

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES INDEX
MARCH 28, 2016
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:01 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 28, 2016
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:01 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

II. Salute to the Flag

III. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah (6:10p.m. to 6:30p.m only), Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

ABSENT: Ms. McKeon, Ms. Shah (left the meeting at 6:30p.m. was unable to attend the public session)

IV. Executive Session – Call to Order - 6:01 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Mr. Fry, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 6:01p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss: personnel and contract negotiations; matters of litigation; 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 Dr. Dunten seconded by Ms. Cwerner and approved by all present, the Board closed the Executive Session at 6:30p.m.

V. Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:00 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

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 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

No report.

VIII. Public Hearing on Bond Refunding

Board Secretary Rod McLaughlin explained the process of bond refunding and introduced Lisa Gorab who explained the benefits of refunding the 2006 bonds. Ms. Gorab explained that a result of the refunding the Board will realize a savings of approximately \$2.9 million dollars in principal and interest over the life of the bonds.

In response to a Board member's question Ms. Gorab explained that the risk for this transaction is minimal and in the case that the market moved away from effective rates then the transaction could be canceled with no penalty.

IX. Approval of Bond Refunding

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING CERTAIN ACTIONS NECESSARY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF NOT TO EXCEED \$10,150,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF REFUNDING SCHOOL BONDS AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO DO ALL ACTS AND THINGS DEEMED NECESSARY AND ADVISABLE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE, ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY OF SAID BONDS

WHEREAS, on December 8, 2006, The Board of Education of the Township of Bernards in the County of Somerset, New Jersey (the "Board" when referring to the governing body and the "School District" when referring to the territorial boundaries governed by the Board) issued \$10,000,000 aggregate principal amount of tax-exempt Refunding School Bonds, Series 2006, dated December 8, 2006 (the "2006 Refunding School Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the current tax-exempt interest rate environment may enable it to realize going-forward debt service savings for property taxpayers residing in the School District through the issuance by the Board of Refunding School Bonds (the "Refunding School Bonds") to refund all or a portion of the \$9,830,000 aggregate principal amount of the outstanding 2006 Refunding School Bonds maturing on or after July 15, 2017 (the "Refunded Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Board, pursuant to a refunding bond ordinance (the "Refunding Bond Ordinance") introduced on first reading by resolution of the Board on March 14, 2016, authorized the issuance of the Refunding School Bonds for the purpose of refunding the Refunded Bonds; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the Board now desires to adopt and enact the Refunding Bond Ordinance authorizing the issuance of the Refunding School Bonds in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$10,150,000, the net proceeds of which shall be used to refund all or a portion of the Refunded Bonds in accordance with their terms and authorize certain other actions in connection with the sale and issuance of the Refunding School Bonds.

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

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

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

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

- a) the sale of the Refunding School Bonds at private sale, provided that the purchase price paid by the purchaser thereof shall not be less than ninety-five percent (95%) of the principal amount of the Refunding School Bonds so sold;
- b) the principal amount of Refunding School Bonds to be issued, provided that (i) such amount shall not exceed \$10,150,000, and (ii) such amount shall not exceed the amount necessary to pay the costs of issuance associated with the Refunding School Bonds and to fund the deposit to the escrow fund as set forth in the Escrow Deposit Agreement (as defined herein) in an amount that, when invested, will be sufficient to provide for the timely payments required for the Refunded Bonds;
- c) the maturity dates and the principal amount of each maturity or sinking fund redemption amount of the Refunding School Bonds, provided that no Refunding School Bonds refunding the Refunded Bonds shall mature later than the maturity date of the Refunded Bonds.
- d) the interest payment dates and the interest rates on the Refunding School Bonds, provided that the true interest cost on the Refunding School Bonds shall produce a present value debt service savings of at least three percent (3%) of the principal amount of the Refunded Bonds;
- e) the denomination or denominations of and the manner of numbering and lettering the Refunding School Bonds, provided that all Refunding School Bonds of like maturity shall be identical in all respects, except as to denominations, amounts, numbers and letters;
- f) provisions for the sale or exchange of the Refunding School Bonds and for the delivery thereof;

- g) the form of the Refunding School Bonds shall be substantially in the form set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto, with such additions, deletions and omissions as may be necessary for the Board to market the Refunding School Bonds in accordance with the requirements of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, (“DTC”) and the Purchase Contract (as defined herein);
- h) the direction for the application and investment of the proceeds of the Refunding School Bonds;
- i) the terms of redemption of the Refunding School Bonds; and
- j) any other provisions deemed advisable by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary not in conflict with the provisions hereof.

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 7. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor, is hereby authorized and directed to approve the Escrow Deposit Agreement (the “Escrow Deposit Agreement”) with an escrow agent (the “Escrow Agent”) to be selected by the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, in consultation with Bond Counsel and the Financial Advisor, with respect to the Refunded Bonds, to be dated the date of the closing on the Refunding School Bonds. The President and Vice President of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver the Escrow Deposit Agreement in the name of the Board and the corporate seal (or facsimile thereof) shall be thereunto affixed, imprinted, engraved or otherwise reproduced thereon. The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to attest to such signature and to the affixing of said seal to the Escrow Deposit Agreement. The Underwriter and Financial Advisor are hereby authorized to act as the agent and representative of the Board for the purpose of subscribing for the purchase of United States Treasury Securities – State and Local Government Series to be held by the Escrow Agent. In the alternative, if United States Treasury Securities – State and Local Government Series are not available, the Underwriter or the Financial Advisor is hereby authorized to seek bids for the acquisition of United States Treasury Securities – Open Market Securities.

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

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

(the “Official Statement”). The Business Administrator/Board Secretary is authorized and directed on behalf of the Board to execute and deliver said Official Statement.

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

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

SECTION 12. The Board hereby covenants to maintain the exclusion from gross income under Section 103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), of the interest on the Refunding School Bonds. The Board hereby delegates to the Board Secretary/Business Administrator the authorization to designate the Refunding School Bonds as “qualified tax-exempt obligations” for purposes of Section 265(b)(3)(B)(ii) of the Code upon advice of Bond Counsel

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

SECTION 14. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The foregoing resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote on March 28, 2016.

Recorded Vote:

AYE:

NAY:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

EXHIBIT A

Payment of this obligation is secured under the provisions of the "New Jersey School Bond Reserve Act" in accordance with which an amount equal to 1% of the aggregate outstanding bonded indebtedness (but not to exceed the moneys available in the fund), of New Jersey counties, municipalities and school districts for school purposes as of September 15 of each year, is held within the State Fund for the Support of Free Public Schools as a school bond reserve pledged by law to secure payments of principal and interest due on such bonds in the event of the inability of the issuer to make payment.

**REGISTERED
NUMBER R-___**

**PRINCIPAL SUM
\$ _____**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS
IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY
REFUNDING SCHOOL BOND, SERIES 2016**

<u>DATE OF ORIGINAL ISSUE</u>	<u>MATURITY DATE</u>	<u>RATE OF INTEREST PER ANNUM</u>	<u>CUSIP NUMBER</u>
_____, 2016	July 15, ____	_____%	085311__

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) hereby acknowledges itself indebted and for value received promises to pay to CEDE & CO., as nominee of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York ("DTC"), which will act as Securities Depository (the "Securities Depository"), on the MATURITY DATE specified above, the PRINCIPAL SUM, and to pay interest on such sum from the DATE OF ORIGINAL ISSUE of this Bond until it matures at the RATE OF INTEREST PER ANNUM specified above on July 15, 2016 and semiannually thereafter on the fifteenth (15th) day of January and July in each year until maturity or prior redemption. Principal of and interest on this Bond will be paid to the Securities Depository by the Board or its duly appointed paying agent and will be credited to the participants of DTC, as listed on the records of DTC, as of each July 1 and January 1 next preceding the date of such payments (the "Record Dates" for such payments).

This Bond is not transferable as to principal or interest except to an authorized nominee of DTC. DTC shall be responsible for maintaining the book-entry system for recording the interests of its participants or the transfers of the interests among its participants. The participants are responsible for maintaining records regarding the beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds on behalf of individual purchasers.

The Bonds of this issue maturing prior to July 15, 2017 are not subject to redemption prior to their stated maturities. The Bonds of this issue maturing on or after July 15, 2017 are redeemable at the option of the Board, in whole or in part, on any date on or after July 15, 2016 upon notice as required herein at a redemption price equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the principal amount being redeemed (the "Redemption Price"), plus accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption.

Notice of Redemption ("Notice of Redemption") shall be given by mailing at least thirty (30) days but not more than sixty (60) days before the date fixed for redemption by first class mail in a sealed envelope with postage prepaid to the registered owners of such Bonds at their respective addresses as they last appear on the registration books kept for that purpose by the Board or a duly appointed Bond Registrar. So long as DTC (or any successor thereto) acts as Securities Depository for the Bonds, Notice of Redemption shall be sent to such Securities Depository and shall not be sent to the beneficial owners of the Bonds. Any failure of the Securities Depository to advise any of its participants or any failure of any participant to notify any beneficial owner of any Notice of Redemption shall not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings. If the Board determines to redeem a portion of the Bonds prior to maturity, such Bonds to be redeemed shall be selected by the Board; the Bonds to be redeemed having the same maturity shall be selected by the Securities Depository in accordance with its regulations.

If Notice of Redemption has been given as provided herein, the Bonds or the portion thereof called for redemption shall be due and payable on the date fixed for redemption at the Redemption Price, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption. Interest shall cease to accrue on the Bonds after the date fixed for redemption.

This Bond is one of an authorized issue of Bonds and is issued pursuant to: (i) Title 18A, Chapter 24 of the New Jersey Statutes, Chapter 271 of the Laws of 1967, as amended and supplemented (N.J.S.A. 18A:24-1 et seq); (ii) a refunding bond ordinance enacted and adopted by the Board on March 28, 2016; and (iii) a resolution adopted by the Board on March 28, 2016 (the "Authorization Proceedings"). The full faith and credit of the School District are hereby irrevocably pledged for the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on this Bond according to its terms.

It is hereby certified and recited that all conditions, acts and things required by the Constitution or the statutes of the State of New Jersey to exist, to have happened or to have been performed precedent to or in the issuance of this Bond exist, have happened and have been performed and that the issue of Bonds of which this is one, together with all other indebtedness of the School District, is within every debt and other limit prescribed by such Constitution or statutes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS IN THE COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW JERSEY has caused this Bond to be executed in its name by the manual or facsimile signature of its President, its corporate seal to be hereunto imprinted or affixed, this Bond and the seal to be attested by the manual signature of its Business Administrator/Board Secretary, and this Bond to be dated the DATE OF ORIGINAL ISSUE as specified above.

**THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BERNARDS IN THE
COUNTY OF SOMERSET, NEW
JERSEY**

(SEAL)

By: [FORM, DO NOT EXECUTE]
LINDA WOOLDRIDGE,
President

ATTEST:

By: [FORM, DO NOT EXECUTE]
RODERIC B. MCLAUGHLIN,
**Business Administrator/
Board Secretary**

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

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne , Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Richman, and Ms. Wooldridge

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

X. Board Presentation

1) Budget Draft for 2016-17 Budget

Business Administrator Rod McLaughlin presented an overview of the 2016-17 school budget. Items highlighted included:

- Comparisons between FY1516 and FY1617 by budget expenditures and operating expense changes.
- An overview of operating expenses, technology replenishment expenses, the budgeted fund balance and capital projects
- Factors affecting the budget:
 - The loss of state aid amount and impact
 - Sustaining current programs
 - Local tax levy increase
 - Impact of long-term capital needs for projects
 - Enrollment
- The impact of the SCESC cost increases to the FY1617 Transportation Budget
- Impact of the loss of state aid since 2009/10
- Breakdown of instruction costs for general education, special education and support services

Mr. McLaughlin then detailed the next steps for finalizing the budget noting that Extraordinary Aid is estimated conservatively as final amounts will not be known until after the budget is completed.

