

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES INDEX
DECEMBER 21, 2020
REGULAR SESSION 5:30 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:31 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:01 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING - INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE VIRTUAL MEETING WILL BE POSTED BY 6:00PM
ON DECEMBER 21, 2020 AT WWW.BERNARDSBOE.COM**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 21, 2020
REGULAR SESSION 5:30 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:31 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:01 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING - INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE VIRTUAL MEETING WILL BE POSTED BY 6:00PM
ON DECEMBER 21, 2020 AT WWW.BERNARDSBOE.COM**

I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 5:30 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

III. Roll Call

Present: Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Salmon,
Ms. Schafer, Ms. White, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian,
Mr. Siet, Ms. Fox, Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

ABSENT: Ms. Richman

IV. Executive Session – 5:31 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss item(s) a, b, e, f, g and h below which falls within an exception of our open meeting policy and permits the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A.10:4-12b. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule:

- a. Individual privacy
- b. Collective bargaining agreements
- c. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- d. Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- e. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- f. Pending or anticipated litigation
- g. Attorney – client privilege
- h. Personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

On motion by Ms. Korn and seconded by Ms. White and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 5:33p.m.

Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.

On motion by Ms. Korn seconded by Ms. Wooldridge and approved by all present, the Board closed the Executive Session at 6:13p.m.

V. Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:01 p.m.

VI. Statement of Public Notice

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

Due to the public health emergency in the State of New Jersey, as declared in Executive Order 103, the Board will be suspending its normal meeting procedures this evening and conducting a virtual meeting. Directions for accessing the virtual public meeting were posted on the District website: www.bernardsboe.com. These same directions were posted at our intended but unavailable meeting location.

We very much welcome input from the public. Because this is a virtual meeting, public comment will be handled in one of three ways:

PUBLIC COMMENT METHOD 1 (PREFERRED) - FULL VIDEO VIA ZOOM

Step 1: When you are ready to make a public comment, join the Board of Education meeting via the Zoom link posted on the district webpage www.bernardsboe.com. Please plan for your participation in the meeting by:

- Turning your camera and microphone on
- Dressing appropriately
- Maintaining a proper background setting for your camera's view
- Having a quiet space

- Muting the YouTube live stream of the Board of Education meeting when you are speaking so that there is no feedback with your participation in the Zoom meeting

Step 2: You will be placed in a queue and admitted to the meeting when it is your turn to make a public comment. Once you see that you are admitted to the Zoom call it will be your turn to make your public comment. Please begin your public comment by stating your full name and address.

Step 3: After making your public comment please exit the Zoom meeting so that the next person waiting to make a public comment can be admitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT METHOD 2 - DIAL-IN VIA ZOOM (VOICE ONLY)

Step 1: When you are ready to make a public comment, join the Zoom meeting using the dial in phone number and meeting ID posted on the district website www.bernardsboe.com. Please plan for your participation in the meeting by:

- Having a quiet space
- Muting the YouTube live stream of the Board of Education meeting when you are speaking so that there is no feedback with your participation in the Zoom meeting

Step 2: You will be placed in a queue and admitted to the meeting when it is your turn to make a public comment. Once you see that you are admitted to the Zoom call it will be your turn to make your public comment. Please begin your public comment by stating your full name and address.

Step 3: After making your public comment please exit the Zoom meeting so that the next person waiting to make a public comment can be admitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT METHOD 3

If the preferred full video method of public comment is not an option for you and the dial-in method fails, please follow these directions to submit your public comment.

Step 1: Starting at 7PM: email your comment to BTCConnect@bernardsboe.com or text your comment to (908) 292-3047.

Step 2: Use PUBLIC COMMENT as the email subject or start of a text message.

Step 3: Indicate your first and last name and address. ***THIS IS REQUIRED FOR YOUR PUBLIC COMMENT TO BE INCLUDED.***

Regardless of whether you use method 1, 2 or 3 for public comment please note that:

- Public comments are limited to a maximum of approximately 3 minutes if read aloud.
- Individuals are permitted a maximum of one public comment during public comment on agenda items. Individuals are permitted a maximum of one public comment during public comment on non-agenda items.
- Public comments submitted via method 1 and 2 will be processed first, then comments submitted by method 3. An individual's comments made using method 1 or 2 will not also be read into the record through method 3.
- The Board of Education reserves the right to limit the length of time allotted for public comment (for both agenda items and non-agenda items). In the event that time limitations prohibit the reading of a public comment received pursuant to these instructions, the comment will be published as part of the meeting minutes.
- No public comments will be accepted before 7PM or after item XIX. Board Forum of the agenda begins.

