

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES INDEX
APRIL 6, 2015
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EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:36 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:15 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PAC**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2015
REGULAR SESSION 5:30 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:36 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:15 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PAC**

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by President McKeon.

I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 5:30 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal’s Conference Room

II. Salute to the Flag

III. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Kusel, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin

ABSENT: Ms. Cwerner

IV. Executive Session – 5:36 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal’s Conference Room

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education met in closed session to discuss: contract negotiations; confidential personnel items; confidential student 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. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Gray, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 5:36 p.m.

On motion by Ms. Richman, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 7:00 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the Ridge High School PAC at 7:15 p.m.

V. Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:15 p.m. – Ridge High School PAC

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. 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 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**

Student Government Treasurer, Jad Abouseleiman, updated the Board on activities at the high school including the freshman Macaroni Madness fundraiser, and the sophomore canned food drive where 3,000 cans were collected. Proceeds from both events were donated to the Somerset County Food Bank. A total of \$250 was collected from the "Pennies for Patients" project. The junior class presented "Ridge Has Got Talent" and sold prom bids. The senior class is planning the "Mr. Ridge" talent show.

VIII. Board Presentation

1) Interventionist Position

Director of Special Services Jean O’Connell explained the history of IDEA which was initiated by the federal government in 1975 and the impact it has had on Bernards Township. She explained two major trends, “frequency of classification” and “severity of classification” and the effect on district funding since 2007. NJSBA’s Task Force looked into methods to reduce special education costs without diminishing quality. The conclusion was merging interventions and instruction between special education and general education to meet the needs of the struggling learner. Establishing a position of K-5 interventionist would assist the district in meeting this goal as well as meeting needs in regard to referral rates, I&RS action plans, monitoring staff progress, and training general education teachers in alternate methods.

For complete presentation click [here](#).

2) HIB Reporting Period 1 2014-15 School Year Presentation –

Superintendent of Schools Nick Markarian compared district incidents for the first reporting period from 2011 through 2014. This year’s confirmed incidents were broken down by specific location within each school building and by category (violence, vandalism, weapons & substance abuse).

HIB is reported as its own category. Mr. Markarian reviewed incidents by location, the incident category by school, nature and examples of incidents, and a breakdown by category of offenders and victims. Consequences were reported in both the VVSA & HIB categories. He presented information on the unconfirmed incidents, and examples of training and programs available to both staff and students. A brief overview of the Botvin Life Skills Program for grades 3 to 9 was presented. The district hopes to implement a portion of this program in the 2015-16 school year.

For complete presentation click [here](#).

IX. Superintendent’s Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated April 6, 2015.

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

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

X. Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

XI. Public Hearing on Lease Purchase

Mary Lyons of Phoenix Advisors, LLC explained the lease purchase process for two upcoming district capital projects due to be completed this summer. Funding for the turf field and renovation to high school space to develop a Wellness Center would be over a five-year period. Due to the construction needed for the second project, the state requires the district to hold a public hearing and submit a request. The district bid for the funding with Stirling National Bank coming in with the best funding rate.

XII. Approval of Lease Purchase

1) RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING A LEASE PURCHASE TRANSACTION IN THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT OF \$763,200 WITH STERLING NATIONAL BANK AND ACTIONS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

WHEREAS, 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) determined to undertake a capital project consisting of the conversion of a storage area to a fitness center at Ridge High School in the School District (the “Fitness Center Project”) for an estimated cost of not to exceed \$462,000;

WHEREAS, the Board desires to finance the cost of the Fitness Center Project pursuant to a lease purchase agreement as permitted by N.J.S.A. 18A:20-4.2(f) (the “Fitness Center Lease Purchase”) in an amount not to exceed \$462,000;

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-10.3, the Board is required to conduct a public hearing on the Fitness Center Project and the proposed Fitness Center Lease Purchase;

WHEREAS, notice of such public hearing was advertised on March 23, 2015 in the Courier News;

WHEREAS, on the date hereof, the Board conducted a public hearing on the Fitness Center Project and the Fitness Center Lease Purchase;

WHEREAS, in addition, the Board desires to replace the turf field at Ridge High School at a cost, not to exceed \$301,200 (the “Turf Field Project” and with the Fitness Center Project, the “Project”);

WHEREAS, the Board desires to finance the cost of the Turf Field Project pursuant to an equipment lease purchase agreement (the “Turf Field Lease Purchase” and with the Fitness Center Lease Purchase, the “Lease Purchase”) in an amount not to exceed \$301,200;