Board members made comments and asked questions regarding non-salary costs, the ability to maintain programs in FY1617, STEAM costs, technological needs, Special Education growth and costs, funding of General Education programs and concerns regarding the future of state aid.

Superintendent Nick Markarian responded to questions regarding staffing and the purchase of computers to update classroom spaces.

For the complete presentation [click here](#).

XI. Superintendent's Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the HIB Report dated March 28, 2016.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the submission of the 2016-2019 Comprehensive Equity Plan.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the Public Employment Relations Commission settlement Docket No.: AR-2015-417

Assistant Superintendent Sean Siet provided a description of the Comprehensive Equity Plan and described that the functions of the plan are to assure quality and equity in curriculum, review board policy and review hiring practices and that all items meet the state and federal standards.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Ms. Gray Items #1-3 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne (no to Item #2 only), Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Richman, and Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - Mr. Byrne (Item #2 only)
“Abstain” - None

XII. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding the budget, funding for Special Education and class size concerns.

XIII. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

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

February 22, 2016 – Executive Session Minutes
February 22, 2016 – Regular Session Minutes
March 14, 2016 – Executive Session Minutes
March 14, 2016 – Regular Session Minutes
March 21, 2016 - Executive Session Minutes

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Ms. Gray the foregoing were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry (abstain February 22, 2016 Regular and Executive Minutes only), Ms. Gray, Ms. Richman, and Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - Mr. Fry (February 22, 2016 Regular and Executive Minutes only)

XIV. Committee Reports

FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated March 28, 2016 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$3,833,157.13.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the February 2016 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the monthly Investment Report for February 2016, and the Treasurer of the School Monies Report for February 2016.

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 February 2016 line item transfers totaling \$ 1,898,672.06 to the 2015-16 school budget, list on file in the Board office.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative as mandated by the State of New Jersey.

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve ongoing district consultation from March 30, 2016 to June 30, 2016 with **Above and Beyond Learning Group** in the amount of \$185.00 per hour.

6) BE IT RESOLVED that the tentative budget to be approved for the 2016-2017 School Year using the 2016-2017 state aid figures and the Secretary to the Board of Education be authorized to submit the following tentative budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline:

	GENERAL	SPECIAL	DEBT	
	<u>FUND</u>	<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2016-2017 Total Expenditures	\$91,488,504	\$1,659,910	\$5,566,344	\$98,714,758
Less: Anticipated Revenues	<u>\$9,379,189</u>	<u>\$1,659,910</u>	<u>\$281,903</u>	<u>\$11,321,002</u>
Taxes to be Raised:	<u>\$82,109,315</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$5,284,441</u>	<u>\$87,393,756</u>

And to be advertise said tentative budget in the Courier News in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held at the William Annin Middle School auditorium in Basking Ridge, New Jersey on April 25, 2016 at 7:00 PM for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2016-2017 School Year.

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby adopt the following resolution for out-of-district and intra-district travel 2016-2017:

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Board of Education recognizes school staff and Board members will incur travel expenses related to and within the scope of their current responsibilities and for travel that promotes the delivery of instruction of furthers the efficient operation of the school district; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. requires Board members to receive approval of these expenses by a majority of the full voting membership of the Board and staff members to receive prior approval of these expenses by the Superintendent of Schools and a majority of the full voting membership of the Board; and

WHEREAS, a Board of Education may establish, for regular district business travel only, an annual school year threshold of \$150 per staff member where prior Board approval shall not be required unless this annual threshold for a staff member is exceeded in a given school year (July 1 through June 30); and

WHEREAS, travel and related expenses not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq., but deemed by the Board of Education to be necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves all travel not in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1 et seq. as being necessary and unavoidable as noted on the approved Board of Education Out of District Travel and Reimbursement Forms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to the maximum expenditure of \$125,000 for all staff and Board members.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the proposed menu price changes for the 2016-2017 School Year. (See attachment F-8 [here](#))

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve professional development expenses in accordance with P.L. 2007 An Act Concerning School District Accountability and annual Board resolution for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
A. Read	2016 NJSHA Convention	\$315	04/14/2016 to 04/15/2016

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby reject the sole bid received for the Elementary Schools Security Enhancement Project(s) in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-22(a) on the basis that the bid substantially exceeds the project cost estimate. Bid tabulation as follows:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
DeSapio Construction, Inc. 280 Ridge Road Frenchtown, NJ 08825	\$384,000

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a settlement from the Office of Administrative Law, Docket No.: EDS 12869-2014N

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Mr. Byrne, Items #1-11 were approved and Item #5 was tabled by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne (No to Items# 4, 7 and 11), Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Richman, and Ms. Wooldridge
 “Noes” - Mr. Byrne (Items# 4, 7 and 11 only)
 “Abstain” - None

Ms. Wooldridge provided a summary of the finance items and noted that the Bond Refunding and Budget were the topics of the Finance Committee Meeting that was held on March 24, 2016.

PERSONNEL

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Kristy Shovlowsky** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School effective May 31, 2016 through June 20, 2016 utilizing 15 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 6, 2016 through October 18, 2016 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 6, 2016 through November 30, 2016 then an unpaid child care leave effective December 1, 2016 through January 2, 2017 returning January 3, 2017.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following Change in Child Care Leave for the 2015-16 school year:

Staff Member:	From:	To:
Jennifer Lamberti	Paid Child Care Leave effective May 2, 2016 through June 30, 2016 utilizing 35 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 1, 2016 through October 13, 2016 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2016 through November 30, 2016 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective December 1, 2106 through June 30, 2017, returning September 1, 2017	Paid Child Care Leave effective April 4, 2016 through June 30, 2016 utilizing 50 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 1, 2016 through October 13, 2016 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2016 through November 30, 2016 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective December 1, 2106 through June 30, 2017, returning September 1, 2017

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Nicole Alvarez** Grade 5 Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 1 BA \$47,724 effective April 5, 2016 through June 30, 2016 as a maternity leave replacement for Megan Taxeras. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Priscilla Flores** Art Teacher Oak Street School at a salary of Step 1 MA \$53,724 effective April 25, 2016 through June 30, 2016 as a maternity leave replacement for Jennifer Braun. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Damaris Millheim** Grade 5 Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 1 BA \$47,724 effective through May 2, 2016 through June 30, 2016 as a maternity leave replacement for Annette Franco. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Kaitlyn Schaefer** Special Education ABA Teacher Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 BA+30 \$ 50,954 effective March 28, 2016 through June 30, 20106. Certificate of Eligibility-Alternate Route-Mentoring Required. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Lauren Ginsburg** Instructional Aide Ridge High School at a salary of Step 1 \$25.79 per hour 7 hours per day effective April 4, 2016 through June 20, 2016.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Amneris Flores** School Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of \$23.79 per hour 3 hours per day effective March 18, 2016 through June 20, 2016.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following Staff Members to various assignments:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Salary:</u>
Angela Hall	Immigrant Tutor	\$60.00 per hour
Michael Fackelman	PAC Assistant	\$38.00 per hour
Danielle Plagge	Pit Musician	\$800.00

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following Extra-Curricular Assignments:

Brian McCarthy	Freshmen Softball	\$5,871	0 years/0 points/\$0
Lidia D’Armiento	Intramurals Winter CH	\$515.34	0 years/0 points/\$0
Larry Migliore	Forensics WAMS	\$2,868	0 years/0 points/\$0
Vivekanand Balijia	Forensics WAMS	\$2,868	0 years/0 points/\$0
Jessica Lynch	Forensics WAMS	\$2,868	0 years/0 points/\$0

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following Student Interns for the 2016-17 school year:

<u>Student Intern:</u>	<u>College:</u>	<u>Dates/Subject Area:</u>
Alexandra Paspalas	TCNJ	Technology Education/WAMS Nick Beykirch 9/6/16-12/15/16
Margaret Martino	TCNJ	Grade 4 Elementary/OS Stephanie Corcoran 9/6/16-12/15/16

12) 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 \$250 per

diem for the 2015-16 school year:

Alison Hoffner	Hugh Coheleach
Steven Bogart	Genevieve Yhap-Zebro*
Daniel Lee	Elizabeth Hammonds
Lindsay Shaw	Damaris Millheim
Debra Calie	

*Denotes Sub Nurse

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following Volunteer for the 2015-16 School Year:

Aparna Yamunan	WAMS National Science Bowl
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On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Richman, Items #1-13 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Richman (abstain Item #10 only), and Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - Ms. Richman (Item #10 only)

POLICY

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

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

- Policy 2431-Athletic Competition (M) (Revised)
- Regulation 2431.2-Medical Examination Prior to Participation on a School-Sponsored Interscholastic or Intramural Team or Squad (M) (Revised)
- Policy 5111-Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)
- Policy 5310-Health Services (M) (Revised)
- Policy & Regulation 5330.01-Administration of Medical Marijuana (M) (New)
- Policy 5460-High School Graduation (M) (Revised)
- Policy & Regulation 8462-Reporting Potentially Missing or Abused Children (M) (Revised)
- Policy 8550-Outstanding Food Service Charges (Revised)

Mr. Fry provided an explanation of the policies and noted that the first six items were mandated by the state.

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

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne (no to Policy & Regulation 5330.01 only), Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. Richman and Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - Mr. Byrne (Policy & Regulation 5330.01 only)
“Abstain” - None

CURRICULUM

Ms. Gray provided an update from the March 11, 2016 Curriculum Committee Meeting. During this meeting the committee discussed a new goal for 2016 designed to evaluate the K-5 curriculum, assessment and social-emotional development.

Other topics presented by Ms. Gray were that a presentation was given by David Hunscher at the committee meeting with regard to English Language Arts concerns regarding how achievement is gauged, concerns about attendance at the District Curriculum Forums and how to increase attendance, the lower than expected enrollment in Mandarin at both William Annin Middle School and Ridge High School as discussed by Ms. Stotler and the ongoing analysis of student collaborative projects.

ADVOCACY

Ms. Richman provided a report from the Advocacy Committee Meeting that took place on March 7, 2016. Topics discussed were the low attendance at evening PTO meetings and what changes could be made to increase attendance and the PTO’s interest in online payment systems.

Ms. Richman explained that at the same Advocacy Committee Meeting Superintendent Nick Markarian expressed interest in exploring different ways the district may have one-way communication with the public and he spoke about the upcoming PARCC testing and the 2016-2017 school district budget.

LIAISON REPORTS

No Report.

XV. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Public comments were made regarding social media as a communication tool, Mission One Staffing and outsourced aides, technology, concerns regarding the William Annin Middle School cafeteria, student collaborative projects and concerns about PARCC testing.

XVI. Board Forum

Superintendent Nick Markarian responded to public comments regarding PARCC testing and the William Annin Middle School cafeteria.

Board members addressed social media as a public communication tool and noted that Board members are available to clarify information. Board members also expressed concerns with regard to STEAM costs and STEAM courses having honors weight and the impact of STEAM courses at Ridge High School to other programs. Mr. Markarian indicated that these concerns could be central to the next Board of Education curriculum committee meeting.

XVII. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Dr. Dunten, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:49p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary