

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES INDEX
APRIL 1, 2019
REGULAR SESSION 6:30 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:31 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:09 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

- I. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:30 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center – page 301**
- II. **Salute to the Flag – page 301**
- III. **Roll Call – page 301**
- IV. **Executive Session – 6:31 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room – page 301**
- V. **Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:09 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center – page 301**
- VI. **Statement of Public Notice – page 302**
- VII. **Student Representative - Maddie Athanasiou – page 302**
- VIII. **Board Presentation – page 303**
 - 1) **Trends in Mental Health & SEL Programming/High School Master Schedule Site Visits - Stephanie Smith, Director of School Counseling, Drew Krause, Ridge High School Principal and Karen Hudock, William Annin Middle School Principal**
- IX. **Superintendent's Report – page 304**
- X. **Public Comment on Agenda Items – page 304**
- XI. **Approval of Minutes – page 304**
- XII. **Finance Committee Report**
 - 1) **Approve List of Disbursements Dated April 1, 2019 – page 304**
 - 2) **Approve Professional Development Expenses 2019-20 School Year – page 305**
 - 3) **Approve Functional Behavioral Assessment 2018-19 School Year – page 305**

- XIII. **Personnel Committee Report** – page 305
Report on Progress
- XIV. **Policy Committee Report** – page 305
Report on Progress
- XV. **Curriculum Committee Report** – page 305
Report on Progress
- XVI. **Advocacy Committee Report** – page 305
Report on Progress
- XVII. **Ad Hoc SEL Committee Report** – page 305
Report on Progress
- XVIII. **Liaison Committee Reports** – page 305
Report on Progress
- XIX. **Public Comment on Non-agenda Items** – page 306
- XX. **Board Forum** – page 306
- XXI. **Adjournment** – page 306

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 1, 2019
REGULAR SESSION 6:30 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:31 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:09 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:30 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

II. Salute to the Flag

III. Roll Call

Present: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Mr. Salmon, Ms. Schafer, Ms. White, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

Absent: Mr. Siet

IV. Executive Session – 6:31 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge and seconded by Ms. Korn and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 6:31p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss: confidential matters related to personnel, students, and contract negotiations; 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. Wooldridge seconded by Ms. White and approved by all present, the Board closed the Executive Session at 7:01p.m.

V. Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:09 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, when 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 matter of public concern related to the schools.

When you approach the microphone, please state your name and address. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to five (5) minutes duration. No participant may speak more than once during a given public comment session. 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 different time limit for individual comments and/or to set an overall time limit for the public comment portions of the agenda. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer, no participant may address or question Board members individually.

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 speaking. 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 speaking 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.

VII. Student Representative - Maddie Athanasiou

Ms. Athanasiou spoke about the beginning of the spring sports season at Ridge High School and noted that both the Girls and Boys Lacrosse Teams are currently undefeated. Ms. Athanasiou also provided an update for the recent Ridge Factor event and the

upcoming spring break and discussed two student items for the Board relating to the need for barbecue sauce in the school cafeteria and questions regarding unused snow days.

VIII. Board Presentation

1) Trends in Mental Health & SEL Programming/High School Master Schedule Site Visits - Stephanie Smith, Director of School Counseling, Drew Krause, Ridge High School Principal and Karen Hudock, William Annin Middle School Principal

Ms. Stephanie Smith, Supervisor of School Counseling, presented the Trends in Mental Health 2017-2018 Report. Key points of the presentation were:

- The Elementary School Counseling Program
 - Data was collected during the 2017-18 School Year
 - The following breakdowns were provided:
 - Counselor to student ratio
 - Small group counseling program
 - Average use of time
- William Annin Middle School Counseling Program
 - Data was collected during the 2017-18 School Year
 - The following breakdowns were provided:
 - Total visits
 - Number of visits per month
 - Number of visits per student
 - Student classification, services provided and a breakdown of visits by mental health issues
 - An update for the William Annin Student Assistance Program
- Ridge High School Counseling Program
 - Data was collected for the 2017-18 School Year
 - The following breakdowns were provided:
 - Total visits
 - Number of visits per month
 - Number of visits per student
 - Student classification, services provided, number of visits and a breakdown of visits by mental health issues
 - An update for the Ridge High School Student Assistance Program
- Home Instruction including the number of students, demographics, rounds and educational service providers.
- Mandated reporting for the district including Suicide Intervention Reports, Violence Prevention Reports and Department of Child Protection and Permanency referrals.

Principal Hudock provided a climate survey update from William Annin Middle School, discussing the character education program, a summary of student, staff and parent strengths and opportunities for the students, staff and parents in the school.

Ridge High School Principal Krause provided an update for Social Emotional Committees and ongoing school projects. Mr. Krause also gave an update for the recent

block scheduling school visits that select staff and student took part in outlining the formats, statistics and type of scheduling at each school, teacher and student's feedback from the visits and considerations to be made if Ridge High School were to transition into a different scheduling format.

Board members thanked Ms. Smith, Ms. Hudock and Mr. Krause for their diligence in providing thorough information. Board members inquired and made note of implications of changing the schedule, cafeteria and classroom accommodations, trends in counseling visits and asked about how information from the survey will be used moving forward.

Click [here](#) to view entire presentation.

IX. Superintendent's Report

No report.

X. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Public comments were made thanking the administration for the presentation, the changes in the middle school health classes and the Lunch Bunch counseling program.

XI. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

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

March 25, 2019 - Executive Session Minutes

March 25, 2019 - Regular Session Minutes

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

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

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

XII. Finance Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a [list of disbursements](#) dated April 1, 2019 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$3,589,232.20.

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 2019-20 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
D. Persily	Confratute 2019	\$1,975	07/07/2019 to 07/12/2019

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a functional behavioral assessment for student #305323 with **Atlantic Health System Hospital Corp/ Goryeb Children’s Hospital** in the amount not to exceed \$1,200.00.

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

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

Mr. Salmon provided a report from the March 22, 2019 Finance Committee Meeting. Topics included a budget discussion and a door hardware project update.

XIII. Personnel Committee Report

No report.

XIV. Policy Committee Report

No report.

XV. Curriculum Committee Report

No report.

XVI. Advocacy Committee Report

No report.

XVII. Ad Hoc SEL Committee Report

No report.

XVIII. Liaison Committee Reports

No report.

XIX. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Public comments were made in regard to high school counseling and college preparation.

Both Ms. Smith and Ms. McKeon provided further detail regarding the college preparation process and opportunities at Ridge High School.

XX. Board Forum

Board members discussed the presentation and impact of social media on children and in the school district and the rotating drop schedule. Ms. Schafer asked the Board what the next step would be in the scheduling review process.

Superintendent Markarian discussed the upcoming visit from the district architect to discuss space considerations and cost related to the potential schedule change at the April Finance Committee Meeting.

Superintendent Markarian asked for a show of hands to determine who is in favor of pursuing a facility improvement plan that would allow for an alternative schedule to be implemented at Ridge High School. All were in favor.

Board members thanked Ms. Smith, Ms. Hudock and Mr. Krause for their labor intensive and thorough presentation.

XXI. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. White and seconded by Ms. Schafer and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:43p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary