

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MINUTES INDEX  
OCTOBER 12, 2015  
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 PAC**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 12, 2015  
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 PAC**

**I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. – Ridge High School PAC**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President McKeon.

**II. Salute to the Flag**

**III. Roll Call**

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

ABSENT: Ms. Kusel

**IV. Executive Session – 6:01 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room**

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss: personnel/contract matters; 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. Cwerner, seconded by L. Woodlridge, and approved by all present, the Board closed Executive Session at 6:43 p.m.

**V. Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:00 p.m. – Ridge High School PAC**

President McKeon reconvened the regular meeting in the Ridge High School PAC at 7:02 p.m.

## 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. We do not have a specific time limit, but we ask that you keep your comments brief. 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**

Ridge Student Government President Kunaal Kapadia updated the Board on the planning for upcoming student activities at the high school including Ridge High School Spirit Week (October 12-16), the Senior Tailgate Party and Homecoming Dance scheduled for October 17, 2015. The Student Government is purchasing Ridge High School water bottles that will be sold as a fundraiser.

## VIII. **Superintendent's Report**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) Affirm Receipt of HIB Report dated October 9, 2015

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following field trip destination for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Destination:</u>	<u>Group Attending:</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
Sun High Farm, Randolph, NJ	Oak Street Kindergarten	79
Bernards Township Library	A Cappella Choir	51

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

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

Superintendent Nick Markarian discussed the various considerations to be made if Ridge High School was to implement a rotating drop schedule.

**IX. Public Forum on Agenda Items**

No comments were made.

**X. Committee Reports**

**FINANCE**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated October 12, 2015 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$5,017,797.17.

2) 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 2015-2016 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
S. Scully	Rutgers Reading and Writing Conference	\$213.00	10/23/2015

3) Pursuant to the NJSA 18A:18A-4.3, the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby authorize the use of competitive contracting for the procurement of **maintenance, custodial and grounds management services.**

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the following out-of-district students for the 2015-16 school year:

<b>Student #:</b> 5424810702	<b><u>School District:</u></b> Jersey City School District	<b><u>Annual Tuition:</u></b> \$12,695
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On motion by Ms. Wooldrich, seconded by Ms. Richman Items #1 through #4 were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

**PERSONNEL**

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Rachel DeCarlo** Payroll Administrator District Office effective December 31, 2015.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Anastasia Feola** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School effective October 30, 2015.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Change in Assignments, FTE, Salaries and/or Locations** for the 2015-16 school year:

<b><u>Staff Member:</u></b>	<b><u>From:</u></b>	<b><u>To:</u></b>
Kristin Costantiello	A paid child care leave effective September 8, 2015 through November 3, 2015 utilizing 40 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective November 4, 2015 through December 16, 2015 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective November 4, 2015 through January 31, 2016, returning February 1, 2016.	A paid child care leave effective September 8, 2015 through November 19, 2015 utilizing 50 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective November 20, 2015 through January 4, 2016 running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective November 20, 2015 through January 31, 2016, returning February 1, 2016.
Jennifer Verrusio	Instructional Aide 5.5 hours effective September 8, 2015 through June 20, 2016	Instructional Aide 4.5 hours effective October 1, 2015 through June 20, 2016
Amanda Scheick Serena Pazckowski	Mount Prospect School Cedar Hill School	Cedar Hill School Liberty Corner School

- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Nicole Hall** Special Education Teacher William Annin Middle School at a salary of Step 2 BA \$48,224 effective October 23, 2015 through June 30, 2016 as a maternity leave replacement for Caitlin Annese. Certificate of Eligibility w/Advanced Standing-

Mentoring required.

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Peter Wright** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School at a salary of Step 2 \$26.33 per hour 7 hours per day effective October 5, 2015 through January 20, 2016 as a maternity leave replacement for Justine Rolandelli.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the various staff assignments for the 2015-16 school year:

Name:	Assignment:	Salary:
Debbie Karuppan	Summer Meetings	Per diem rate/2 days
Linda Gonzalez	Immigrant Tutor	\$60.00 per hour
Christine Russo	Immigrant Tutor	\$60.00 per hour
Judee Shroeder	Review & Process Fall Physicals	\$30.00 per hour/25 hours
Amy Lynn	Summer Meetings	Per diem rate/2 days
Amy Lynn	Summer Nurse Clerical	\$50.00 per hour/76.5 hours
Patricia Miller	Summer Meetings	Per diem rate/2 days
Anita DeAngelis	Summer Meetings	Per diem rate/2 days
Robin Youtkus	Summer Meetings	Per diem rate/1 day
Nick Beykirch	Small Maintenance Work	\$53 per hour/not to exceed \$3,000
Marisa Marcus	At Home Program-SE	\$66.30 per hour
Josh Gebhardt	At Home Program-SE	\$66.30 per hour
Will Mirra	At Home Program-SE	\$66.30 per hour
Kara Higgins	At Home Program-SE	\$66.30 per hour
Jessica Petonak	At Home Program-SE	\$30 per hour
Sandra Zimmerman	Choral Accompanist	\$32.00 per hour
Colleen Bodine	Immigrant Tutoring	\$60.00 per hour
Kristin Bobowicz	Immigrant Tutor	\$60.00 per hour

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Beside Instructors** for the 2015-16 school year at a salary of \$ 76.83 per hour:

Charlie Bene	John Lallis
Kathy Haines	Walter Levy
Diane Harper	Barbara Menegozzi
Paulette Ciganek	Barbara Moleta
Scott Stornetta	Jennifer Schuchman
Elizabeth Navega	Christina Takayama
Evan Price	Francesca Reina

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education Board of Education does hereby appoint **Jenifer Behrins** Instructional Aide Ridge High School at a salary of Step 3 \$26.86 per hour 7 hours per day effective September 28, 2015 through June 20, 2016.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Extra-Curricular Assignments** 2015-16 school year:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>15-16:</u>	<u>Years:</u>	<u>Points:</u>	<u>Longevity:</u>
RHS	Ann Suter	PM Activities Supervisor	\$28 per hour	None		
RHS	Megan Milde	PM Activities Supervisor	\$28 per hour	None		

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Mr. Fry Items #1 through #9 were approved by the following roll call vote:

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

## **CURRICULUM**

Ms. Wooldrich stated that there would be a report on this at the next Board Meeting. No additional comments were made.

## **POLICY**

Ms. Shah stated that there would be a report on this at the next Board Meeting.

## **ADVOCACY**

Ms. Richman discussed that there were several complaints about the Blasts that went out regarding Picture Day at the school but overall it was a success as it gave the parents time to be ready for pictures ahead of time. The Advocacy Committee is working on different ways to communicate through social media with the parents and students in district.

Ms. Richman also discussed the initiative to educate parents and students with regard to underage drinking and substance abuse. On Wednesday, October 21 there is a presentation at the Ridge High School Performing Arts Center called “Not in My Basement” for parents regarding underage drinking. On December 17 Chris Herren will be at the Ridge High School Performing Arts Center for a presentation for students and parents regarding substance abuse.

Ms. Richman mentioned that Linda Wooldridge and Robin McKeon recently attended a New Jersey School Board Association meeting where Dr. Bari Erlichson from the NJ Department of Education said that the New Jersey Department of Education should receive statewide PARCC test results mid-October. Districts can expect to have access to the scores about mid-November. Results will be mailed to parents sometime after that. On October 23rd, some of the PARCC test questions will be released. Those students in 11th grade taking AP Language and Composition will be exempt from having to take the PARCC language arts exam.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

Ms. Wooldridge reported on the October 6, 2015 Municipal Alliance meeting and the



October 8<sup>th</sup> Somerset County Educational Services Commission Board meeting (SCESC). The SCESC Career Center Open house is the week of October 12-16.

**XI. Public Forum on Other than Agenda Items**

No comments were made.

**XII. Board Forum**

Mr. Markarian discussed that looking into transportation for the district is a financial issue and costs are going to need to be reduced as there is a deficit for the current year. Several options for transportation are being reviewed including acquiring space to park buses in Bernards Township and using a tiered bus schedule.

**XIII. Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Wooldrich, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin  
Board Secretary