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2015, a request for bids for Lessor for the Project was published in the Courier News;

WHEREAS, bids for Lessor for the Project were received on April 2, 2015 and Sterling National Bank’s bid was the most advantageous to the Board;

WHEREAS, the Board anticipates receipt of the approval of the New Jersey Department of Education (“NJDOE”) to proceed with the Fitness Center Lease Purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Board now seeks to take certain steps to authorize such Lease Purchase and proceed forward with the Lease Purchase with Sterling National Bank as Lessor and to authorize actions in connection therewith, with the Fitness Center Lease Purchase contingent upon receipt of NJDOE approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS, IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY(by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the full membership of the Board), as follows:

1. The Board hereby endorses the financing of the Project through a lease purchase financing and approves a maximum funding level of \$763,200 for the Lease Purchase.
2. Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel is hereby authorized, nunc pro tunc, to advertise for bids for the selection of a lessor for the Lease Purchase.
3. Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer, P.A., Bond Counsel is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and submit an application to the New Jersey Department of Education (“NJDOE”) to obtain approval of the Fitness Center Lease Purchase.
4. To the best of its knowledge, the Board hereby confirms that the annual lease payments and any operating expenses related to the Lease Purchase can be included within the School District’s net budget spending growth limitations and will not result in the need for approval by the voters of additional spending proposals to maintain existing instructional programs or extracurricular activities.
5. The Board hereby appoints Sterling National Bank or its assigns, as Lessor for the Lease Purchase in accordance with its bid (the “Bid”). The interest rate for such Lease Purchase shall be 1.90% or such adjusted rates as provided in the Bid.

6. The term of the Lease Purchase shall not exceed five (5) years.

7. Subject to the paragraphs set forth in sections 1 and 2 hereof and in consultation with Bond Counsel, the Board President, the Board Vice President, the Superintendent and the Business Administrator/Board Secretary are each hereby authorized and directed to execute all documents including, but not limited to, a lease purchase agreement, a ground lease, if required, an escrow agreement, as applicable, and all closing documents in connection with the Lease Purchase and are hereby authorized to take any other action necessary therefor or incidental thereto.

8. The Board hereby covenants that it will comply with any conditions subsequently imposed by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), in order to preserve the exemption from taxation of interest on the Lease Purchase, including, if necessary, the requirement to rebate all net investment earnings on the gross proceeds above the yield on the Lease Purchase.

9. The Lease Purchase will be designated as a "qualified tax-exempt obligation" for purposes of section 265(b) (3) (B) (ii) of the Code.

10. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the approval of NJDOE.

XIII. Public Comment on Lease Purchase

A comment was made regarding the cost of both projects. The total cost is \$763,200. Ms. McKeon noted the Ridge Sports Foundation is contributing up to \$250,000 to the Wellness Center project.

XIV. Roll Call on Lease Purchase

On motion by Ms. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, the Lease Purchase was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

XV. Committee Reports

FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of [disbursements](#) dated April 6, 2015 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$5,967,625.19.

2) Pursuant to the NJSA 18A:18A-4.3, the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby authorize the use of competitive contracting for the procurement of **food service management company services**.

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

<u>Destination:</u>	<u>Group Attending:</u>	<u>Number of Students:</u>
Pennsauken High School Pennsauken, NJ	Ridge High Students	30
Museum of Modern Art NYC, NY	Ridge High Students	45

On motion by Ms. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, Items #1 through #3 was approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Kusel, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah (except Item #3), Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McKeon
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - Ms. Shah (only Item #3)

PERSONNEL

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Fran Benitz** Business Education Teacher Ridge High School effective June 30, 2015, with regret, for the purpose of retirement.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Melanie Hostetter** Speech/Language Specialist Liberty Corner School effective June 30, 2015, with regret, for the purpose of retirement.

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Elizabeth Wolf** Social Studies Teacher Ridge High School effective June 30, 2015, with regret, for the purpose of retirement.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Candace Hazlewood** ABA Instructional Aide Cedar Hill School effective April 10, 2015.

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave for **Jessica DuBois-Heyder** School Social Worker Cedar Hill School effective September 1, 2015 through October 13, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2015 through November 1, 2015, returning November 2, 2015.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Change in Location and/or Salary** effective 2014-15 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
Leyna Lillia	Webmaster LC September through December \$1572.40	Webmaster LC September through December \$1179.30
Emily Barisonek	Webmaster LC December through June \$2358.60	Webmaster LC December through June \$2751.70
Jessica DeRose	Grade Level Leader K Oak Street September through June \$2,067.00	Grade Level Leader K Oak Street September through March \$1446.90

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **James Oliver** Principal Liberty Corner School effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, salary to be determined upon BTAA ratification.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Nicole Hall** Special Education Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 1 BA \$47,706 effective April 20, 2015 through June 30, 2015 as a maternity leave replacement for Cassandra Lombardo. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Sherri Tressedor** Grade 3 Teacher Liberty Corner at a salary of \$238 per diem effective March 25, 2015 through end of assignment as a medical leave replacement.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Alyssa Marmo** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 \$25.25 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective April 20, 2015 through June 18, 2015.

11) The Bernards Township Board does hereby appoint **Sheila Casimir** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School at a salary of Step 2 \$25.77 7.5 hours per day effective April 20, 2015 through June 18, 2015.

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Tyisha Arrington** Benefits Secretary District Office at a salary of \$42,000 effective May 1, 2015 through August 31, 2015 as a maternity leave replacement for Ashley Dunker. Salary to be prorated to reflect dates worked.

13) 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>
OS	Grade Level Leader K April – June	Marcy DiEduardo	\$620.10	none
WA	DC Chaperones	Chris Swanson	\$350.00	none
CH	Intramurals 1 Day per week	Lidia D’Armiento	\$589.00	6 years/1 point/ \$198

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Camp Jump Start Staff** for summer 2015:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Per Diem Rate:</u>
Brendan Amicone	Teacher	\$220.00
Caitlin Annese	Teacher	\$220.00
Nick Beykirch	Teacher	\$220.00
Jennifer Cali	Teacher	\$220.00
Pia Capone	Teacher	\$220.00
Anita DeAngelis	Nurse	\$220.00
Marissa Fuelhart	Teacher	\$220.00
Stephanie Garland	Teacher	\$220.00
Dina German	Teacher	\$220.00
Jill Hamilton	Teacher	\$220.00
Kevin Karch	Teacher	\$220.00
Jennifer Marney	Teacher	\$220.00
Cara Miscia	Teacher	\$220.00
Michael Orr	Teacher	\$220.00
Dave Petersen	Teacher	\$220.00
Vincent Randazzo	Teacher	\$220.00
Jennifer Richardella	Teacher	\$220.00
Jill Stedronsky	Teacher	\$220.00
Chris Swanson	Teacher	\$220.00
Melanie Turtur	Teacher	\$220.00
Allyson Blanford	Substitute/Field Trip Chaperone	\$180.00
Richard Hartman	Substitute/Field Trip Chaperone	\$180.00
Jonathan Ost	Substitute/Field Trip Chaperone	\$180.00
Evona Panycia	Substitute/Field Trip Chaperone	\$180.00
Courtney Slack	Substitute/Field Trip Chaperone	\$180.00
Christine White	Substitute/Field Trip Chaperone	\$180.00

15) Whereas, on September 9, 2013, pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-3.1 and its contract with the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education established quantitative merit goals, qualitative merit goals, goal criteria, and associated merit payments for the Superintendent for the 2013-2104 school year ending June 30, 2014, and

Whereas, the Board of Education has now reviewed indicators of the achievement of those goals, now therefore, be it

Resolved, the Board of Education makes the following determinations and directs that its determinations be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval before payment as required by law:

Type of Goal and Goal Description	Status	Percentage	Value
1) Quantitative: Design school-wide plan for creation and tracking of SGOs for teacher evaluation at Ridge High School.	Complete	3.33%	\$5,578.00

2) Quantitative: Increase school-level Student Growth Percentiles as reported on the NJDOE School Reports.	Complete	3.33%	\$5,578.00
3) Quantitative: Raise district's self-assessment score for implementation of the Anti-bullying Rights Act to 90%.	Complete	3.33%	\$5,578.00
4) Qualitative: Implement district program modifications to enhance individualized student needs.	Complete	2.40%	\$4,020.00
5) Qualitative: Increase opportunities to communicate with Board and Community.	Partially Complete	1.60%	\$2,680.00

On motion by Ms. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, Items #1 through #15 were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne (except Item #15), Mr. Fry (except Item #15), Ms. Gray (except Item #7), Ms. Kusel, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McKeon (except Item #7)
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - Mr. Byrne (only Item #15), Mr. Fry (only Item #15), Ms. Gray (only Item #7), Ms. McKeon (only Item #7)

Ms. McKeon and Mr. Markarian congratulated Dr. Oliver on his appointment as the new Principal of Liberty Corner School. Mr. Markarian commented on Dr. Oliver’s commitment to the children, staff and the families at Liberty Corner. Dr. Oliver thanked the Board, the staff of Liberty Corner and stated he is looking forward to the challenge.

CURRICULUM

Chairperson Linda Wooldridge stated the next committee meeting is scheduled for April 23.

POLICY

Chairperson Priti Shah stated the next committee meeting is scheduled for April 20.

ADVOCACY

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, the health of New Jersey’s public employee retirement systems affects the state’s economy and its citizens’ quality of life, and impacts critical functions, ranging from the state’s ability to borrow to finance public works projects to its annual budget including state aid to education and, consequently, the operation of the public schools; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Study Commission, appointed by Governor Chris Christie in 2014, has issued its final report, “A Roadmap to Resolution,” which proposes monumental changes in how public employee benefits,

particularly the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and the School Employees' Health Benefits Program (SEHBP), are financed and administered; and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Board of Education believes that reform must balance the health of the state's retiree benefits programs with local school boards' responsibility to provide sound educational programming; and

WHEREAS, TPAF benefits are established by the state and not through local school board action; and

WHEREAS, post-retirement medical benefits are provided to TPAF retirees through state legislation, not local school board action; and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Board of Education believes that the TPAF and any new retirement program for certificated school district staff must be funded by the state government; and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Board of Education believes that transferring payment of the employer's contribution to the teacher retirement plan and post-retirement medical benefits from the state to local school districts would have a detrimental impact on the resources necessary to maintain educational programming; and

WHEREAS, to restore solvency to, and avert future default of, the state's retirement programs, the pension and benefits reform act of 2011 (*P.L. 2011, c.78*) includes a schedule of annual state payments designed to close the deficit of the plans that serve school district employees; and

WHEREAS, medical benefits for retired school employees, which will total over \$1 billion in 2015-2016, are a major cost-driver in the state budget; and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Board of Education supports the current statutorily required employee contributions toward health benefits, which reflect current practice in the private sector and in public employment in other states, and have provided significant financial relief for local school districts, thereby enabling them to direct resources toward educational programming, including teacher employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education urges the state Legislature and Governor to ensure that the employers' cost for teacher pensions and post-retirement medical benefits—financial obligations created by the state—are not transferred to local school districts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that to provide local school districts and local property taxpayers with financial relief, the Legislature should amend *P.L. 2011, c.78* to make the current employee contributions toward health coverage a permanent requirement and not a subject of labor negotiations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that to provide further control over the cost of health benefits, the Legislature should give local boards of education unilateral authority to enroll in the

School Employee Health Benefits Program if the board determines that such action would generate financial savings; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Bernards Township Board of Education urges the state Legislature and Governor to take a studied and comprehensive approach that will ensure the long-term solvency of the state's public employee retirement programs without unduly burdening local school district budgets and endangering educational programming; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Chris Christie, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto; and the 21st Legislative District's representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Chairperson Karen Richman stated the resolution is in response to Governor Christie's report, "A Roadmap to Resolution," released after a review by the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Study Commission. The district does not support the monumental changes to the administration of the public employee benefits, particularly the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and the School Employees' Health Benefits Program (SEHBP).

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

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

LIAISON REPORTS

Ms. Wooldridge stated the Municipal Alliance is meeting on April 7, and a youth panel on drugs and alcohol is scheduled for Thursday, April 9, at town hall. She had a tour of the SCESC's Career Center which is now complete.

Ms. Shah attended the Somerset County School Boards meeting where issues in regard to use of student data and the PARCC test were discussed.

XVI. Public Comment

Comments were made regarding the recent PARCC testing including the number of testing dates, the schedule disruption to the students who were not testing, loss of instructional time, posting the testing dates/times, the status of the letter to the state, and implementing changes for the upcoming testing periods.

XVII. Board Forum

Comments were made regarding a list being compiled by the Board on concerns after the first round of PARCC testing, a resolution initiated by the Bridgewater School District, and the timeframe for forwarding a letter to the state. A recommendation was to wait until all testing is finished before a letter is sent and tailoring the letter to concerns specific to Bernards Township. Mr. Markarian stated administrators are meeting tomorrow to discuss the first round of testing and suggestions to improve the second round. He also felt the letter to the state should contain two or three significant issues and include supporting evidence. It was felt a second letter to the state next year would be appropriate once the district receives all testing data.

XVIII. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Shah, seconded by Mr. Fry, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary