

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES INDEX
FEBRUARY 23, 2015
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:01 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:10 P.M.
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 23, 2015
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:01 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:10 P.M.
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by President McKeon.

- I. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Conference Room**
- 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. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

ABSENT: None

- 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 negotiations; 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. Shah, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 6:01 p.m.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Mr. Fry, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 7:03 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the William Annin Middle School Auditorium at 7:10 p.m.

V. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:10 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. 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. **Superintendent's Report**

1) **Canine Drug Sweep Ridge High School**

Superintendent Markarian updated the Board on the February 13 canine drug sweep held at Ridge High School assisted by the following law enforcement agencies: Somerset County Prosecutor's Office, the Bernards Township Police Department, the Somerset County Sheriff's Department, the Morris County's Sheriff's Department, the Warren

Township Police Department, and the NJ State Police. With the cooperation of both staff and students this exercise was extremely successful. The sweep has initiated as a possible deterrent to student drug use.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated February 23, 2015.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, Item #2 was 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

VIII. Public Comment on Agenda Items

A comment was made regarding the results of the canine drug sweep at the high school.

Assistant Prosecutor Brian Stack, Bernards Township Police Chief Brian Bobowicz, and Ridge High School Principal Frank Howlett responded to the public comment. Mr. Stack stated this one-time event is too small a sample to draw a conclusion from and that heroin usage and overdoses are a serious problem. Drug arrests and the use of Narcan by law enforcement agencies is on the rise. Police Chief Bobowicz stated the canine sweep covered a limited area in a small amount of time. The Chief also reported in the past weekend alone his staff had the need to use Narcan with two individuals. Mr. Howlett stated he has received positive feedback related to the sweep and that the students and staff had all done a great job.

IX. Approval of Minutes

January 29, 2015 – Regular Session Minutes*
January 29, 2015 – Executive Session Minutes
February 9, 2015 – Regular Session Minutes
February 9, 2015 – Executive Session Minutes

*January 29, 2015 Regular Session Minutes Amended as follows:

Item X. Approval of Minutes December 15, 2015 – Ms. Kusel voting in the affirmative for both the Regular & Executive Session Minutes

Item XI. Committee Reports Personnel Resolution #26 only – Ms. McKeon abstaining

Item XI. Committee Reports Personnel – Correction to date of Personnel Committee meeting.

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

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne (except January 29, 2015 Executive & Regular Sessions), Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Kusel, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McKeon
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - Mr. Byrne (only January 29, 2015 Executive & Regular Sessions)

X. Committee Reports

FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of [disbursements](#) dated February 23, 2015 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$4,378,536.28.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the January 2015 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the monthly Investment Report for January 2015, and the Treasurer of the School Monies Report for January 2015.

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 January 2015 line item transfers totaling \$1,186,170.05 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>
R. Shello	DAANJ Conference	\$790	3/24/2015 – 3/27/2015
K. Linstra	NJAGC 24 th Annual Gifted Education Conference	\$170	3/6/2015
M. Galesi	AP Summer Institute	\$1,060	6/29/2015 – 7/2/2015

5) 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>
Mendham High School Mendham, NJ	Ridge High Science League Students	25
Westfield Presbyterian Church Westfield, NJ	Ridge High Choir Students	47
Memorial Auditorium Montclair, NJ	Oak Street Grade 2 Students	95
Brick Memorial High School Brick, NJ	Ridge High School Students	22
Stabler Arena Lehigh Univ. Bethlehem, PA	Ridge High School Students	22

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve **disposal of equipment/books** for the 2014-15 school year; list maintained in the Board of Education office.

7) WHEREAS, Lord Stirling School is a non-profit approved private school for students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Education of the School District of Bernards Board of Education, Special Services has contracted to send to the Lord Stirling School certain students with disabilities who reside in the District; and

WHEREAS; the Lord Stirling School does not charge any of the students for meals;

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the District does not require the Lord Stirling School to charge students for reduced and/or paid meals in accordance with the income eligibility criteria established by the Child Nutrition Program as administered by New Jersey Department of Agriculture; and it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the District understands and acknowledges that the foregoing actions do not increase the contracted tuition rate for students with disabilities sent by the District to the Lord Stirling School.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve services for student # 203560 from January 6, 2015 to June 30, 2015 at the **New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired** not to exceed \$2,497.69.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **William Annin PTO** in the amount of \$4,929 to purchase Dell speaker systems, reward system prizes, Lego EV3 sets, and an HP laser printer.

