the "MCDC"), a limited-time program ending at 12:00 a.m. on December 1, 2014, that

encourages issuers of municipal bonds, including the Issuer, to self-report possible material misstatements or omissions, made in the past five (5) years in an official statement regarding compliance with prior continuing disclosure obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, by participating in the MCDC, issuers agree to accept certain non-monetary penalties, in lieu of unknown, and, potentially significant monetary and non-monetary penalties the SEC has threatened on issuers that do not participate in the MCDC, should the SEC determine that an issuer has made material misstatements in an official statement regarding compliance with prior continuing disclosure obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, by participating in the MCDC, issuers agree to accept the following penalties, if imposed by the SEC (i) compliance with a cease and desist order in which the issuer neither admits nor denies the findings of the SEC, (ii) implementation of policies, procedures and training regarding continuing disclosure obligations, (iii) compliance with all existing continuing disclosure undertakings, (iv) cooperation with any further SEC investigation, (v) disclosure of settlement terms in any final official statement issued within five years of the date of institution of the proceedings, and (vi) production to the SEC of a compliance certificate regarding the applicable undertakings on the one year anniversary of the proceedings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Issuer desires to conduct a disclosure review which will (i) summarize the results of the Issuer's prior compliance with its secondary market disclosure obligations and (ii) compare those results to the statements made by the Issuer in its official statements regarding past compliance (the "Disclosure Review"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Issuer further desires to retain the services of disclosure specialist to conduct the Disclosure Review; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the results of the Disclosure Review, and weighing the known, non-monetary penalties that may come through the Issuer's participation in the MCDC versus the unknown, and, by all accounts, potentially significant monetary and non-monetary penalties the SEC has threatened on issuers that do not self-report, the Issuer further desires to delegate to the Chief Financial Officer, in consultation with the Issuer's general counsel, bond counsel, auditor and other finance professionals, the power to prepare and submit all documentation required to enter the Issuer's Bond issues into the MCDC, as necessary;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE ISSUER, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1.** The Issuer hereby authorizes completion of the Disclosure Review.

**Section 2.** The Issuer hereby authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to engage the services of a disclosure specialist to complete the Disclosure Review; provided that the award of any contract in connection therewith meets the requirements of Issuer’s applicable public contracting laws.

**Section 3.** In the event the Disclosure Review reveals that the Issuer **may** have made a material misstatement regarding the Issuer's compliance with prior continuing disclosure undertakings, the Issuer hereby authorizes and directs the Chief Financial Officer to prepare and submit all documentation necessary to enter the Issuer's applicable Bond issues into the MCDC.

The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve participation of the Ridge High School Varsity Competition Cheerleading Team in the National High School Cheerleading Competition in Orlando, Florida from February 6 – February 11, 2014.

**Section 4.** Any action taken by the Chief Financial Officer, or any other officer of the Issuer, with respect to the Disclosure Review, the engagement of a disclosure specialist and participation in the MCDC is hereby ratified and confirmed.

**Section 5.** This resolution shall take effect immediately.

On motion by Ms. Gray, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, Items #1 through #16 were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne (except Item #5), Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah (except Item #5), Ms. Wooldridge
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - Mr. Byrne (only Item #5), Ms. Shah (only Item #5)

Ms. McGowan updated the Board on the audit results stating the district received a clean audit. The Board had a lengthy discussion on the RHS wellness center renovation. It was decided to continue dialogue with the Ridge Sports Foundation in an effort to create a new collaborative plan.

## **PERSONNEL**

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Jessica Demcsak** Art/Photography Teacher Ridge High School effective January 19, 2015 through March 17, 2015 utilizing 40 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective March 18, 2015 through April 28, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective March 18, 2015 through June 9, 2015, then an unpaid child care leave effective June 10, 2015 through June 30, 2015, returning September 1, 2015.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Susan Westlake** Social Studies Teacher William Annin Middle School effective March 16, 2015 through May 15, 2015 utilizing 39 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective May 16, 2015 through June 30, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective May 16, 2015 through June 30, 2015, returning September 1, 2015.

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Pamela Jernegan** Special Education Teacher Cedar Hill School effective February 3, 2015 through April 1, 2015 utilizing 40 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective April 2, 2015 through May 14, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective April 2, 2015 through June 30, 2015, returning September 1, 2015.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid medical leave for **Ellen Mallach** School Aide Mount Prospect School effective November 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Gail Hatch** .2 Physical Therapist Mount Prospect School at a salary of \$458 per diem effective January 9, 2015 through June 12, 2015.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Lisa Roman** .7 Art Teacher Mount Prospect & Oak Street Schools at a salary of Step 7 BA \$52,206 and an Instructional Aide 3 hours per day at a salary of Step 5 \$27.64 per hour effective September 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Actual total salary of \$50,719.00

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Alexandra Amster** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 \$25.25 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective December 1, 2014 through June 18, 2015.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Karen Kucharski** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 \$25.25 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective December 8, 2014 through June 18, 2015.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Extracurricular Assignments** for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Stipend:</u>	<u>Longevity:</u>
RH	Assistant Indoor Winter Track	Dan Goldberg	\$4,895	0 years/0 points/\$0
RH	Assistant Boys Fencing	Jason Choy	\$4,895	n/a

RH	Head Girls Ski Race	Annie Vag	\$7,417	n/a
RH	Freshmen Boys' Basketball	William Lester	\$6,833	n/a
LC	Webmaster Sept.-Dec.	Leyna Lillia	\$1,572.40	1 year/1 point/\$0
LC	Webmaster Jan.-June	Emily Barisonek	\$2,358.60	0 years/0 points/\$0

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following staff members in **Various Assignments** listed for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Salary:</u>
Rachel Miranda	PAC Tickets	\$37.00 per hour
Dawn Piper	PAC Tickets	\$37.00 per hour
Alexis Carola	After School Care Program	\$45.00 per hour
Virginia Blackowski	After School Care Program	\$20.00 per hour
Carol Skolnik	At Home Program – SE	\$65.00 per hour
Monica Mejia	At Home Program – SE	\$65.00 per hour
Tracy DeFrancesco	At Home Program – SE	\$60.00 per hour
Sean Ulichny	After School Activities – SE	\$27.64 per hour
Mohammed Anwar	After School Program Aide	\$12.00 per hour
Vince Sferra	After School Program Aide	\$12.00 per hour
Harlei Stansbury	After School Program Aide	\$12.00 per hour
Julia Adesso	After School Program Aide	\$12.00 per hour
Emily LeBeouf	After School Program Aide	\$12.00 per hour
Sydney Lynn	After School Program Aide	\$12.00 per hour
Jennifer Verrusio	After School Program	\$45.00 per hour
Jen Schuchman	Bedside Instruction	\$75.32 per hour

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following Substitute Teachers at a salary of \$90 per diem and Substitute Nurses at a salary of \$170 per diem for the 2014-15 school year:

Jessica Hagwood	Manjit Sandhu
John Castaldo	Anne Vag
Robert Vogt	Anamarie Lauren
Karen Rossi	Josh Ganz

\*denotes a substitute nurse

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Student Interns** for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>College/University:</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher:</u>
Raphael Arimenti	Essex County	Social Studies/M. Dupuis William Annin 11/25/14
Carolynn Abrams	Rider	Science/D. Petersen William Annin 1/26/15-5/7/15

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Volunteers** for the 2014-15 school year:

Brian Gagnon	Track RHS
Jim O'Connor	Track RHS
Thomas Kurtzman	Boys' Basketball WAMS
Mark Galesi	Girls' Basketball WAMS
Mike Levy	Boys Volleyball

On motion Ms. Cwerner, seconded Ms. Shah, Items #1 through #13 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Richman,  
Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge  
“Noes” - None  
“Abstain” - None

## **POLICY**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the abolishment of Policy 1522 School-level Planning (M).

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following policies on **first reading**:

- a) 5305 Health Services Personnel
- b) 5306 Health Services to Nonpublic Schools (M)
- c) 5308 Student Health Records (M)
- d) 5310 Health Services (M)
- e) 5339 Screening for Dyslexia (M)
- f) 5530 Substance Abuse (M)
- g) 5600 Student Discipline/Code of Conduct (M)

h) 8505 Wellness Policy/Nutrient Standards for Meals and Other Foods (M)

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following policies on **second reading and adopt said policies**:

- a) 0155 Board Committees
- b) 2412 Home Instruction Due to health Condition (M)
- c) 2417 Student Intervention and Referral Services (M)
- d) 2481 Home or Out-of-School Instruction for a General Education Student for Reasons Other Than a Temporary or Chronic Health Condition (M)
- e) 5620 Expulsion

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **policies & regulations on second reading and adopt said policies & regulations**:

- a) 5200 Attendance
- b) 5610 Suspension (M)
- c) 5611 Removal of Students for Firearms Offenses (M)
- d) 5612 Assaults on District Board of Education Members or Employees (M)
- e) 5613 Removal of Students for Assaults with Weapons Offenses (M)
- f) 8462 Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children (M)

On motion by Ms. Richman, seconded by Ms. Gray, Item #1 through #3 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Richman,  
Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge  
“Noes” - None  
“Abstain” - None

## **CURRICULUM**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **change to course titles in the Ridge High School Program of Studies** for the 2015-16 school year:

**From:**

Literary Experience Grade 9  
The Voices of American Literature  
British Literature & Literature of the  
Commonwealth

**To:**

English 9  
English 10: American Literature  
English 11: British Literature



Contemporary Literature

English 12: Seminar in Composition &  
Literature

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

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. Gray, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Richman,  
Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge  
“Noes” - None  
“Abstain” - None

Committee report to be made at December 15, 2014 Board meeting.

**ADVOCACY**

No report.

**LIAISON REPORTS**

Report to be made at December 15, 2014 Board meeting.

**XVII. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items**

No comments were made.

**XVIII. Board Forum**

A comment was made on how to best address the issues brought forward in regard to PARCC testing.

**XIX. Adjournment**

On motion by Mr. Byrne, seconded by Ms. Gray, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 11:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin  
Board Secretary