

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MINUTES INDEX  
NOVEMBER 23, 2015  
BOARD RETREAT 5:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.  
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM**

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MEETING MINTUES  
NOVEMBER 23, 2015  
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**I. Call to Order – 5:00 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by Robin McKeon.

**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. 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. In instances where the Board feels that there is a misunderstanding or inaccuracy, a

member of the Board or Administration will address it in the Board Response portion of the agenda.

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.

**V. Board Retreat – Board of Education Governance and Mandated Training:**

1) Board Member Ethics – Board Attorney John Croot

The BOE received training from BOE attorney John Croot on the subject of Board Member Ethics. The Ethics training is an annual requirement. Mr. Croot reviewed all of the items in the Board Member Code of Ethics and also discussed recent decisions by the Ethics Commission. A large portion of the training focused on Board Members Volunteering and potential conflicts of interest for Board Members.

The remaining agenda item #2 was deferred to a future BOE retreat meeting.

2) HIB – Board Attorney John Croot

**VI. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

No comments were made.

**VII. Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Gray, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin  
Board Secretary