

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
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SEPTEMBER 10, 2012
BOARD RETREAT 3:00 P.M.
BOARD OF EDUCATION CONFERENCE ROOM**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 10, 2012
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The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by President McGowan.

I. Salute to the Flag

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner (arrived at 3:14 p.m.), Ms. Kusel,
Ms. McGowan, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Shah, Ms. Sherwyn,
Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin,
Board Attorney Cherie Adams

ABSENT: Mr. Koch

III. Call to Order – 3:00 p.m. – Board of Education Building Conference Room

IV. 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. 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

- 1) Board of Education Communication
- 2) Board Member Code of Ethics

Board President Susan McGowan introduced Board Attorney Cherie Adams who began the discussion with a review of Roberts Rules of Order, an overview of general meeting protocol, and the code of ethics and how it is incorporated into Board of Education Policy #0142.

- 3) Strategic Plan Presentation – Dr. Bill Cook, Cambrian Group

Mr. Markarian introduced Dr. Bill Cook a strategic planning consultant. Dr. Cook presented a brief overview of the Cambrian Group's background. He then discussed the historical and current principals of strategic planning and how it relates to his company's planning process.

VI. Public Comments

No comments were made.

VII. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Shah, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary

