

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES INDEX
MARCH 8, 2021
REGULAR SESSION 5:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:01 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:01 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING - INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE VIRTUAL MEETING WILL BE POSTED BY 6:00 PM
ON MARCH 8, 2021 AT WWW.BERNARDSBOE.COM**

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- II. **Salute to the Flag – page 301**
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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 8, 2021
REGULAR SESSION 5:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:01 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:01 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING - INSTRUCTIONS TO PARTICIPATE
IN THE VIRTUAL MEETING WILL BE POSTED BY 6:00PM
ON MARCH 8, 2021 AT WWW.BERNARDSBOE.COM**

I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 5:00 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

III. Roll Call

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

ABSENT: None

IV. Executive Session – 5:01 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 5:04p.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. Beckman and approved by all present, the Board closed the Executive Session at 6:36p.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 BTConnect@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 about the return to instruction, the recent successes of the Ridge Forensics Team, the possibility of clubs meeting in person and the planning of the upcoming Senior Prom.

VIII. Board Presentation

1) **Bernards Township School District Post Secondary Report Class of 2020** - Kristin Fox, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction, and Stephanie Smith, Director of School Counseling

Ms. Fox, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction and Ms. Smith, Director of School Counseling, provided a presentation for the annual Post Secondary Report.

Ms. Smith provided an overview of the presentation that includes standardized testing, college admissions, career readiness and 2021 Ridge High School AP exam schedule.

Ms. Smith discussed the impact of COVID-19 on standardized testing outlining the challenges and changes made to assist students and highlighted the differences between the SAT and ACT tests and provided testing trends over the past five years. Ms. Smith provided mean scores for the SAT and ACT tests for 2020, provided a comparison to the state and national mean scores, a breakdown of scores in comparison to peer schools and outlined the ACT benchmark scores for the past five years.

Ms. Fox discussed the SAT subject tests, mean scores, number of students taking these tests. Ms. Fox discussed the adjustments made during the Spring of 2020 due to the public health emergency, highlights of the Advanced Placement exams, student participation and achievement noting changes in enrollment, AP equity and excellence, discussed the five-year scores summary, passing AP score breakdown during the past five years in various subjects and a summary outlining overall increases and decreases in scores based on subject.

Ms. Smith discussed college admissions data. Ms. Smith provided a breakdown of the Ridge High School class of 2020 post-graduate plans, class profiles over the past five years, test scores and college applications and acceptances and a breakdown of teacher letter of recommendations. Ms. Smith provided a comparison of college acceptance rates including the 2020 top ten colleges attended, matriculation data by type and state, Ridge alumni data and transfer statistics and college admissions news including topics such as virtual events, reporting trends, selectivity rates and early action. Ms. Smith shared a word cloud representation of college selections for the class of 2020 created by Dr. Mary Jane McNally.

Ms. Smith discussed career readiness and development. Career readiness and development is inclusive of the Naviance career assessment and Career Interest Profiler,

the Senior Internship Program, a program evaluation focus group with K-12 representation and future improvements.

Ms. Fox discussed the 2021 Ridge High School AP exam schedule. Ms. Fox provided a 2020/2021 AP exam comparison, 2021 Digital AP Exams versus 2020 Emergency AP exams, an overview of the 2021 exam schedule as released by the College Board consisting of three test windows and four test platforms, exam options by course, explained the logistics and considerations behind the determination for the Bernards Township School District exam schedule and additional considerations being made.

Questions from the board members included virtual versus in-person test taking and capacity limits, a question regarding the total 2020 alumni students that responded and provided support for the career readiness program and presentation.

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

IX. Superintendent's Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

REVISED 2021 SCHEDULE OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

EXECUTIVE SESSION (as necessary)
PUBLIC SESSION 7:00 P.M.

<u>Meeting Date:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
January 4, 2021*	Virtual Meeting <i>Reorganization Meeting</i>
January 25, 2021	Virtual Meeting
February 8, 2021	Virtual Meeting
February 22, 2021	Virtual Meeting
March 8, 2021	Virtual Meeting
March 22, 2021	Virtual Meeting
April 5, 2021*	Ridge High School PAC
April 26, 2021	Ridge High School PAC
May 3, 2021*	Ridge High School PAC <i>Public Hearing on 2021-22 Budget</i>
May 24, 2021	Ridge High School PAC
June 7, 2021*	Ridge High School PAC
June 14, 2021	Ridge High School PAC
July 19, 2021**	Board of Education Office
August 23, 2021	Board of Education Office
September 13, 2021	Ridge High School PAC
September 27, 2021	Ridge High School PAC
October 4, 2021*	Ridge High School PAC

October 18, 2021**	Ridge High School PAC
November 8, 2021	Ridge High School PAC
November 22, 2021	Ridge High School PAC
December 20, 2021**	Ridge High School PAC
January 3, 2022*	Ridge High School PAC

*1st Monday of month
**3rd Monday of month

Superintendent Markarian provided an explanation of the changes to the schedule for board meetings during 2021.

All board members were in favor of the schedule change.

X. Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

XI. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

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

February 22, 2021 - Executive Session Minutes
February 22, 2021 - Regular Session Minutes

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

“Ayes” - Ms. Beckman, Ms. Gray, Ms. Hira, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman,
Mr. Salmon, Ms. Schafer and Ms. White

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - Ms. Korn

XII. Finance Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated March 8, 2021 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$6,378,304.79.

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

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

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 **Maryanne Climes** Special Education Teacher Liberty Corner School effective June 30, 2021.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the retirement of **John Rathgeb** Latin Teacher Ridge High & William Annin Middle Schools effective June 30, 2021.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Nancy DiGraziano** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School effective April 1, 2021.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Anthony La Marco** Assistant Business Administrator District Office effective April 30, 2021.
- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Amanda Reyes** Special Education Teacher Liberty Corner School effective May 26, 2021 through June 30, 2021 utilizing 16 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through December 1, 2021 running concurrently with and unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2021 through December 1, 2021, returning December 2, 2021.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Changes in Assignments** for the 2020-21 school year:

<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
Brian Montalbano	Latin Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 13 MA \$69,935 effective March 29, 2021 through June 30,	Latin Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 13 MA \$69,935 effective on or before April 22, 2021

	2021 as a leave replacement for M. Fairbanks. Salary to be prorated to reflect dates worked	through June 30, 2021 as a leave replacement for M. Fairbanks. Salary to be prorated to reflect dates worked.
Vicki Ahern	Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of \$22.81 per hour effective 7.5 hours day November 24, 2020 through June 18, 2021	Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of \$22.81 per hour 7.5 hours effective March 10, 2021 through June 18, 2021
Theresa Glazier	Grade Level Leader Grade 2 Oak Street School \$2,690 September, 2020 - June,2021	Grade Level Leader Grade 2 Oak Street School \$1,345 September, 2020 - January, 2021
Meg Jewson	Instructional Aide Nurse's Office RHS at a salary of Step 1 \$27.36 per hour 7 hours per day effective September 1, 2021 through June 22, 2021	Instructional Aide Nurse's Office RHS at a salary of Step 1 \$27.36 per hour 7 hours per day effective September 1, 2021 through March 14, 2021 then a 10 month Secretary at salary of Step 1 \$51,555 prorated to \$41,244 to reflect 10 month status effective March 15, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.
Pam Collins	School Aide Nurse's Office \$22.81 per hour 6.5 hours per day effective October 12, 2021 through June 18, 2021	School Aide Nurse's Office \$22.81 per hour 6.5 hours per day effective October 12, 2021 through March 14, 2021 then a 10 month Secretary at salary of Step 1 \$51,555 prorated to \$41,244 to reflect 10 month status effective March 15, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect start

		date.
Michelle Campbell	School Aide RHS at a salary of \$21.75 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective September 1, 2021 through June 18, 2021	School Aide RHS at a salary of \$21.75 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective September 1, 2021 through March 14, 2021 then a 10 month Secretary at salary of Step 1 \$51,555 prorated to \$41,244 to reflect 10 month status effective March 15, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.
Maureen Rodgers	Study Strategies Extra Section RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 29, 2021 through March 9, 2021	Study Strategies Extra Section RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 29, 2021 through June 30, 2021
Bonni Brunskill	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through the end of assignment	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021
Tara Cascarelli	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through the end of assignment	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021
Chad Griffiths	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through the end of assignment	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021
Jesse Rice	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through the end of assignment	Extra Section Algebra I RHS \$1,057 per month effective December 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021
Tyler Brandt	Extra Section Physical Education RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 28,	Extra Section Physical Education RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 28,

	2021 through end of assignment	2021 through April 9, 2021
Ken Marsh	Extra Section Physical Education RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 28, 2021 through end of assignment	Extra Section Physical Education RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 28, 2021 through April 9, 2021
Amanda Statkevich	Extra Section Physical Education RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 28, 2021 through end of assignment	Extra Section Physical Education RHS \$1,057 per month effective January 28, 2021 through April 9, 2021
Lisa Filippini	A paid Child Care Leave for 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	A paid Child Care Leave for 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 February 28, 2022, returning March 1, 2022
Martha Harvey	Musical Director RHS \$6,242 3 years/0 points/\$0	Musical Director .5 RHS \$3,121 3 years/0 points/\$0
Elizabeth Braga	Assistant Track Girls' RHS \$6,657 4 years/0 points/\$0	Head Track Girls' RHS \$10,081 4 years/0 points/\$0

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Samantha Broo** School Counselor Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 1-4 MA \$59,355 effective March
Board of Education Minutes March 8, 2021

29, 2021 through June 30, 2021 as a maternity leave replacement for M. Mooney. Salary to be prorated to reflect dates worked.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Joseph Lipinski** Social Studies Teacher William Annin Middle School at a salary of Step 1-4 BA \$52,872 effective March 15, 2021 through June 30, 2021 as a leave replacement for L. Filippini. Certificate of Eligibility w/Advanced Standing - mentoring required. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Barbara Roberts** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 \$27.36 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective March 22, 2021 through June 18, 2021.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Steven Rabinovich** IT Specialist Ridge High School at a salary of \$72,000 effective March 22, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Salary to be prorated to reflect dates worked.

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Extra-Curricular Assignments** for the 2020-21 school year:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>20-21 Salary:</u>	<u>Years/Points/Longevity:</u>
OS	Grade Level Leader Grade 2 2/1/21-6/30/21	Cathy Stawarz	\$1,345	none
RH	Assistant Baseball	Ben Donaghy	\$6,657	0 years/0 points/\$0
RH	Freshmen Baseball	Charles Albanese	\$6,657	n/a
RH	Assistant Softball	Rebecca DiSerio	\$6,657	0 years/0 points/\$0
RH	Head Softball	Brian Mccarthy	\$10,081	3 years/0 points/\$0
RH	Assistant Softball	Peter Samila	\$6,657	0 years/0 points/\$0
RH	Musical Director .5	Zach Jones	\$3,121	n/a

RH	Unified Track Advisor	Tara Cantagallo	\$500.00	0 years/0 points/\$/
WA	Unified Track Advisor	Rebecca Bollaro	\$500.00	0 years/0 points/\$/
RH	Unified Track Head Coach	Madison Mitchell	\$1,500	0 years/0 points/\$/
WA	Unified Track Head Coach	Anthony LaGreca	\$1,000	Unified Track Head Coach

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following Staff Members in the **Various Assignment** listed for the 2020-21 school year:

<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Salary:</u>
Robert Hughes	CDL License Stipend	\$1,000/year
Donna Wilson	Tranpsorting/Riding Van SE	\$30.91 per hour
Jennifer Richardson	Tranpsorting/Riding Van SE	\$30.91 per hour
Brian McCarthy	At Home Program-SE	\$30.91 per hour

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Mentors** for the 2020-21 school year, mentoring fee to be paid by the provisional teacher:

<u>Provisional Teacher:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Mentor:</u>	<u>Payment:</u>
Kelly Dennis	Elementary	Tricia Manies	\$588.40
Kyle McKenna	Elementary	Heather Ray	\$348.34
Connor Albanese	Social Studies	Susan Westlake	\$294.34

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **District Volunteers** for the 2020-21 school year:

Greg Heiner	Volleyball RHS
Eric Cosentino	Lacrosse RHS
Amy Lieberwirth	Softball RHS

On motion by Mr. Salmon, seconded by Ms. Korn Items #1-6 and 8-14 were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

Item #7 was tabled.

XIV. Policy Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the revised **2021-22 School Calendar** on first reading.

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

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

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

XV. Curriculum Committee Report

Ms. White provided a report from the March 5, 2021 Curriculum Committee meeting. Topics included an update regarding the Music Program, K-5 Specials, the 2021 AP schedule, Project Lead the Way, adjustments to the National Honor Society, the inclusive instruction initiative, feedback for the Bernards Township Big Sibling program, an update from the I&RS/ 504 team to help disengaged students, a blended versus virtual grade analysis, NJDOE Spring assessment data collection, updates regarding summer intervention and a Phase II update.

Ms. Korn asked for clarification regarding the NJDOE spring assessment data collection. Assistant Superintendent Fox provided a further explanation. Ms. Fox clarified that

assessments that may be used must be prior to February 19, 2021 and that the district is still awaiting a template for reporting.

Ms. Beckman asked about the availability of the Bernards Township Big Sibling program and how parties interested in mentoring could apply.

XVI. Wellness Committee Report

No report.

XVII. Liaison Committee Reports

No report.

XVIII. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Comments from the public included a comment from the President of the Ridge Forensics and Debate team outlining the dynamics and achievements of the team and requesting that they compete at the New Jersey State Tournament in person on March 20, 2021, a comment from the Vice-President and Secretary of Ridge Forensics further elaborating the request of the team to the Board, comments supporting the Ridge Forensics team and their request for the New Jersey State Tournament, a question regarding the logistics and timeline for the plan for the return to instruction, a question regarding the school counseling department and snow days versus virtual days.

XIX. Board Forum

Board Members shared their thoughts relative to the request for the in-person Ridge Forensics event. Ms. Schafer expressed an interest in exploring if student groups and clubs could be allowed to meet in person with safety measures in place.

XX. Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Salmon and seconded by Ms. Schafer and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary