

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MINUTES INDEX  
NOVEMBER 9, 2015  
REGULAR SESSION 7:00  
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

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  - 2) Approve **Model UN Conference Overnight Trip** January 2016 and **Forensics Team Overnight Trip** January 2016
  - 3) Bernards Township Board of Education Affirms Receipt of **HIB Report** Dated November 9, 2015
  - 4) Approve the 2015-16 School Nursing Plan
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- 2) Accept Resignation **Stephan Kusik** District Facilities Junior Engineer 2015-16 School Year - page 127
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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MEETING MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 9, 2015  
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.  
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:05 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Auditorium**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by President McKeon.

**II. Salute to the Flag**

**III. Roll Call**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Kusel,  
Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian,  
Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

**ABSENT:** Mr. Siet

**IV. 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.

V. **Superintendent’s Report**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC)

WHEREAS, 18A:7a-10 establishes the New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) for evaluating performance of each school district, and

WHEREAS, the evaluation of the district will be based upon five (5) key components of school district effectiveness: instruction and program; personnel; fiscal management; operations; and governance, and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township School District has completed the Statement of Assurances, a self-evaluation in the key components to assess the district’s capacity and effectiveness using quality performance indicators,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education hereby affirms the accuracy of the Statement of Assurance and approves it for submission to the New Jersey Department of Education. Complete Statement of Assurance is on file in Board of Education Office.

- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **2015-16 overnight trips:**

Sheraton Downtown – Philadelphia,PA **Model UN Conference** 55 students  
JAN 28-31, 2016 – Thursday-Sunday

Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville, TN **Forensics Tournament** 2 students  
JAN 1-3, 2016 – Friday-Sunday

- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated November 9, 2015.

- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the 2015-16 School Nursing Plan for submission to the Somerset County Office.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Ms. Wooldridge Items #1 through #4 were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

## VI. Board Presentation

1) Post-Secondary Report – Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Brian Heineman, and Supervisor of School Counseling, Jillian Shadis.

Key points of the presentation were:

- RHS Class of 2015 Snapshot – 457 graduates with 96.94% continuing their education; Mean SAT Reasoning Test Scores (Critical Reading 589, Math 611, Writing 581); Mean ACT exam scores (Composite 26.3)
- Upcoming changes in the SAT/ACT testing
- Standardized Testing Part 1 – SAT vs. ACT testing; number of class of 2015 RHS students tested (SAT 344; ACT 292); a review of the SAT scores in the areas of Critical Reading, Math, Writing; districts whose students scored above 1550 on SATs; the RHS ACT Mean Scores compared with the NJ average over the past five years; ACT benchmark information
- SAT subject area test mean scores
- Update on SAT/ACT Test Preparation Method Test Prep 2.0 included student usage since 2011-12
- Standardized Testing Part II Advanced Placement (AP) Exams – 2014-2015 class enrollment by subject area; 2015 testing results; five-year trends by subject area
- 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; matriculation data and acceptance rates
- College admissions updates in regard to waitlists; top factors in admission; NJ tuition status; test options; The Coalition Application that is set to debut in April 2016

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

## VII. Public Forum on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

## VIII. Committee Reports

### FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a [list of disbursements](#) dated November 9, 2015 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$6,318,463.11.

2) 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 2015-16 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
G. Donlevie	Demystifying PARCC Data Reports	\$158	12/03/2015
L. Vitale	Response to Instruction and Intervention	\$415	11/17/2015 to 11/18/2015
D. Goetjen	NJASL Conference	\$336	11/15/2015 to 11/16/2015
L. Vitale	DIEBLS NEXT	\$150	12/14/2015
Stanzione			

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve **disposal of equipment/books** for the 2015-16 school year; list maintained in the Board of Education office.

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Quantity:</u>
JBL Control1X Speakers	1
3M 9075 Overhead	4

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **field trip destinations** for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Destination:</u>	<u>Group Attending:</u>	<u>Number of Students:</u>	<u>Date</u>
Visiting Nurses Assoc., Basking Ridge	A Capella Choir	51	12/17/2015 Thursday
Sheraton Downtown, Philadelphia, PA	Model UN Conference	55	01/28/2016 to 01/31/2016 Thurs- Sunday
National Dance Showcase, Summit, NJ	Ridge Dance Team	23	02/06/2016 Saturday
Beyond the Stars Dance Competition, Somerset, NJ	Ridge Dance Team	23	02/20/2016 Saturday
NJ High School Dance Fest, Union City High School, Union City, NJ	Ridge Dance Team and Dance 3	30	03/12/2016 Saturday
Groove Competition, Chester, NJ	Ridge Dance Team	23	04/02/2016 Saturday
Montgomery Bell Academy, Nashville, TN	Ridge Forensics Team	2	01/01/2016 to 01/03/2016 Friday-Sunday

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **parental contract for student transportation** for the 2015-2016 school year:

<u>Student #</u>	<u>Tuition Amount:</u>
202693	\$2,621.00

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a contract with **Somerset Hills YMCA** for use of the pool by the Ridge High School swim team for the 2015-16 school year in the amount of \$9,270.

On motion by Ms. Kusel seconded by Ms. Wooldridge Items #1 through #6 were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

## **PERSONNEL**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Stephenie Chatellier** Secretary William Annin Middle School effective December 1, 2015, for the purpose of retirement, with regret.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Stephan Kusik** District Facilities Junior Engineer effective January 23, 2016.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Romina Casenta** ESL .8 Liberty Corner and Spanish .2 Ridge High School effective December 21, 2015.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Jennifer Hauser** Special Education Teacher Ridge High School effective on or before December 31, 2015.
- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Carolyn Tangreti** Instructional Aide Cedar Hill School effective November 27, 2015.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Lisa Michaloski** Instructional Aide Ridge High School effective November 25, 2015.
- 7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby rescind the following Extra-Curricular assignment for the 2015-16 school year:  
  
**Lidia D’Armiento** Winter Intramurals Cedar Hill
- 8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid child care leave for **Amy Deak**, Special Education Teacher William Annin Middle School effective March 14, 2016 through May 13, 2016 utilizing 39 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective May 14, 2016 through June 27, 2016 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective May 14, 2016 through June 30, 2016, returning September 1, 2016.
- 9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid child care leave for **Yasmina Navarro** Spanish Teacher Ridge High School effective January 22, 2016 through February 22, 2016 utilizing 18 personal illness days and 2 personal days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective February 23, 2016 through April 5,



2016 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective February 23, 2016 through April 5, 2016, returning April 6, 2016.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid Federal Family Leave for **Megan Kern** Theater Teacher .5 Ridge High School effective October 28, 2015 until January 22, 2016.

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Change in Assignments, FTE, Salaries and/or Locations** for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
Megan Kern	Fall Drama Club RHS \$2729	Fall Drama Club RHS \$1364.50
Niall Caldwell	Winter Intramurals 2 x week \$1,202 9 years/1 point/\$198	Winter Intramurals 4 x week \$2,404 9 years/1 point/\$198

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following mentors for the 2015 - 16 school year, revised mentoring fee to be paid by the provisional teacher:

<u>Provisional Teacher</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Mentor</u>	<u>Payment</u>
Thomas Liska	Social Studies	Suzanne Ward	\$550
Frank Caccavale	Technology	Mark Dotta	\$366
Dan Goldberg	Physical Education	Tim Howard	\$366
Troy O'Connor	Mathematics	Jacqueline Geiger	\$550
Robin Wells	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Math	Jamie Mauro	\$366
Lauren Colantoni	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Science	Christina Daly	\$550
Timothy Gibbs	Social Studies	Melanie Dupuis	\$366
Jessica Baker	Special Ed	Erin Stutz	\$550
Samantha Meringolo	Grade 2	Linda Mullin	\$366
Megan Licata	Grade 3	Carley Long	\$550
Steven Bogart	Phys. Ed & Health	Liana Lavecchia	\$366
Caroline Clark	Preschool Special Ed.	Maggi Rossi	\$1000
Katherine McGrath	Elem. Autistic K – 5	TBA	\$1000
Nicole Hall	Special Education	TBA	\$550

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Extra-Curricular Assignments** 2015-16 school year:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>15-16:</u>	<u>Years:</u>	<u>Points:</u>	<u>Longevity:</u>
WA	Jocelyn Bizzarro	Team Leader Grade 7	\$4,217	none		
RH	Robert Romanyshyn	Assistant Boys' Basketball	\$6,970	0 years	0 points	\$0
RH	Jason Stewart	Fall Drama Club	\$1,364.50	none		