On motion by Ms. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Richman, Items #1 through #9 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

Finance Chairperson Elaine Kusel reviewed the agenda items and thanked the William Annin School PTO for its ongoing support. She stated that at the last Finance Committee Meeting preliminary budget numbers were discussed including salaries and health costs for the upcoming year, the renovation of Lee Field, and the Wellness Center at the high school.

Business Administrator Rod McLaughlin distributed and discussed the budget process and major changes for 2015-16 including operating expenses, capital projects, and health benefits. State aid figures should be released either Thursday afternoon or Friday morning of this week. The budget presentation to the Board will be at its May 4 meeting.

PERSONNEL

Mr. Markarian noted the retirement of Liberty Corner Principal Kathy Pecoraro whose tenure in the district has spanned 30 years. Dr. Pecoraro will be acknowledged by the Board at a future meeting. Several Board members commented on their children having attended Liberty Corner School.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Kathy Pecoraro** Principal Liberty Corner 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 **Meredith Connelly** English Language Arts Teacher William Annin Middle School effective June 30, 2015.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Evan DiMeglio** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School effective March 13, 2015.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Kelly Allen** Special Education Teacher William Annin Middle School effective September 1, 2015 through September 7, 2015 utilizing 4 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave Insurance effective September 8, 2015 through October 20, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 8, 2015 through December 1, 2015 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective December 2, 2015 through June 30, 2016 returning July 1, 2016.

- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave for **Megan Broadhurst** Grade 2 Teacher Oak Street School effective September 1, 2015 through October 13, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2015 through November 30, 2015 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective December 1, 2015 through January 31, 2016, returning February 1, 2016.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Annaruth Chiromeras** Speech Teacher Mount Prospect School effective April 20, 2015 through April 30, 2015 utilizing 9 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective May 1, 2015 through June 12, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective May 1, 2015 through October 4, 2015 returning October 5, 2015.
- 7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Shawn Scriffiano** Special Education ABA Teacher Ridge High School effective May 4, 2015 through June 30, 2015 utilizing 33 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective July 1, 2015 through July 31, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective July 1, 2015 through July 31, 2015, returning August 3, 2015.
- 8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave for **Travis Boop** Math Teacher Ridge High School effective April 28, 2015 through June 12, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective April 28, 2015 through June 30, 2015, returning September 1, 2015.
- 9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Change in Assignments and/or Locations** for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
Katherine McGowan	Paid Child Care Leave 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 30, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective March 18, 2015 through June 30, 2015, returning September 1, 2015	Paid Child Care Leave effective January 19, 2015 through March 31, 2015 utilizing 50 personal illness days, then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective April 1, 2015 through May 15, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015, returning September 1, 2015

Aileen Barry	Paid Child Care Leave effective February 27, 2015 through April 20, 2015 utilizing 30 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective April 21, 2015 through June 2, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective April 21, 2015 through September 15, 2015 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective September 16, 2015 through January 31, 2016, returning February 1, 2016	Paid Child Care Leave effective February 18, 2015 through March 31, 2015 utilizing 30 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective April 1, 2015 through May 15, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective April 1, 2015 through September 5, 2015 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective September 6, 2015 through January 31, 2016, returning February 1, 2016
Debra Bove	Step 9 \$53,887 effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015	Step 9 \$53,887 effective July 1, 2015 through October 31, 2014 then Step 9 \$54,387 effective November 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 due to passing proficiency test

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Salary Guide Advancements** for the 2014-15 school year effective March 1, 2015:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Last:</u>	<u>First:</u>	<u>From:</u>		<u>To:</u>	
OS	Chiravalle	Christine	14 MA	\$68,341	14 MA+30	\$73,166
WA	Delli Bovi	Gina	2 BA+30	\$56,618	2 MA	\$59,698
WA	Dupuis	Melanie	7 BA	\$52,206	7 MA	\$58,791
RH	Hauser	Jennifer	5 BA+30	\$53,611	5 MA	\$56,531
RH	Kaltenbach	Jennifer	16 BA	\$64,356	16 BA+30	\$68,751
RH	Kuscenko	Daria	23 MA	\$93,126	23 MA+30	\$99,386
OS	Lier	Kristine	17 MA	\$74,611	17 MA+30	\$79,856
MP	Miller	Katie	4 BA+30	\$52,811	4 MA	\$55,686
RH	Presuto	Danielle	1 BA	\$47,706	1 MA	\$53,706
RH	Rosato	Chrysanthi	7 MA	\$58,791	7 MA+30	\$62,931
OS	Taccarino	Kimberly	7 MA	\$58,791	7 MA+30	\$62,931

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve **Dennis Drake** Social Studies Teacher William Annin Middle School at a salary of Step 10 MA \$62,181 effective March 16, 2015 through June 30, 2015 as a maternity leave replacement for Susan Westlake. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve **Thomas Liska** Social Studies Teacher William Annin Middle School at a salary of Step 1 MA \$53,706 effective February 18, 2015 through June 30, 2015 as a maternity leave replacement for Aileen Barry. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve **Iris Comune** Italian Teacher Ridge High School at a per diem rate of \$238 effective February 23, 2015 through the end of assignment. Medical leave replacement.

14) 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>
Kathleen Forsell	At Home Programs-SE	\$65.00 per hour
Mike Hayek	At Home Program-SE	\$30.00 per hour
Julia Beyer	At Home Program-SE	\$65.00 per hour
Jessica Hurtt	At Home Program-SE	\$30.00 per hour
Fiorella Bologna	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Natalia Joffe	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Vivian Miesner	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Gerardo Acevedo	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Alexander Ballas	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Joelle Gozlan	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Monica Mejia	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Carlos Espinoza	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Daria Pizzuto	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Lucy Valerio	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Karen Pellicone	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Amita Govani	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Jessica Greene	Translators	\$50.00 per hour
Shannon Pokorny	After School Program Aide	\$12.00

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

<u>School:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Stipend:</u>	<u>Longevity:</u>
CH	Intramurals 1 day	Lidia D'Armiento	\$589.00	0 years/0 points/\$0

16) 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>
Erin Stutz	Caldwell	ABA Program/Master's Thesis/Mount Prospect 2/1/15-5/15/15
Maggie Rossi	Caldwell	ABA Program/Master's Thesis/Mount Prospect 2/1/15-5/15/15

17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Staff College Instructors** for the spring 2015:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Course:</u>	<u># of Hours:</u>	<u>Salary:</u>
Pat Miller	AHA – Basic Life Support	6	\$300
Pam Lawrence	Administering, Scoring, and Analyzing a Running Record New Course	6	\$900
Cathy Cheo-Isaacs	BrainPop – More Than Just a Movie and a Quiz New Course	12	\$900
Steve Isaacs	BrainPop – More Than Just a Movie and a Quiz New Course	12	\$900
Kristen Winters	Calling All Educators New Course	6	\$900
Allison Farrell	Classroom Publishing New Course	3	\$450
Tom Blackwell	CPR and First Aid for Coaches	6	\$300
Ken Marsh	CPR and First Aid for Coaches	6	\$300
Allison Farrell	Creative Notetaking New Course	6	\$900
Sloan Scully	Effective Questioning and Discussion Techniques	6	\$150
Stephanie Orr	Effective Questioning and Discussion Techniques	6	\$150
Pam Lawrence	Focus Study Group: Fluency New Course	6	\$900
Dave Petersen	Google Email and Storage Migration New Course	6	\$900
Mary Milito	On-Line Center Resources for Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics for the K-1 Classroom	6	\$900
Michelle McKay	Preparing Learners with Autism for Post-Elementary Education New Course	6	\$450
Shawn Scriffiano	Preparing Learners with Autism for Post-Elementary Education New Course	6	\$450
Jill Stedronsky	Signposts in Literature New Course	8	\$800
Carrie Capozzi	Submitting Teacher Letters of Recommendation online Part 1	6	\$300
Kerry Linstra	Show Your Work (Bar Modeling 101) New Course	3	\$225
Joshua Ganz	Show Your Work (Bar Modeling 101) New Course	3	\$225
Pam Lawrence	TC Reunion Professional Development New Course	6	\$900
Dave Persily	Introduction to Danielson Framework Domain 4	3	\$75
Jen Raphaels	Introduction to Danielson Framework Domain 4	3	\$75

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Spring Elementary Mini Units** for the 2014-15 school year:

<u>Teacher:</u>	<u>School:</u>	<u>Course:</u>	<u>Stipend:</u>
Annette Kuperus	CH	Sit and Knit	\$827.00
Catherine Cheo-Isaacs	CH	Learn to Code with Scratch	\$827.00
Brooke Zammit	CH	Lots of Legos A	\$827.00
Fern DiMeglio	CH	Lots of Legos B	\$413.50
Dena Zapoluch	CH	Lots of Legos B	\$827.00
Kaitlyn Temples	CH	Disney Fans	\$827.00
Maggie Davignon	CH	Mad Science Workshop A	\$827.00
Marilyn Askin	CH	Mad Science Workshop B	\$827.00
Marguerite LeBoeuf	CH	Let's Get Crafty	\$827.00
Lidia D'Armiento	CH	No Batteries Required A	\$827.00
Mary Hodgeson	CH	No Batteries Required B	\$827.00
Diana Evans	CH	No Batteries Required A	\$413.50
Katie Andrews	CH	Green Thumb Club	\$827.00
Laura Haribedian	OS	Cruising Through Chromebooks	\$827.00
Sheri Rosenbaum	OS	Improvisation	\$827.00
Linda Mullan	OS	Improvisation	\$827.00
Melanie Sackie	OS	Frozen Fanatics	\$827.00
Christine Russo	OS	Math Games	\$827.00
Glen Denys	OS	Lego Lovers	\$827.00
Christine Russo	OS	Magical Mixtures	\$827.00
Lisa Landy	OS	Magical Mixtures	\$413.50
Laura Gallagher	OS	Minecraft Mania	\$827.00
Jenn Braun	OS	Minecraft Mania	\$827.00
Melanie Sackie	OS	Clay It Up	\$827.00
Cindy Mastrian	LC	You Paint It!	\$827.00
Kaitlin Scharff	LC	Dancing Through The Decades	\$827.00
Christopher Keri	LC	LCS Lion's Den	\$827.00
Samantha Goodstein	LC	Chess 102	\$827.00
Amie Walsh	LC	Sand Sensations	\$827.00
Amie Walsh	LC	LEGO Building Club	\$827.00
Denise Ragard	LC	LEGO Building Club	\$413.50
Emily Barisonnek	LC	LEGO Building Club	\$827.00
Marybeth Carlucci	LC	Cupcakery	\$827.00
Katie Milito	MP	MP Beginners Chess Club	\$827.00
Daniella Ventrice	MP	Business, Finance, and Coding, Oh My!	\$827.00
Sheri Jakubowski	MP	Art Creations	\$827.00
Katie Miller	MP	Harry Potter	\$827.00
Katie Miller	MP	Disney Fans	\$827.00
Agnese Curraco	MP	Disney Fans	\$413.50
Jacqueline McCarthy	MP	Do You Want to be the Next Bill Gates?	\$827.00

Danielle Siani	MP	Fun with Food	\$413.50
Mike Pepitone	MP	Monday Science Olympics	\$827.00
Mike Pepitone	MP	Tuesday Science Olympics	\$827.00
Kristen Winters-Johnson	MP	Reader's Club	\$827.00
Megan Quinn-Beyer	MP	Fun with Food	\$827.00
Denise Callaway	MP	MP Intermediate and Advanced Chess Club	\$827.00
Josh Ganz	MP	MP Intermediate and Advanced Chess Club	\$827.00
Karen Pellicone	MP	MP Beginners Chess Club	\$827.00
Susan Bivona	MP	Art Studio	\$413.50
Amanda Hughes	MP	Garden Club	\$827.00
Mary Ann Guggenheim	MP	Reader's Theater for Young Readers	\$827.00
Lisa Roman	MP	Art Studio	\$413.50

19) 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:

Wayne Golden	Diane Bernasconi
Hilary Carmen	Angel Liu
Samantha Ferrara	Meaghan Stacy
Yvonne Omick	Rachael Swain
Alexandra Cappucci	Dennis Drake

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, Items #1 through #19 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 Chairperson Bev Cwerner updated the Board on the February 23 committee meeting in regard to BTAA negotiations (next meeting is scheduled for March 17), and the challenge of having sufficient substitute teachers and nurses to fill the district's needs. The current rate of pay will be reviewed.

The committee also discussed goals for the committee including:

- Negotiate and implement a new BTAA contract and address BTEA contract negotiations in the upcoming year
- Review administration's priorities for staffing needs and address the struggling learner

The position of Liberty Corner principal will be posted on February 24 and a committee will be made up of two Board members, two members of the Liberty Corner PTO, two members of the BTAA and the BTEA, Mr. Markarian, and Mr. Siet.

POLICY

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following policies on **First Reading**:

- a) Policy 0167 Public Participation in Board Meetings
- b) 5111 Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Pupils (M)
- c) 9150 School Visitors

2) The Board of Education does hereby approve the following policy on **Second Reading & Adopt said policy**:

- a) Policy 9181 Volunteer Athletic Coaches and Co-Curricular Activity Advisors/Assistants

The Board discussed proposed changes to the policies listed in Item #1.

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

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne (except Item #1a & 1b), Ms. Cwerner (except Item #1a & 1b), Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Kusel, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McKeon (except Item #1b)
- “Noes” - Mr. Byrne (only Item #1a & 1b), Ms. Cwerner (only Item #1a & 1b), Ms. McKeon (only Item #1b)
- “Abstain” - None

Chairperson Priti Shah updated the Board on the committee’s February 9 meeting where revisions to Policies 0167, 5111 and 9150 were discussed. The committee’s recommendations included a 5-minute time limit being placed on speakers at Board meetings and establishing a specific length of time for both public comment sections. If a topic requires additional time, these guidelines could be altered by the presiding officer of the Board. Policy 0167 will continue to be worked on with another draft being presented for second reading at a future meeting. Guidelines/timelines for visitors in the schools were reviewed. It is being recommended that if a staff member hired after July 1, 2015 requests their child(ren) attend Bernards Township Schools, a 50% tuition rate would apply for each child.

CURRICULUM

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Change in Course Titles** in Ridge High School for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>From:</u> Francophone Culture and Society Novice (French, Italian, Spanish) II Novice (French, Italian, Spanish) I	<u>To:</u> Francophone Culture and Society B Level II (French, Italian, Spanish) II CP Level II (French, Italian, Spanish) II H Level I (French, Italian, Spanish)
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On motion by Ms. Wooldridge, seconded by Mr. Fry, Item #1 was approved by the following roll vote:

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

Chairperson Linda Wooldridge reported on the February 13 Curriculum Committee. Dr. Heineman debriefed on his Gifted & Talented presentation to the Board. Grade two students will be tested in spring 2015 with parents being notified in July. Teacher recommendation will be 40% of the selection process for entrance into the telescoped math program. The requirements for students to take Algebra I in the 7th grade were discussed. Ms. Wolff updated the committee on the Algebra I summer school criteria, Algebra II, and the prerequisites for AP Calculus. An update on PARCC preparation included a check of Chromebooks, practice with user interface, and technology concerns.

The following priorities for the committee in 2015-16 were discussed: implementation of PARCC, alternatives schedules for the high school, spoken language in the elementary grades, the 6th grade Gifted & Talented program, possible changes to the high school schedule and the STEM program, continuing to monitor the level of math difficulty, and a review of current data included in the Ridge High Profile.

ADVOCACY

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) WHEREAS, In February 2011, the Commissioner of Education adopted regulations imposing a cap on the salaries of chief school administrators based on the enrollment of the district in which the administrator serves; and

WHEREAS, The cap on superintendent salaries is unnecessary since the 2 percent property tax levy cap, the statutory limitation on administrative spending growth, regulations adopted pursuant to the School District Accountability Act, and Executive County Superintendent review of employment contracts protect the public's and taxpayers' interests by providing sufficient controls on superintendent compensation; and

WHEREAS, One of the most important responsibilities of a board of education is the hiring of a highly-qualified chief school administrator, who is critical in implementing the educational goals, vision and direction of the community; and

WHEREAS, The salary cap has a negative impact on the quality, stability and continuity of public education in school districts due to high turnover rates, increased use of interim superintendents, and a decline in the experience level of candidates for superintendent positions; and

WHEREAS, For many educators, becoming a superintendent represents the pinnacle of a lifelong ascent up the career ladder, yet the salary cap – which applies to no other positions – has created a disincentive for school leaders to strive toward that goal, which will have long-term negative consequences on educational quality in this State; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. 2930, co-sponsored by Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan and Assemblywoman Mila Jasey, and Senate Bill No. 1987, sponsored by Senator M. Teresa Ruiz, would prohibit the Department of Education from regulating the maximum salary a school district may pay its superintendent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education supports and urges the passage of Assembly Bill No. 2930 and Senate Bill No. 1987; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to each member of the 21st legislative district delegation, the Speaker of the General Assembly, the President of the State Senate, the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the Chairs of the Assembly and Senate Education Committees, and the New Jersey School Boards Association.

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

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

LIAISON REPORTS

No report.

XI. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

A comment was made regarding when students should arrive at school who are refusing to take the PARCC test and who the refusal letter should be given to.

Mr. Markarian will be sending a letter to parents in this week's district FridayFolder addressing these questions and reviewing all procedures.

XII. Board Forum

Items discussed by the Board included a response letter to the NJ Dept. of Education from US Dept. of Education providing clarification regarding State assessments including consequences if a State or district fails to adhere to the Federal assessment and if the number of students taking the test does not meet the required percentage of participation. Also discussed were SAT scores compared with a cross section of the top schools in NJ. Mr. Markarian stated he received a letter from the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Somerset County regarding the district's ranking third in the most 'bang for your buck' among the top twenty best school districts by NerdWallet.

XIII. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Shah, seconded by Ms. Gray, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary