

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING INDEX
DECEMBER 18, 2023
REGULAR SESSION 5:45 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:53 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
REGULAR SESSION 7:05 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

- I. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 5:45 p.m.**
- II. **Salute to the Flag**
- III. **Roll Call**
- IV. **Executive Session – 5:53 p.m.**
- V. **Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:05 p.m.**
- VI. **Statement of Public Notice**
- VII. **Student Representative – Natalie Ramirez Porras**
- VIII. **Board Presentation**
 - 1) Ridge Music Department Performance – Carol Beadle
- IX. **Board President Comments**
- X. **Superintendent’s Report**
 - 1) Affirm Receipt of **HIB Report** Dated December 18, 2023
 - 2) Recognize the Inception of **New Extra-Curricular Clubs**
 - 3) Approve Overnight Field Trip **Ridge High School Model UN Club**
NAIMUN LXI Conference
- XI. **Public Comment on Agenda Items**
- XII. **Approval of Minutes**
- XIII. **Finance Committee Report**

Report: Committee meetings of November 16, 2023 and December 14, 2023

 - 1) Approve **List of Disbursements** Dated December 18, 2023
 - 2) Acknowledge Receipt **November 2023 Financial Reports**

- 3) Approve Updated **November 2023 Line Item Transfers**
- 4) Approve **Professional Development Expenses** 2023-24 School Year
- 5) Approve **Disposal of Equipment** 2023-24 School Year
- 6) Approve **Withdrawal of Funds**
- 7) Approve **Withdrawal of Funds**
- 8) Approve **Amendment to IDEA Monies** FY 2024
- 9) Acknowledge Receipt **Annual Athletic Ski Trips Transportation Bids**
- 10) Approve **Joint Transportation Agreement** 2023-24 School Year
- 11) Approve **Winter4Kids Agreement** 2023-24 School Year
- 12) Approve **Behavioral Services** 2023-24 School Year
- 13) Approve **Bilingual and Psychological Evaluations** 2023-24 School Year
- 14) Approve **Bilingual, Speech/Language, Educational and Psychological Evaluation** 2023-24 School Year
- 15) Approve **Bilingual, Speech/Language, Educational and Psychological Evaluation** 2023-24 School Year
- 16) Approve **Psychiatric Evaluation** 2023-24 School Year
- 17) Approve **Out-of-District Student** 2023-24 School Year
- 18) Approve **ABA Therapy Services** 2023-24 School Year
- 19) Approve **AAC Evaluation** 2023-24 School Year
- 20) Approve **Nursing Services** 2023-24 School Year

XIV. **Personnel Committee Report**

- 1) Accept Resignation **Elaina Frissell** Music Teacher Oak Street School 2023-24 School Year
- 2) Accept Resignation **Christina Patskin** Instructional Aide CBAP Program Mount Prospect School 2023-24 School Year
- 3) Approve Child Care Leave **Victoria Bosset** Speech Mount Prospect School 2023-24 & 2024-25 School Years
- 4) Approve Child Care Leave **Kendall Casey** Strings/Orchestra Teacher Cedar Hill and Liberty Corner Schools 2023-24 & 2024-25 School Years
- 5) Approve Child Care Leave **Caitlin Celebre** Speech Oak Street School 2023-24 & 2024-25 School Years
- 6) Approve New Jersey & Federal Family Leave **Matthew Lyons** Special Education Teacher Ridge High School 2023-24 School Year
- 7) Approve Child Care Leave **Jessica McCrea** Special Education CBAP Program Mount Prospect School 2023-24 & 2024-25 School Years
- 8) **Rescind Extra-Curricular Assignments** 2023-24 School Year
- 9) Approve **Changes in Assignments/Locations/Child Care Leaves and/or Salaries** 2023-24 School Year
- 10) Appoint **Andrea Leitner** Business Education Teacher Ridge High School 2023-24 School Year
- 11) Appoint **Ronald Perez** Science Teacher Ridge High School 2023-24 School Year
- 12) Appoint **Kara Higgins** Supplemental Reading Support Ridge High School 2023-24 School Year
- 13) Approve **Various Assignments** 2023-24 School Year

- 14) Approve **Extra-Curricular Assignments** 2023-24 School Year
- 15) Approve **District Secretaries Proficiency Tests** 2023-24 School Year
- 16) Approve **Staff College Instructors** 2023-24 School Year
- 17) Approve **Immigrant Tutors** 2023-24 School Year
- 18) Approve **Extra-Sections** 2023-24 School Year
- 19) Approve **District Substitute Teachers** 2023-24 School Year
- 20) Approve **District Volunteers** 2023-24 School Year
- 21) Approve **Substitute Teacher Rate Increase** 2023-24 School Year

XV. Policy Committee Report

Report: Committee meeting of December 4, 2023

- 1) Approve Policy on **First Reading**
- 2) Approve **Revised 2024-25 School District Calendar** on First Reading
- 3) Approve **2026-27 School District Calendar** on Second Reading & Adopt

XVI. Curriculum Committee Report

Report: Committee meeting of December 1, 2023

- 1) Approve **New Courses** 2024-25 School Year

XVII. Wellness Committee Report

Report: Committee meeting of November 30, 2023

XVIII. Facilities & Operations Committee Report

Report: Committee meetings of November 2, 2023 and December 7, 2023

XIX. Liaison Committee Reports

Report on Progress

XX. Public Comment

XXI. Board Forum

XXII. Adjournment

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING AGENDA
DECEMBER 18, 2023
REGULAR SESSION 5:45 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:53 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL MEDIA CENTER
REGULAR SESSION 7:05 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 5:45 p.m.

II. Salute to the Flag

III. Roll Call

Present: Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira(arrived at 7:09pm), Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Ms. Fox, Mr. Rollo, Board Counsel Matthew Giacobbe

Absent: None

IV. Executive Session –5:53 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss item(s) a, b, 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. White seconded by Mr. Salmon and approved by all present, the Board recessed into executive session at 5:53 p.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. White seconded by Ms. Light and approved by all present, the Board closed executive session at 6:52 p.m.

V. Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:05 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 P.L. 1975 Chapter 231A.

For those members of the public who cannot attend our meeting in person, a livestream link to the meeting is posted on the district website, www.bernardsboe.com.

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 three (3) minutes duration. No participant may speak more than once during a given public comment session; the first public comment session will be limited to 30 minutes and the second will be unlimited. 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 the 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. No public comments will be accepted before 7:00PM or after item XX. Public Comment of the agenda ends.

Please understand that public comment portions of our agendas are not structured as question-and-answer sessions but are offered as opportunities to share your

thoughts with the Board. The Board/Administration will respond to public comments to the extent possible. Any Board responses to public comments will generally be addressed during Board Forum or 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 – Natalie Ramirez Porras

Student representative Natalie Ramirez talked about the upcoming Holiday break, gave updates on various student activities and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

VIII. Board Presentation

1) Ridge Music Department Performance – Carol Beadle

Mr. Markarian welcomed the Ridge Music department performance group.

IX. Board President Comments

Mr. Molinari commented on the outstanding performance by the Ridge Music Department. Mr. Molinari thanked and congratulated the student representative and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

X. Superintendent's Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated December 18, 2023.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby recognize the inception of the following **New Extra-Curricular Clubs** at Ridge High School:

Club:

Astronomy Club
Historical Society of Ridge Club
Music Production Club
Music Review Club
Ridge F1 Club
Ridge Neurodiversity Ambassadors Club
Ridge Publishing Club

3) The Board of Education does hereby approve the overnight field trip for the **Ridge High School Model UN Club** to attend the NAIMUN LXI Conference in Washington, D.C. scheduled for February 15 – February 18, 2024.

On motion by Mr. Salmon seconded by Ms. Light Items 1-3 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

Mr. Markarian thanked all the students for the outstanding performance and also thanked Mr. Fackleman, technical staff and all involved in the music performance. Mr. Markarian also wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Markarian thanked Ms. Hira and Mr. Rascio for their service as board members.

Mr. Markarian talked about bus tiering, school start times and the survey collected from the families and staff. The link to the survey results is [here](#).

XI. **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

No comments

XII. **Approval of Minutes**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

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

November 27, 2023 – Executive Minutes

November 27, 2023 – Regular Session Minutes

Board of Education Meeting Minutes December 18, 2023

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

“Ayes” - Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

XIII. Finance Committee Report

Report: Committee meetings of November 16, 2023 and December 14, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated December 18, 2023 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$7,221,969.38.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the November 2023 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the monthly Investment Report for November 2023, the weekly reports of Electronic Fund Transfers and Bank Wires for November 2023, and the Treasurer of the School Monies Report for November 2023.

BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:20-2.13(e), the Bernards Township Board of Education, after review of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Report and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, and to the best of their knowledge, certifies that as of the date of the Secretary's Monthly Financial Report, no major account or fund has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the updated November 2023 line item transfers totaling \$285,242.00 for the 2023-24 school budget, list on file in the Board Office.
- 4) 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 2023-24 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Dates:</u>
Janine Quimby	TCNJ Scholars Series: The Witches of Salem 1692	\$312.60	2/29/24

Dariusz Milewski	Exam: Google Workspace Administrator	\$200.00	12/20/23-12/22/23
James Rollo	NJASA Techspo	\$908.08	1/24/24-1/26/24
Kathy Stotler	FLENJ Conference	\$212.09	3/13/24
Jessica Solodkin	FLENJ Conference	\$212.56	3/13/24
Stephanie Serafin	NECTFL Annual Conference	\$523.50	2/23/24-2/24/24
Ruth Pulgarin	NECTFL Annual Conference	\$527.50	2/23/24-2/24/24
Dave Persily	NJAGC Annual Conference	\$239.00	4/12/2024
Chiara Kupiec	NECTFL Annual Conference	\$512.00	2/23/24-2/24/24
Julia Koch	NECTFL Annual Conference	\$717.64	2/22/24-2/24/24
Krista Horvath	NECTFL Annual Conference	\$520.00	2/22/24-2/23/24
Devin Glinsky	NJAGC Annual Conference	\$239.00	4/12/24
Dawn Fiorilli	FLENJ Conference	\$175.38	3/13/24
Christina Donahue	FLENJ Conference	\$216.32	3/13/24
Susan Delmonico	NJAGC Annual Conference	\$272.00	4/12/24
Susan Ciambriello	FLENJ Conference	\$212.56	3/13/24
Stephanie Camooso	NECTFL Annual Conference	\$250.00	2/23/24

- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve disposal of equipment for the 2023-24 School Year; list maintained in the Board of Education office.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education approves the withdrawal from the Capital Reserve Fund to be transferred to the Capital Projects Fund in the amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 to cover the construction costs awarded to Pravco, Inc. for the approved Oak Street School Roof Project 21K042.
- 7) The Bernards Township Board of Education approves the withdrawal from the Maintenance Reserve Fund to be transferred to the Capital Outlay Fund in the amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 to cover the cost of various HVAC projects.
- 8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the submission of the grant application amendment for IDEA monies for the FY 2024 for a total amount including prior year carryover funds of:

<u>Basic:</u>	<u>\$1,377,937</u>
Public: \$1,145,544	Public: \$1,376,563
	Non-Public: \$1,374

COMPANY NAME:	ROUTE ID#:	AMOUNT:	TOTAL:
Passaic Valley Coaches	1	\$25,575.00	
	2	\$10,850.00	
	3	\$7,595.00	
	4	Did not Bid	
			\$44,020.00
Panorama Tours	1	\$30,030.00	
	2	\$10,925.00	
	3	\$8,400.00	
	4	\$6,000.00	
	4	\$22,132.00	
			\$101,638.60

WHEREAS, the two lowest bids for route# 2 submitted by My Limousine Service and Krapf Coaches were materially defective.

WHEREAS, Passaic Valley Coaches is the lowest responsible bidder for route# 1, 2 and 3, the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby award the contract to Passaic Valley Coaches for Route# 1, 2 and 3 as the lowest responsible bidder contingent upon attorney review and execution of a mutually agreeable contract.

WHEREAS, Panorama Tours is the lowest responsible bidder for route# 4, the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby award the contract to Panorama Tours for Route# 4 as the lowest responsible bidder contingent upon attorney review and execution of a mutually agreeable contract.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the joint transportation agreement for school related activities between Delaware Valley Regional High School Board of Education and the Bernards Township Board of Education effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the contract of agreement between the National Winter Activity Center d/b/a Winter4Kids and the Bernards Township Board of Education subject to attorney review effective January 3, 2024 to February 25, 2024.

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve services for student #308326 from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 with Behavior Analysis & Support Services (BASS) in the amount not to exceed \$16,350.00.

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve bilingual educational and psychological evaluations for student #2601523 with Learning Tree Multilingual Evaluation & Consulting in the amount not to exceed \$1,600.00.

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve bilingual speech/language, educational and psychological evaluations for student #3902750 with Learning Tree Multilingual Evaluation & Consulting in the amount not to exceed \$2,550.00.

15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve bilingual speech/language, educational and psychological evaluations for student #3802697 with Learning Tree Multilingual Evaluation & Consulting in the amount not to exceed \$2,550.00.

16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a psychiatric evaluation for student #3202088 by Bartky HealthCare Center, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$1,500.00.

17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve regular school year tuition for student #3301346 from September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 at the Morris-Union Jointure Commission DLC in the amount not to exceed \$71,839.67.

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve WE Care Autism to provide ABA therapy services for student# 3301346 from December 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 in the amount not to exceed \$86,450.00.

19) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the AAC Evaluation for student #304849 with Donna Spillman-Kennedy, MS, CCC-SLP/ Dr. Christina Luna, SLP.D, CCC-SLP of Integrated Speech Pathology, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$1,470.00.

20) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve nursing services for student #301350 with BrightStar Care nursing services from September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the amount not to exceed \$17,280.00.

On motion by Mr. Salmon seconded by Ms. Light Items #1-20 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari, Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

Ms. Light provided a report from the November 16, 2023 Finance Committee meeting. Topics at the meeting included position control draft for 24–25 Budget, OPRA costs, Lee field audio, PA systems at Ridge and WAMS, cafeteria equipment bid, transportation tiering, Budget calendar and audit updates.

Ms. Light provided a report from the December 14, 2023 Finance Committee meeting.

Topics at the meeting included budget updates on personnel control roster and benefits, Barker fines/consolidation recap, ROD grant updates, Audit update, 24-25 capital project recap of approved projects and timing of HVAC project.

XIV. 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 resignation of **Elaina Frissell** Music Teacher Oak Street School effective February 9, 2024.
- 2) The Bernard Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Christina Patskin** Instructional Aide CBAP Program Mount Prospect School effective January 12, 2024.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does here approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Victoria Bosset** Speech Mount Prospect School effective March 4, 2024 through May 3, 2024 utilizing 39 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective May 6, 2024 through September 30, 2024 then an unpaid child care leave effective October 1, 2024 through February 28, 2025, returning March 3, 2025.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Kendall Casey** Strings/Orchestra Teacher Cedar Hill and Liberty Corner Schools effective May 1, 2024 through June 18, 2024 utilizing 30 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2024 through November 26, 2024, returning November 27, 2024.
- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Caitlin Celebre** Speech Oak Street School effective March 6, 2024 through April 24, 2024 utilizing 30 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective April 25, 2024 through July 30, 2024 then an unpaid child care leave effective August 1, 2024 through January 1, 2025, returning January 2, 2025.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave for **Matthew Lyons** Special Education Teacher Ridge High School effective February 5, 2024 through April 11, 2024, returning April 12, 2024.
- 7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Jessica McCrea** Special Education CBAP Program Mount Prospect School effective April 22, 2024 through June 12, 2024 utilizing 35 personal illness days

then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective June 13, 2024 through September 13, 2024, returning September 16, 2024.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby rescind the following **Extra-Curricular Assignments** for the 2023-24 school year:

Ben Donaghy	Assistant Baseball RHS
Lawrence Gabriel	Assistant Musical Technical Set & Props Design RHS
Niall Caldwell	Winter Intramurals 2 x week CHS
Lidia D’Armiento	Winter Intramurals 2 x week CHS

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Changes in Assignments/Locations/Child Care Leaves and/or Salaries** for the 2023-24 school year:

<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
Saul Beck	IT Technician Ridge High School at a salary of \$61,000 effective August 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.	IT Technician Ridge High School at a salary of \$61,000 effective August 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 then \$62,000 effective January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 due to passing the Security + Certification exam. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.
Alex Blinder	Director of IT at a salary of \$139,591 effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.	Director of IT at a salary of \$139,591 effective July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 then at a salary of \$142,091 effective January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 due to passing PMP Certification exam.
Elizabeth Darbant	Oak Street School	Mount Prospect School
Jennifer Hamilton	Cedar Hill School	Mount Prospect School
Janelle Hooper	Mount Prospect School	Oak Street School
David Hunscher	Supervisor of Language Arts at a salary of \$153,455	Supervisor of Language Arts at a salary of \$153,455

	effective September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.	effective September 1, 2023 through November 30, 2023 then at a salary of \$161,128 effective December 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Salary to be prorated to reflect effective date.
Jenna Morris	Physical Education/Health Teacher William Annin Middle School effective March 1, 2024 through March 26, 2024 utilizing 17 personal illness days and 1.5 personal days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective March 27, 2024 through June 30, 2024, returning September 1, 2024.	Physical Education/Health Teacher William Annin Middle School effective February 26, 2024 through March 19, 2024 utilizing 17 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave running concurrently with an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective March 20, 2024 through June 30, 2024, returning September 1, 2024.
Gail Ann Pedalino	Instructional Aide CBAP Program Ridge High School at a salary of Step 1 \$25.25 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective November 28, 2023 through June 14, 2024.	Instructional Aide CBAP Program Ridge High School at a salary of Step 1 \$25.25 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective December 1, 2023 through June 14, 2024.
Yshaddel Perez	Speech Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 9 MA \$67,563 effective December 18, 2023 through April 1, 2024 as a leave replacement for M. Januszanis. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.	Speech Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 9 MA \$67,563 effective December 19, 2023 through April 1, 2024 as a leave replacement for M. Januszanis. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date.
Steven Rabinovich	District IT Specialist at a salary of \$76,385 effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.	District IT Specialist at a salary of \$76,385 effective July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 then a

		salary of \$77,885 effective January 1, 2024 through June 30, 2024 due to passing CYSA+ Certification exam.
Elana Steinberg	Mount Prospect School	Oak Street School

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Andrea Leitner** Business Education Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 8 MA \$66,443.00 effective January 15, 2024 through June 30, 2024. Salary to be prorated to reflect start date. Certificate of Eligibility-Alternate Route-Mentoring required.

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Ronald Perez** Science Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of \$288.00 per day effective January 2, 2024 through January 31, 2024 as a medical leave replacement.

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Kara Higgins*** Supplemental Reading Support Ridge High School at a salary of \$1,190.10 per month effective December 18, 2023 through June 30, 2024. **Funded by the CEIS Grant*

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Various Assignments** listed for the 2023-24 school year:

<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Payment:</u>
Jordan Abrutyn	After Care Student Worker LC	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24
Koen Branco	PAC Student Worker	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24
Nazan Bulca	PMT and De Escalation Trainings-SE	\$25.49 per hour not to exceed 10 hours
Nazan Bulca	Additional student coverage in classrooms to ensure student safety and participation per supervisor approval	\$25.49 per hour 2023-24 school year

Tara Cascio	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Jane Conklin	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Lisa Corbin	PMT and De Escalation Trainings-SE	\$25.49 per hour not to exceed 10 hours
Lisa Corbin	Additional student coverage in classrooms to ensure student safety and participation per supervisor approval	\$25.49 per hour 2023-24 school year
Anita DeAngelis	Ridge Forensic Debate Nurse Coverage	\$71.62 per hour effective 2023-24 school year
Michael John Fackelman	PAC Student Worker	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24
Ryan Fiorot	After Care Student Worker CH	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24
Christine Gadd	Ridge Forensic Debate Nurse Coverage	\$71.62 per hour effective 2023-24 school year
Brenda Hilferty	After School Activities/Club Assistance SE	\$32.41 per hour 2023-24 school year
Katie Keller	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Ryan Kramer	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Anthony LaGreca	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Brandon Li	PAC Student Worker	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24

Tim Meyer	After School Intervention Program*	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Kristen Meyers	PMT and De Escalation Trainings-SE	\$31.68 per hour not to exceed 10 hours
Kristen Meyers	Additional student coverage in classrooms to ensure student safety and participation per supervisor approval	\$31.68 per hour 2023-24 school year
Patricia Miller	Ridge Forensic Debate Nurse Coverage	\$71.62 per hour effective 2023-24 school year
William Miller	After Care Student Worker LC	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24
Tanya Minassian	After School Activities/Club Assistance SE	\$32.41 per hour 2023-24 school year
Madison Mitchell	After School Intervention Program*	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Jaime Molloy	PMT and De Escalation Trainings-SE	\$26.11 per hour not to exceed 10 hours
Jaime Molloy	Additional student coverage in classrooms to ensure student safety and participation per supervisor approval	\$26.11 per hour 2023-24 school year
Laura Page	Field Trip Assistance SE	\$32.41 per hour 2/7/24
Arden Pentlicki	PAC Student Worker	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24
Sahasra Pillalamarri	After Care Student Worker MP	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24

Catalina Pravda	After Care Student Worker MP	\$14.13 per hour effective 12/19/23-12/22/23 \$15.13 per hour effective 1/2/24-6/14/24
Katie Puopolo	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Daniel Ring	PMT and De Escalation Trainings-SE	\$24.90 per hour not to exceed 10 hours
Daniel Ring	Additional student coverage in classrooms to ensure student safety and participation per supervisor approval	\$24.90 per hour 2023-24 school year
Caryn Simmons	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Linda Valera	At Home Program-SE	\$71.62 per hour 2023-24 school year
Pam von Dohlen	After Care Program-MP	\$30.00 per hour 2023-24 school year

**Funded by the CEIS Grant*

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Extra-Curricular Assignments** for the 2023-24 school year:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Stipend:</u>	<u>Years/Points/Longevity:</u>
WA	Site Supervisor	Pam Collins	\$61.00 per day	n/a
WA	Site Supervisor	Debbie Bune	\$61.00 per day	n/a
CH	Winter Intramurals 3 x week	Niall Caldwell	\$2,145.00	17 years/3 points/\$598.00
CH	Winter Intramurals 1 x week	Lidia D'Armiento	\$715.00	17 years/3 points/\$598.00
RH	Assistant Indoor Winter Track Girls'	Will Alston	\$5,937.00	4 years/0 points/\$0
RH	Assistant Indoor Winter Track Boys' .5	Danny Phillips	\$2,968.50	n/a

RH	Assistant Boys' Volleyball Spring	Hector Martinez	\$5,937.00	n/a
RH	World Language Club	Jessica Solodkin	\$1,374	none

15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **District Secretaries** salary increase due to proficiency tests effective January 1, 2024:

<u>District Secretary:</u>	<u>Proficiency Test:</u>	<u>Increase:</u>
Sharon Good	Canva, Publisher	\$1,000.00
Roma Martin	Word, Google Sheets, Access, Publisher	\$1,050.00
Judy Pavlik	PowerPoint, Publisher, Canva	\$1,500.00
Juana Schwed	Google Docs, Google Sheets	\$700.00
Colleen Murphy	Google Docs, Excel	\$700.00
Pam Collins	Publisher	\$500.00

16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Staff College Instructors** for the winter of the 2023-24 school year:

<u>Teacher:</u>	<u>Course:</u>	<u>Payment:</u>
Kevin Reilly	Pension and Benefits for Dummies	\$225.00
Ashley Dunker	Pension and Benefits for Dummies	\$225.00
Danielle Presuto	Creating a Safe and Supportive Environment: Diversity and Inclusion	\$450.00
Amanda Hughes	Creating a Safe and Supportive Environment: Diversity and Inclusion	\$450.00
Jen Kaltenbach	Genesis for Administrative Assistants	\$525.00

Chiara Kupiec	Genesis for Administrative Assistants	\$525.00
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17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Immigrant Tutors** at a salary of \$60.00 per hour for the 2023-24 school year:

Melanie Sackie	Adria Carbonaro	Mary O’Leary
Maliha Merchant	Laura Gallagher	Kerry Linstra
Jenna Halpin	Daniel Smith	Kathy VanNatta
Jennifer Venturi	Alicia Schauer	Margie Murray
Michelle Pine	Sherrie Kane	

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **Extra-Sections** for the 2023-24 school year:

<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Extra-Section:</u>	<u>Salary:</u>
Kevin Karch	English Language Arts WA	\$1,190.10 per month effective 9/1/23-12/22/23
Ally Blanford	English Language Arts WA	\$1,190.10 per month effective 9/1/23-12/22/23
Kimberly Clark	Physical Education RHS	\$1,190.10 per month effective 11/20/23-1/25/24
Kenneth Marsh	Physical Education RHS	\$1,190.10 per month effective 1/2/24-4/23/24
Chase Vena	Physical Education RHS	\$1,190.10 per month effective 1/2/24-4/23/24
Tom Blackwell	Physical Education RHS	\$1,190.10 per month effective 1/2/24-4/23/24
Olivia Lopes	Physical Education RHS	\$1,190.10 per month effective 1/2/24-4/23/24
Jeff Sutherland	Physical Education RHS	\$1,190.10 per month effective 1/2/24-4/23/24
Mary Anne Kopecki	Reading Specialist LC	\$1,190.10 per month effective 10/24/23-4/10/24

Jennifer Glaydura	Reading Specialist LC	\$1,190.10 per month effective 10/24/23-4/10/24
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19) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Substitute Teachers** at a salary of \$125.00 per diem and **Substitute Nurses** at a salary of \$250.00 per diem 2023-24 school year. Additionally, all Substitute Teachers and Substitute Nurses who complete the NJ Mandated Training through Global Compliance Network will receive one half-day pay prorated at \$62.50 per diem for Substitute Teachers and \$125.00 for Substitute Nurses for the 2023-24 school year:

Julie Ferrante
Alison Wolf
Cory Commer
Robert Zakowski

20) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **District Volunteers** for the 2023-24 school year:

Robert Moskow Freshman Baseball RHS
Raymond Hormann Ski Team RHS

21) The Bernards Township BOE does hereby approve change in the Substitute daily rate of pay to \$160 effective January 1, 2024.

On motion by Ms. Light seconded by Mr. Salmon Items #1-20 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari,
 Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

On motion by Mr. Salmon seconded by Ms. McKeon Item #21 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari,
 Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Mr. Siet talked about staffing issues with staff absences and a proposal to increase daily substitute rates from \$125 to \$160 to encourage substitutes to work for the district.

Board added motion #21 to approve the new substitute rate of pay.

XV. Policy Committee Report

Report: Committee meeting of December 4, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following policy on **first reading**:

- [P 8451 - Control of Communicable Diseases \(M\) \(Revised\)](#)

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the [Revised 2024-25 School District Calendar](#) on first reading.

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the [2026-27 School District Calendar](#) on second reading and adopts said calendar.

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

- “Ayes” - Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari,
Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - None

Ms. Mckeon provided a report from the December 4, 2023 Policy Committee meeting. Topics at the meeting included school start times for 2024-2025 school year, revised policy on control of communicable diseases, revised 2024-25 school district calendar and 2026-27 school district calendar.

XVI. Curriculum Committee Report

Report: Committee meeting of December 1, 2023

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the addition of the following **New Courses** for the 2024-25 school year:

<u>Proposed Title:</u>	<u>School:</u>
Unified Leadership I	Ridge High School
Unified Leadership II	Ridge High School
Amplify Your Voice In A Ted Talk	William Annin Middle School
Creative Writing: The Author’s Studio	William Annin Middle School

On motion by Ms. White seconded by Ms. Mckeon Item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Light, Mr. Rascio, Mr. Salmon, Ms. White, Ms. Csipak, Mr. Molinari,
Ms. McKeon, Mr. Amin, Ms. Hira
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Mr. Salmon provided a report from the December 1, 2023 Curriculum Committee meeting.

Topics at the meeting included RHS elective new course proposal, WAMS semester elective new course proposal, honors english 9 textbook, update on district goals which includes expanding dual enrollment update, Science grades 6-12 program evaluation executive summary, quest WAMS, MP 1 grade analysis and assessment schedule for RHS.

Ms. White added a clarifying comment on the testing schedule and Mr. Molinari commented on AP course selection.

XVII. Wellness Committee Report

Report: Committee meeting of November 30, 2023

Ms. White provided a report from the November 30, 2023 Wellness Committee meeting. Topics at the meeting included WAMS social media project, RHS pathways program update, counseling update, SEL data- board goal progress update, professional development and big sibling mentoring program.

Mr. Molinari asked a question on the counseling update.

XVIII. Facilities & Operations Committee Report

Report: Committee meetings of December 7, 2023

Mr. Rascio provided a report from the December 7, 2023 Facilities & Operations Committee meeting. Topics at the meeting included Ridge sewer line issues, ADA walkway to Lee field, Barker buses and fines, work orders, WAMS loop paving, Lee field audio, facilities condition assessment inventory, varsity field complex and roofing.

XIX. Liaison Committee Reports

No report

XX. Public Comment

Comments from the public included extracurricular clubs, busing survey, Opra request costs, and thanks to Mr. Rascio for his service.

Mr. Markarian responded to the busing survey question and mentioned that parents can email the survey response and the survey results will be updated manually if needed. Mr. Markarian also addressed the extracurricular clubs question and mentioned that there were several clubs approved tonight.

Mr. Molinari reflected on this past year. Mr. Molinari recognized Mr. Markarian as extremely capable and caring. Mr. Molinari also recognized Ms. Hira's contribution, recognized Ms. White and recognized Mr. Rascio's contribution.

XXI. Board Forum

The Board discussed and gave opinions on school start times, bus tiering and survey results.

Ms. Light thanked Ms. Hira and Mr. Rascio for their service. Ms. Hira mentioned that she is grateful for the opportunity to serve on the board and proud to be a member of the community.

Mr. Rascio reflected on the time spent on the board and thanked Mr. Markarian for his service.

XXII. Adjournment

On motion Ms. Light and seconded by Mr. Rascio and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Rollo
Board Secretary