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following Staff College Instructor for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Course:</u>	<u># of Hours:</u>	<u>Salary:</u>
Erin Noonan	AHA – Basic Life Support	12	\$600

15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Student Intern** for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>College/University:</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher:</u>
Stephanie	College of Saint	Grade 1/Sherry Jakubowski/Mount
Zultanky	Elizabeth	Prospect 3/28/16-4/1/16
Robin Zak	College of Saint	Grade 2/Linda Mullen/Oak Street
	Elizabeth	2/29/16-3/4/16

16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following Volunteers for the 2015-16 school year:

T.J. Gibbs	WAMS Boys Basketball
Megan Heaslip	WAMS Boys Basketball
Mark Galesi	WAMS Girls Basketball
Teresa Staats	WAMS Boys Volleyball

17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint attorney **Anthony Sciarrillo** as counsel to represent the Board of Education as labor counsel for negotiations with the Bernards Township Education Association.

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education hereby establishes a Negotiations Committee for the specific task of representing the Board of Education in the negotiation of a successor agreement with the Bernards Township Education Association. The Negotiations Committee is appointed for the duration of the negotiations process and is limited in authority by Board of Education Policy 0155. The Negotiations Committee members are as follows:

Elaine Kusel - Chairperson  
 Robin McKeon  
 Bev Cwerner  
 Linda Wooldridge

19) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of Amy Jablonski Instructional Aide Ridge High School effective November 30, 2015.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Ms. Shah Items #1 through #19 (excepting number #18) were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Fry (except Item #4), Ms. Gray, Ms. Kusel, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McKeon  
 “Noes” - None  
 “Abstain” - Mr. Fry (Item #4 only)

## **CURRICULUM**

Ms. Wooldridge noted that the next Curriculum meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2015 and a report will be provided at the next Board of Education Meeting scheduled for November 23, 2015.

## **POLICY**

Ms. Shah noted that the Policy Committee met on November 9, 2015 and a report will be provided at the next Board of Education Meeting scheduled for November 23, 2015.

## **ADVOCACY**

Ms. Richman noted that there will be a report provided at the next Board of Education Meeting scheduled for November 23, 2015.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

Ms. Wooldridge discussed the Municipal Alliance Meeting on November 3, 2015. She noted that the presentation "Not in My Basement" had a good turnout of approximately 150 attendees and that the presentation is being edited so that it may be accessed and viewed on the website.

Also noted was that the School Resource Officer for William Annin Middle School recently showed the video "Pills to Heroin" to the eighth graders in their Health classes. In addition, a Municipal Alliance member has reached out to a local Drug Enforcement Administration employee about the possibility of speaking to small groups of students about the dangers of prescription pills and heroin.

### **IX. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items**

Comments were made regarding the need for a policy regarding camera drone usage above school property and the impending deadline for transportation.

### **X. Board Forum**

Superintendent Nick Markarian congratulated Robin McKeon, Beverly Cwerner and Karen Richman on their re-election to the Board of Education. He also thanked the staff members and administration for their hard work and effort that resulted in the outstanding SAT and ACT test scores as reflected in the presentation given.

Mr. Markarian replied to the public statement regarding drone usage at school events and on school property by noting that a policy for this is currently being worked on by the Board of Education.

#### **1) Busing 2016-2017**

Superintendent Nick Markarian discussed that the budgetary shortfall that the Board of Education is facing for transportation is being taken very seriously and there are several measures being taken to mitigate this issue. Meetings with the Somerset County Educational Services Commission (SSESC) are taking place to discuss options that will reduce costs and double and triple tier busing schedules. Mr. Markarian noted that more information will be made available at the next Board of Education meeting on November 23, 2015.

Concerns raised by Board of Education members regarding transportation were that a change of schedule could impact before and after school activities, increases in employment hours for bus drivers could result in other benefit and salary expenses that could negate savings and the upcoming deadline for the resolution to this issue. The Board also noted the benefit of having input from all sources possible, administrative, staff and public, so that all considerations are explored when a resolution is made.

**XI. Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Mr. Fry, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin  
Board Secretary