Please understand that public comment portions of our agendas are not structured as question and answer sessions, but rather they are offered as opportunities to share your thoughts with the Board. The Board may or may not respond to public comments. Any Board responses to public comments will generally be addressed during Board Forum, or during committee reports. However, all comments are considered and will be investigated and addressed as appropriate.

Please be courteous and mindful of the rights of others when providing comments. Comments may not be abusive, obscene, threatening or irrelevant. Please understand that students and employees have specific legal and privacy protections. The Board is not permitted to respond in public to comments about students and employees. Please also understand that the Board will not be responsible for the content of comments made by members of the public. Members of the public are cautioned that they are commenting at their own risk and any personally directed statements they make may subject them to legal liability to the effected individual.

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.

Resolution

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bernards Township Board of Education hereby approves the suspension of its normal meeting procedures pursuant to By-Law 131, and authorizes this meeting to be conducted as a virtual meeting, as described in the Statement of Public Notice, due to the public health emergency declared in Executive Order 103.

VII. **Student Representative - Juliet Nolt**

Ms. Nolt provided an update. Topics included the upcoming winter break and subsequent virtual learning week during January 4-8, 2021, a December gift of pizza for the RHS Senior Class, an assembly addressing issues the student body is facing and that students feel optimistic about the upcoming Spring of 2021.

VIII. **Board Presentation**

1) **2019-20 Code of Conduct/School Safety Data Report - Administrative Team**

Superintendent Markarian welcomed everyone and thanked them for their patience and thanked the administrative team for their hard work in putting together the Code of Conduct and School Safety Data Report. Mr. Markarian described the objectives of the report and then provided a breakdown of incidents by building in different categories. Mr. Markarian provided the school responses to the code of conduct violations.

Superintendent Markarian provided the School Safety Data noting that the incidents were low and also impacted by the switch to virtual learning during the spring of 2020 due to the public health crisis. Statistics for each category of school safety incidents were provided.

Superintendent Markarian thanked Assistant Superintendent Siet and the principals of the schools for preparing the data and for their attendance at the meeting.

Ms. McKeon asked a question regarding training for groups and individuals. Ms. Hozeny, principal of Mount Prospect School, described some of the training that was done at Mount Prospect.

To view the presentation click [here](#).

2) **Return to Instruction Update - Administrative Team**

Superintendent Markarian then discussed the Return to Instruction Plan: Amendments Update. Mr. Markarian provided a reminder as to the proposed amendments made during the November 23, 2020 Board of Education meeting. Proposed amendments included bringing students K-2 back to five day per week instruction, a shift in the bell schedule to traditional full day times, the before and after care program, a continuation of the availability of 100% virtual learning for students and bringing remaining levels of blended learning model students in every day eventually.

Superintendent Markarian discussed the logistics involved in implementing these amendments. Factors include timing, safety and preparation stating that the environment is constantly changing and consideration has to be given to that. Mr. Markarian discussed the number of daily new cases since the last board meeting and IEM COVID19

projections that impact full return to instruction. Mr. Markarian provided examples of supplies, materials, service changes and technology needs that need to be addressed and sufficient for return to instruction which also have an impact on the timeline.

Superintendent Markarian introduced the elementary school principals who have been working on a plan for return to daily instruction for grades K-2 including the analysis of parent survey results by elementary school and each of the grade levels, anticipated staffing and sectioning for each grade level, staffing needs, anticipated alternative spaces for larger classes in their building, average class size when fully staffed and where additional staff are needed.

Elementary principals provided further detail into the next steps and challenges for the plan amendments. Ms. Hozeny discussed different logistics for bringing students in daily that may work in conjunction with staffing needs, scheduling and space noting that each school would be different. Dr. Oliver discussed the ability level of students and their individual needs, the relationship between students and teachers and maintaining the sense of community.

Superintendent Markarian introduced the Proposed Plan Amendment 2 update which is to shift the bell schedule back to full days while maintaining A and B cohorts. Dr. Lazovick, principal of Ridge High School, thanked everyone for their assistance and hard work during this challenging time. Ms. Hudock, the principal of William Annin Middle School, discussed the trends and safety considerations in implementing the return to full day school during cohorts. Dr. Lazovick and Ms. Hudock discussed staffing needs, class schedules, surveys and data collection and challenges.

Ms. Foley, principal of Oak Street School, discussed elementary school considerations in returning to a full day schedule such as staffing, room usage, social distancing needs and the ability to meet requirements for safety measures. Mr. Ciempola, principal of Cedar Hill School, discussed the special considerations as per the layout and facility concerns, logistics for recess and supervision for increased times.

Mr. Salmon thanked the administrative team for their hard work and analysis of the proposed plan changes. Mr. Salmon questioned the delay for the Kindergarten return to five day instruction if staffing needs are met and space is available. Superintendent Markarian noted that the trend for the virus is on the upward and that once it is on a downward trend amending the schedule will be more of a viable option. Mr. Salmon asked about staffing concerns and challenges. Assistant Superintendent Siet discussed the applicant pool and challenges facing staffing within the school district. Ms. White discussed concerns about extended screen times for students. Ms. Hudock and Dr. Lazovick described some of the measures being taken to mitigate extended screen use. Ms. Korn stressed the need for younger students to be in school and asked about the state guidelines and parameters for return to instruction. Superintendent Markarian described the process and factors in decision making.

To view the 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 December 21, 2020.

On motion by Ms. McKeon, seconded by Mr. Salmon Item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Salmon,
Ms. Schafer, Ms. Wooldridge and Ms. White

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

Superintendent Markarian wished everyone a wonderful holiday and winter break. Mr. Markarian referred to his letter outlining the virtual week of January 4-8, 2021 asking the public to make healthy decisions.

Superintendent Markarian praised and thanked board member Ms. Woolderidge for her public service over the years to the Board of Education noting that this is her last Board of Education meeting. Ms. Gray congratulated Ms. Wooldridge for her retirement from the Board of Education noting her thoroughness, level headed nature, willingness to serve on many committees and fill in where needed, diligence, attention to detail and stating Ms. Wooldridge would be missed. Ms. McKeon thanked Ms. Wooldridge and noted her service to the SCESC commission and the Municipal Alliance, her thoughtfulness and kindness to other board members, her calm demeanor and wished her much happiness in her retirement. Ms. Wooldridge thanked everyone and noted that there were some tough times including the pandemic and recognized the huge amount of work that the administration, teachers, nursing staff, other staff and board members have done in a challenging environment wishing everyone safety and health in the upcoming 2021 and thanked everyone.

X. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Public comments included an appreciation to the staff during the challenging times, discussing the virtual shift during the week of January 4-8, 2021, changes to the hybrid model and noting attention to the number of cases is imperative in considering a shift and a student who asked about alternating from cohort A and B on Wednesdays if the middle and high school were to return to nine period days (administrators Dr. Oliver and Ms. Hudock thanked the student for appearing at the board meeting). Superintendent Markarian noted that alternating Wednesdays would be a good possibility in that scenario.

Emailed public comments included a thank you for the decision for a virtual week following the break, attendance reporting concerns, questions regarding licensing software and resources being provided to teachers and students in the hybrid and virtual learning models, concerns with regard to return to instruction five days per week for students in grades K-2, a question regarding cases of in school transmission of COVID-19 and a question regarding virtual class section balancing.

Superintendent Markarian addressed the virtual balance across the district noting that it had been done since the beginning, discussed the districts avoidance of transmission of COVID-19 in school and how that factors into changes in instruction moving forward and referred to Assistant Superintendent Fox regarding resources that have been implemented during the public health crisis. Ms. Fox discussed professional development training and software being used to assist in the current environment.

XI. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

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

November 23, 2020 - Executive Session Minutes
November 23, 2020 - Regular Session Minutes

On motion by Ms. White seconded by Ms. Korn the foregoing were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Salmon,
Ms. Schafer, Ms. White and Ms. Wooldridge (Executive Session Only)
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - Ms. Wooldridge (Regular Session Only)

XII. Finance Committee Report

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated December 21, 2020 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$8,651,478.76.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the November 2020 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the monthly Investment Report for November 2020, the weekly reports of Electronic Fund Transfers and Bank Wires For November 2020, and the Treasurer of the School Monies Report for November 2020.

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 November 2020 line item transfers totaling \$600,797.37 the 2020-21 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 2020-21 school year:

| <u>Name:</u> | <u>Name of Conference:</u> | <u>Cost:</u> | <u>Date(s):</u> |
|--------------|----------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|
| V. Daglian | Better Conversations | \$189 | 01/05/2021 - 02/02/2021 Virtual |

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the WAMS PTO in the amount of \$2,191.96 to be used toward the purchase of wishlist items.

6) Whereas the Bernards Township Board of Education on September 14, 2020 accepted a donation from the Liberty Corner School PTO in the amount of \$60,000 for the purchase and installation of outdoor playground equipment and

Whereas the Bernards Township Board of Education on November 23, 2020 accepted an additional donation from the Liberty Corner School PTO in the amount of \$4,000 for landscaping related to the installation of outdoor playground equipment and

Whereas the Liberty Corner School PTO is desirous of and has already directly contracted and paid for the purchase of the aforementioned playground equipment in the amount of \$44,908.12, and \$4,000 for landscaping related to the installation while providing in cash to the Board of Education the balance of the \$18,650 due for the installation of the project

Now therefore be it resolved that the resolutions of September 14, 2020 and November 23, 2020 are hereby amended to reflect the aforementioned changes.

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve home instruction for student #1000807 from November 17, 2020 to December 6, 2020 at Silvergare Prep in an amount not to exceed \$1,187.25.

- 8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve monthly consultative services by SEARCH Learning Group in the amount not to exceed \$1,750.00.
- 9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby amend agenda item #11 approved on November 23, 2020 approving ASL translation services for student #3500950 by Amanda Asterita by an additional \$1,400.00 for a total contract not to exceed \$2,100.00.
- 10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an augmentative and alternative communication evaluation (AAC) for student #3400470 by Integrated Speech Pathology for an amount not to exceed \$1,330.00.
- 11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an augmentative and alternative communication evaluation (AAC) for student #3400506 by Integrated Speech Pathology for an amount not to exceed \$1,330.00.
- 12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby amend agenda Item #12 approved on November 23, 2020 approving physical therapy services for student #301350 by Oxford Consulting Services by an additional \$1,300.00 increasing the total contract amount not to exceed \$8,700.00.
- 13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby amend agenda item #14 approved at the October 19, 2020 Board meeting increasing the regular school year tuition costs for student #304456 from September 2, 2020 to June 30, 2021 at the Morris Union Jointure School by \$1,000 thereby increasing the total amount of the contract to a not to exceed \$95,947.00.
- 14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby amend agenda item #15 approved at the October 19, 2020 Board meeting increasing the regular school year tuition costs for student #204204 from September 2, 2020 to June 30, 2021 at the Morris Union Jointure School by \$1,000 thereby increasing the total amount of the contract to a not to exceed \$95,947.00.
- 15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby amend agenda item #16 approved at the October 19, 2020 Board meeting increasing the regular school year tuition costs for student #202695 from September 2, 2020 to June 30, 2021 at the Morris Union Jointure School by \$1,000 thereby increasing the total amount of the contract to a not to exceed \$95,947.00.
- 16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby amend agenda item #28 approved at the October 19, 2020 Board meeting increasing the regular school year tuition costs for student #305131 from September 2, 2020 to June 30, 2021 at the Morris

Union Jointure School by \$1,000 thereby increasing the total amount of the contract to a not to exceed \$95,947.00.

17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby amend item number 6 on the May 18, 2020 Board minutes to include the use of R&D Data Products for the purchase of data communications equipment state contract number 87722.

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the submission of the grant amendment for the CARES Emergency Relief Grant in the amount of \$265,696, which is inclusive of a portion set aside for non-public schools in the amount of \$8,275. The amendment is reflective of an increased allocation made available to the District in the amount of \$21,605.

19) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the following out-of-district students for the 2020-21 school year and 2020 extended school year:

| <u>Student #:</u> | <u>School District:</u> | <u>Annual Tuition:</u> | <u>ESY:</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| 3100522 | Millburn | \$73,712.28 | \$7,978.04 |
| 3100520 | New Providence | \$73,712.28 | \$7,978.04 |
| 1000507 | New Providence | | \$7,705.20 |
| 2400947 | Bound Brook | \$10,933.33 | |

20) Whereas the Bernards Township Board of Education has maintained a maintenance reserve in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2 and

Whereas N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2 (d) provides a district board of education or board of school estimate, as appropriate, may by resolution withdraw such funds from the maintenance reserve account and appropriate into the required maintenance account lines at budget time or any time during the year for use on required maintenance activities for a school facility as reported in the comprehensive maintenance plan and

Whereas the Bernards Township Board of Education has had to undertake significant mid-year repairs to portions of the Ridge High School Sanitary line system on an emergency basis and

Whereas the cost associated with the design and repair of the portions of the damaged sanitary line system total \$419,448.78

Now therefore be it resolved that the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby authorize the transfer of \$419,448.78 from the maintenance reserve to the required maintenance account lines.

21) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the 2020 Annual Audit based on the draft financials and recommendation of Wiss and Co., the district's audit firm.

22) The Bernards Township Board of Education received bids for the William Annin Middle School Science Labs Renovation project on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 2:00PM Bids were received from the following companies:

| <u>Contractor:</u> | <u>Base Bid:</u> | <u>Total Bid:</u> |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| J&M Quality Contracting, LLC | \$534,500 | \$534,500 |
| Frankoski Construction | \$569,000 | \$569,000 |
| Lanyi & Tevald | \$580,800 | \$580,800 |

Whereas, J&M Quality Contracting, LLC is the lowest responsible bidder, the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby award the contract to J&M Quality Contracting, LLC as the lowest responsible bidder contingent upon attorney review and execution of a mutually agreeable contract.

23) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the submission of a grant application to and memorandum of agreement in the amount of \$19,741.68 with Somerset County for the reallocation of CARES grant funding to assist with offsetting COVID-19 related expenses that are CRF or ELC-eligible and have not otherwise been eligible for payment through other federal grants or insurance.

On motion by Ms. McKeon, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge Items #1-23 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Salmon,
Ms. Schafer, Ms. Wooldridge and Ms. White
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Mr. Salmon provided an update on the health plan, and Aramark facilities and staffing update, a Aramark food service update with regard to the free and reduced lunch program, a Ridge High School sanitary lines project update, review of the annual audit and that the audit produced a clean, unmodified opinion ,which is the best opinion possible, the William Annin Middle School science labs project update and a discussion regarding the Oak Street School gutters.

Mr. Salmon provided a summary of the Finance Agenda items.

XIII. Personnel Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following personnel items upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the retirement of **Patti Fullagar** School Aide Oak Street School effective January 15, 2021.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Tanya Minassian** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School effective December 3, 2020.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Jackie Tarulli** Head Softball Coach Ridge High School effective December 16, 2020.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Emily Coates** Instructional Aide Ridge High School effective May 6, 2021 through June 18, 2021 utilizing 29 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 28, 2021 running concurrently with and unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 28, 2021, returning November 29, 2021.
- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Lisa Filippini** Social Studies Teacher William Annin Middle School effective May 19, 2021 through June 30, 2021 utilizing 21 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 30, 2021 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 30, 2021 then an unpaid child care leave effective December 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022, returning February 1, 2022.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Jennifer Kang** ASL Teacher Ridge High School effective June 2, 2021 through June 30, 2021 utilizing 14 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 3, 2021 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 9, 2021, returning November 10, 2021.
- 7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Stephanie Lang** Special Education Teacher William Annin Middle School effective April 30, 2021 through June 30, 2021 utilizing 34 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 24, 2021 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through November 24, 2021 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective November 25, 2021 through February 28, 2022, returning March 1, 2022.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Molly Mooney** School Counselor Cedar Hill School effective April 5, 2021 through June 4, 2021 utilizing 37 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective June 5, 2021 through November 3, 2021 running concurrently with and unpaid Federal Family Leave effective June 5, 2021 through November 3, 2021, returning November 8, 2021.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave for **Kasey Raillon** Social Studies William Annin Middle School effective February 26, 2021 through May 21, 2021 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective February 26, 2021 through May 21, 2021 then an unpaid child care leave effective May 22, 2021 through June 30, 2021, returning September 1, 2021.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Changes in Assignments/Salaries and/or Locations** for the 2020-21 school year:

| <u>Staff Member:</u> | <u>From:</u> | <u>To:</u> |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Steve Isaacs | Pay To Play Game Club Esports WAMS \$2,544 20-21 school year | Pay To Play Game Club Esports WAMS \$585.12 effective through January 25, 2021 |
| Danielle Clement | Instructional Aide WAMS | Instructional Aide MP |
| Alyssa Barreto | Instructional Aide WAMS | Instructional Aide MP |
| Kelly Flannigan | Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of \$22.81 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective on or before January 23, 2021 through June 18, 2021 | Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 5 \$29.96 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective on or before January 23, 2021 through June 18, 2021 |
| Sharon Good | School Aide OakStreet School at a salary of \$19.63 per hour 4.5 hours per day effective September 1, 2020 through June 18, 2021 | School Aide OakStreet School at a salary of \$19.63 per hour 4.5 hours per day effective September 1, 2020 through January 3, 2021 then an Instructional Aide Cedar Hill School at a salary of \$22.81 per hour 5.5 hours |

| | | |
|---------------|---|--|
| | | per day effective January 4, 2021 through June 18, 2021. |
| Jessica Frank | Human Resources Clerk. 5 at a salary of \$33,142.93 effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 | Human Resources Clerk. 5 at a salary of \$33,142.93 effective July 1, 2020 through January 3, 2021 then Secretary Human Resources 1.0 at a salary of \$57,500 effective January 4, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date |
| Tyler Brandt | Physical Education Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 1-4 BA \$52,872 effective October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 as a leave replacement for K. Clark. Certificate of Eligibility w/Advanced Standing-Mentoring Required | Physical Education Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 1-4 BA \$52,872 effective October 1, 2020 through the end of assignment as a leave replacement. Certificate of Eligibility w/Advanced Standing-Mentoring Required |

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Roy Dragon** Physical Education/Health Teacher Liberty Corner School at a salary of Step 11 BA \$59,822 effective February 22, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Renee Hansen** School Aide Oak Street School at a salary of \$19.63 per hour 4.5 hours per day effective January 11, 2021 through June 18, 2021.

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Meghan Toolan** Secretary to the Director of IT and Director of Facilities at a salary of \$56,000 effective January 4, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following Staff Members in the **Various Assignments** listed below for the 2020-21 school year:

| <u>Staff Member:</u> | <u>Assignment:</u> | <u>Salary:</u> |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| Rachel Orshan | Referral Bonus | \$1,000 |
| Bonnie Brunskill | Extra Section Algebra I RHS 12/1/20-end of assignment | \$1,057 per month |
| Tara Cascarelli | Extra Section Algebra II RHS 12/1/20-end of assignment | \$1,057 per month |
| Chad Griffiths | Extra Section Algebra II RHS 12/1/20-end of assignment | \$1,057 per month |
| Joanna Rice | Extra Section Algebra II RHS 12/1/20-end of assignment | \$1,057 per month |
| Jesse Rice | Extra Section Algebra II RHS 12/1/20-end of assignment | \$1,057 per month |
| Stephanie Serafin | Immigrant Tutors | \$60.00 per hour |
| Estrella Dorwani | Immigrant Tutors | \$60.00 per hour |
| Rita Zarabara | Covid 19 Coordinator | \$10,000 |
| Georgiana Paril | ACT Proctor | \$125.00 |
| Maureen Rodgers | Study Strategies Extra Section RHS | \$1,057 per month effective January 29, 2021 through March 9, 2021 |

15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Pay To Play Clubs** at William Annin Middle School for the 2020-21 school year:

| <u>Staff Member:</u> | <u>Pay To Play Club:</u> | <u>Salary:</u> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Chris Romash | Game Club Esports | \$979.44 |
| Dan Georgetti | Game Club Esports | \$979.44 |
| Diane Reilly | Chess Club | \$1,272.00 |

16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Substitute Teachers** at a salary of \$105.00 per diem with a Valid County Substitute Certificate, \$115.00 per diem with a Valid New Jersey Instructional Certificate and

Substitute Nurses at a salary of \$250.00 per diem 2020-21 school year. Substitute teachers with a Valid County Substitute Certificate who have earned longevity will be paid at a salary of \$115.00 per diem. Substitutes with a Valid New Jersey Instructional Certificate who have earned longevity will be paid at a salary of \$125.00 per diem:

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Daniel Attamante | Ann Yekelchik | Samantha Carney |
| Maddie Lui | Caroline Alexis | |
| Shaan Lakshmanan | Mia Stuart | Sydnee Schapiro |
| Kelly Seylaz | Kathleen Pascale | |

17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Curriculum Writing 2020-21** school year:

| <u>Last Name:</u> | <u>First:</u> | <u>Course Title:</u> | <u># of Days:</u> | <u>Total:</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Capozzi | Carrie | Disciplinary Curriculum Modules | 2 | \$400.00 |
| McKay | Michelle | Advisory | 1 | \$200.00 |
| Heuer | Lauren | Advisory | 1 | \$200.00 |
| Doski | Natasha | Advisory | 1 | \$200.00 |
| Clark | Kim | Option 2 | 1 | \$200.00 |

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the retirement of **Susan Bivona** Art Teacher Mount Prospect School effective February 21, 2021.

19) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Catherine Krell** Special Education Resource Room Liberty Corner School at a salary of Step 17 MA \$78,405 effective on or before February 16, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

20) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Jennifer Scharf** Kindergarten Teacher Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 7 BA \$55,622 effective February 12, 2021 through June 30, 2021 as a leave replacement for S. O'Brien. Salary to be prorated to reflect dates worked.

21) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Elizabeth Wilson** School Aide Oak Street School at a salary of \$19.63 per hour 4.5 hours per day effective January 11, 2021 through June 18, 2021.

22) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Eric Cosentino** Math Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 10 MA \$65,800 effective on or before February 22, 2021 through June 30, 2021.

On motion by Mr. Salmon, seconded by Ms. Schafer Items #1-22 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Salmon,
Ms. Schafer, Ms. Wooldridge and Ms. White
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Ms. Gray noted that the Personnel Committee met on December 18, 2020 and the only non confidential item discussed was the return to instruction plan which was already covered in the earlier presentation.

XIV. Policy Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the **2023-24 School Calendar** on second reading.

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

“Ayes” - Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Salmon,
Ms. Schafer, Ms. Wooldridge and Ms. White
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Ms. Korn reported from the Policy Committee Meeting from Monday, December 14, 2020. Topics included COVID-19 travel, community notice letters, school closures, the Emergency Weather guide, return to instruction plan amendments, the 2021 Board of Education meeting schedule and a second reading for the 2023-24 school calendar.

The Board referred the calendar policy to the Policy Committee for its next agenda in order to address the fact that the current first day of school in 2021 coincides with Rosh Hashanah.

XV. Curriculum Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve of the following **Change of Course Title** in the Program of Studies for the 2020-21 school year:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| <u>From:</u> | <u>To:</u> |
| AP French | AP French Language and Culture |

On motion by Ms. Schafer, seconded by Mr. Salmon Item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Salmon,
Ms. Schafer, Ms. Wooldridge and Ms. White
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Ms. McKeon provided a report from the December 4, 2020 Curriculum Committee meeting. Topics at the meeting included the William Annin Middle School Character Education Program, course name changes, an educational technology update, health and physical education curriculum, the Ridge High School mock schedule run, academic Option II for English Language Learners, a return to instruction analysis and proposed amendments to the return to instruction plan and associated technology and staffing needs.

XVI. Wellness Committee Report

No report.

XVII. Liaison Committee Reports

Ms. Korn read a letter regarding COVID-19 and the impact on youth mental health and the availability of behavioral health support including resources that are available to parents and students. Ms. Korn stressed her concerns for the mental health of students during the last 9 months of the public health crisis.

XVIII. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Public comments included congratulations to Nicole Gilhuley the Boys Cross Country Coach of the Year and questions regarding improvements to the current hybrid model.

Superintendent Markarian congratulated Ms. Gilhuley and discussed the elementary hybrid model.

XIX. Board Forum

Ms. Beckman inquired about COVID-19 vaccine availability and distributions for teachers. Superintendent Markarian stated that this is something that the district is looking into.

Mr. Salmon discussed the logistics of return to instruction for the kindergarten students and resetting the focus for the younger students to have them return to five day instruction for literacy, mathematics and social needs that are imperative to their development in a learning environment, commented that the snow day was amazing and commended the decision to have a snow day instead of a virtual day, shared a story about Linda Wooldridge and thanked her for setting the bar high for him as a new board member and wished everyone a happy, safe and joyful holiday.

Ms. Schafer commented that the snow day was wonderful and noted recognition to the Ridge High School senior parents for their delivery of pizza kits to the students. Ms. Gray echoed Ms. Schafer's sentiments regarding the pizza kit delivery to the students.

Ms. Gray wished the community a happy, healthy and safe holiday break on behalf of the Board of Education. Ms. Gray also thanked the staff including the nursing staff for keeping us going during these challenging circumstances.

XX. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge and seconded by Ms. Korn and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary