

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES INDEX  
DECEMBER 17, 2007  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.  
BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
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BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Koch.

**I. Salute to Flag**

**II. Roll Call**

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Koch,  
Ms. McGowan, Ms. Smith, Mr. Stevens, Ms. Winter,  
Ms. Woolford

ABSENT: None

**III. Executive Session – 6:00 p.m. – Board of Education Building**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss legal 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.

**IV. Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:00 p.m. – Board of Education Building**

**V. 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.

#### **VI. Presentation Local Heroes Award**

Mr. Art Raynes, recipient of the Local Heroes Award through Bank of America, presented the Bernards Township Education Foundation with a check for \$5,000 to be utilized as part of the Green House Effect project. Mr. Raynes introduced several volunteers with his YMCA program.

#### **VII. Student Representative's Report**

Student Representative Mark Schroeder commented on the senior parking lot and postponement of the Spirit Week volleyball tournament rescheduled for the 5<sup>th</sup> week between winter and spring break. The high school will have additional spirit week activities at that time.

**VIII. Construction Management Update**

Dan Del Mar of Epic Management, Inc. updated the Board on the progress of the Ridge High construction project. Questions from the Board included parking lot lighting, paving, auditorium completion date and punchlist at elementary schools.

**IX. Superintendent's Report**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby acknowledge receipt of the **2007 Violence & Vandalism Report**.

On motion by Ms. Carlsson, seconded by Ms. Winter, the foregoing was approved by all present.

**X. Public Forum on Agenda Items**

No comments were made.

**XI. Board Response**

**XII. Approval of Minutes**

November 26, 2007 – Executive Session  
November 26, 2007 – Regular Session

On motion by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Ms. Woolford, the foregoing was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Smith,  
Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Koch  
“Noes” - None  
“Abstain” - None

**XIII. Committee Reports**

**FINANCE**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated December 17, 2007 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$5,960,121.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of November 2007 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the November 2007 Board Secretary’s Monthly Certification of Budgetary Line Item Status, and the monthly Investment Report for November; and further,

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 line item transfers totaling \$421,820 to the 2007-08 school budget, list on file in the Board office.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve disposal of equipment/books, list on file in the Board office.
- 5) 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:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Purpose of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
R. Bickar	Classroom Mgt. & Effective Teaching	Strategies to enhance learning & control disruptive behavior	\$50	12/13/07
B. Bush	The Clinical Interview	Improve screening skills	\$75	1/29/08
K. Donahue	Classroom Mgt. & Effective Teaching	Strategies to enhance learning & control disruptive behavior	\$140	12/13/07
D. Goetjen	What’s New in Children’s Lit. & How To Use IT	Highlights best new lit. & strategies for using books	\$200	2/8/08

A. Kamenir	Post Traumatic Stress Mgt. Training for Schools	Techniques for dealing with school-based traumatic crisis	\$500	1/23/08-1/25/08
K. Martin	Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule	Aide in diagnosis of autism.	\$370	1/8/07-1/9/07
J. Moleta	Self-injury, eating disorders & suicide	Better understanding of adolescent self-harm	\$115	2/28/08
J. Ramos	In class Collaboratively Planned Speech Language	Strategies for working in the classroom	\$50	1/17/08
M. Turtur	Classroom Mgt. & Effective Teaching	Strategies to enhance learning & control disruptive behavior	\$190	12/13/07
K. VanDerStad	Adolescent Self-Harm Conference	Increase knowledge & awareness of adolescent self-injury	\$115	2/8/08
P. Wu	Adolescent Self-Harm Conference	Increase knowledge & awareness of adolescent self-injury	\$115	2/8/08

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following out-of-district placements for the 2007-08 school year:

<u>Student #:</u>	<u>School/Placement Type:</u>	<u>Tuition:</u>
201082	Children's Institute/Initial placement	\$38,550
203428	The Alternative School/Change in location	\$25,127
301350	The Arc Kohler School/Change in location	\$37,187
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$100,864</b>

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **Ridge High School Diamond Club** for installation of a warning track at the varsity baseball field.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the **Bernards Parents of Exceptional Children** for the Basic Life Skills Program.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education doe hereby accept a donation through the **Bernards Township Education Foundation** in the amount of \$5,000 from Bank of America, in recognition of its Local Heroes winner Art Raynes.



10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following change orders to the referendum project:

<b><u>Change Order #:</u></b>	<b><u>Change:</u></b>	<b><u>Amount:</u></b>
27-EC9 Tru Val Electric RHS	Hampden Equipment changes	\$3,670
27-EC10 Tru Val Electric RHS	Hubbell Rack & Wire Management	\$1,802
27-GC31b Seacoast Builders RHS	Parking lot resurfacing	\$170,284
27-GC 40 Seacoast Builders RHS	Auditorium & lecture seating finish revisions	\$5,383
27-GC40b Seacoast Builders RHS	Orchestra pit floor finish revisions	\$5,011
27-GC40c Seacoast Builders RHS	Carpet at auditorium lecture seating areas	\$14,066
27-GC49 Seacoast Builders RHS	Credit for keying & cores	(\$9,792)
27-GC50 Seacoast Builders RHS	Addition of walls & door gym storage #817 (sprinkler main)	\$3,431
27-GC51 Seacoast Builders RHS	Replace portion of concrete sidewalk 500 wing	\$478
27-GC52 Seacoast Builders RHS	Provide mechanical fasteners for interior signs 500 wing	\$5,170
27-PC11a A. Pflugh, Inc. RHS	Changes to Life Skills room #952	\$2,488
27-PC15a A. Pflugh, Inc. RHS	Roof drains at Area 'C'	\$4,861
27-PC13a A. Pflugh, Inc. RHS	Install 2 lab sinks	\$1,933
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$208,785</b>

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby acknowledge receipt of the **FY 2007 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report** and adopt its corrective action plan.

Ms. Smith's comments included the Verizon cell tower, debt service aid application, the new school funding formula and Bernards Township preliminary favorable state aid.

On motion by Ms. Smith, seconded by Ms. Carlsson, Items #1-11 were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Smith,  
Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Koch  
“Noes” - None  
“Abstain” - None

**PERSONNEL**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Ingrid Arosemena** Spanish Teacher Ridge High School effective on or before February 1, 2008.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **John Dodds** Language Arts Teacher effective December 31, 2007.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave of Absence for **Jessica DeRose** Kindergarten Teacher Oak Street School effective February 8, 2008 through April 11, 2008 utilizing 40 personal illness days then an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective April 12, 2008 through June 30, 2008.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave of Absence for **Allison Cohen** Grade 2 Teacher Oak Street School effective May 9, 2008 through June 30, 2008 utilizing 34 personal illness days then an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2008 through November 30, 2008 then an unpaid Child Care Leave effective December 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.
- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following change in assignments and/or location:

<b><u>Name:</u></b>	<b><u>From:</u></b>	<b><u>To:</u></b>
Marguerite Cahill	Guidance Counselor Ridge High School at a salary of Step 4 PhD \$56,217 effective November 5, 2007 through June 30, 2008 prorated to an actual salary of \$44,412	Guidance Counselor Ridge High School at a salary of Step 4 PhD \$56,242 effective November 5, 2007 through June 30, 2008 prorated to an actual salary of \$44,439

Jennifer Cerra	Grade 2 Teacher Liberty Corner School effective January 28, 2008 through March 21, 2008 utilizing 35 personal illness then an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective March 22, 2008 through June 30, 2008, then an unpaid child care leave effective September 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009	Grade 2 Teacher Liberty Corner School effective January 28, 2008 through March 21, 2008 utilizing 35 personal illness then an unpaid Federal Family Leave effective March 22, 2008 through June 30, 2008
Lidia D'Armiento	Physical Education Teacher Cedar Hill School at salary of Step 15 BA+30 \$61,423 effective September 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008	.8 Physical Education Teacher Cedar Hill School at salary of Step 15 BA+30 \$49,138 effective January 2, 2008 through June 30, 2008
Ken Marsh	Winter Fitness Center X4 \$2,156 5 years/1 point/\$181	Winter Fitness Center X5 \$2,695 5 years/1 point/\$181
Anthony Mottola	Winter Fitness Center X3 \$1,617 1 years/0 points/\$0	Winter Fitness Center X5 \$2,695 1 year/0 point/\$0

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Caroline Czysz** Grade 1 Teacher Liberty Corner School at a salary of Step 1 BA \$41,746 effective February 11, 2008 through June 30, 2008 as a maternity leave replacement for Dina LaRubbio.

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the emergent hiring of **Kate Hoydis** Grade 5 Teacher Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 1 BA \$41,746 effective January 2, 2008 through June 30, 2008 as a medical leave replacement. Salary prorated to \$25,048 to reflect start date.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Donna Ngai** Grade 2 Teacher Liberty Corner School at a salary of Step 18 MA \$71,225 effective January 21, 2008 through June 30, 2008 as a maternity leave replacement for Jennifer Cerra-Johannsson, salary prorated to reflect start date.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the emergent hiring of **Kathryn Weber** Biology Teacher Ridge High School at a salary of Step 3 MA \$48,992 effective January 2, 2008 through June 30, 2008 salary prorated to \$29,394.

- 10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Laurie Bogle** Special Education Teacher William Annin Middle School at a salary of \$209 per diem effective January 2, 2008 through February 5, 2008.
- 11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Bonnie Perkins** .2 Physical Education Teacher Cedar Hill School at a salary of \$209 per diem effective January 8, 2008 through June 10, 2008.
- 12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Stephanie Diaz** Instructional Aide Liberty Corner School at a salary of Step 1 \$21.15 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective December 5, 2007 through June 12, 2008 at an annual salary of \$19,511.
- 13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the emergent hiring of **Michele Madorma** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 \$21.15 per hour 7.5 hours per day 110 days effective January 2, 2008 through June 12, 2008 at an actual salary of \$17,449.
- 14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the emergent hiring of **Kelly Smith** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 \$21.15 per hour 7.5 hours per day 109 days effective January 3, 2008 through June 12, 2008 at an annual salary of \$17,290.
- 15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following individuals to the extracurricular assignments listed below for 2007-08 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Stipend/Longevity:</u>
Carol Marin	Economic Club RHS	\$1,038 0 years/0 points/\$0
Robert Cherdack	Physics Club RHS	\$1,038 0 years/0 points/\$0
Bill Giglio	Assistant Softball RHS	\$5,271 0 year/0 points/\$0
Lori Thompson	Event Supervisor WAMS	Parent Paid
Nick Gregorio	Event Supervisor WAMS	Parent Paid
Richard Thomasey	Winter Track Assistant .5	\$2,241.50
Jose Gonzalez	Winter Track Assistant .5	\$2,241.50
Terry Weniger	Assistant Musical Director WAMS	\$3,143

16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following individuals in assignments listed for home based students for the 2007-08 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Hourly Rate:</u>
Serena Paczowski	Instructional Aide	\$30
Jami Gurkin	Teacher	\$66
Kathleen Petrozza	Instructional Aide	\$30
Mary Brinkworth	Instructional Aide	\$30
Megan Kleman	Instructional Aide	\$30

17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following bedside instructor at a salary of \$69 per hour:

Wakefield Stornetta

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following coaching volunteer for the assignment listed below:

Michael Schwartz      Wrestling RHS

19) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following substitute teachers for 2007-08 school year at a salary of \$80 per day and \$120 per day for substitute nurses:

- Sharon Wingert\*+
- James Anderson\*+
- Robert Ostroff\*+
- Priti Shah\*+
- Christine McGovern\*+
- Keri Conkling
- Robert Wetzels\*+
- Kathryn Weber

\*Subject to County Approval  
 +Subject to Fingerprint Clearance

20) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the emergent hiring of **Lisa Salvato** School Psychologist Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 19 PhD \$82,004 effective January 2, 2008 through June 30, 2008 as a maternity leave replacement for J. Broadley. Salary prorated to \$49,202.

21) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following student intern for the 2007-08 school year:

<b><u>Name:</u></b>	<b><u>College/University:</u></b>	<b><u>Cooperating Teacher:</u></b>
Andrew Ahimovic	Kean	Physical Education/Health Ed Russell/William Annin Middle 3/17/08-05/12/08

22) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept resignation of **Caroline Stanley** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School effective January 13, 2008.

23) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **John Kelly** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School effective December 12, 2007.

24) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Danielle Pizzigoni** Kindergarten Teacher Liberty Corner School at salary \$209 per diem effective January 2, 2008 through March 28, 2008 as a maternity leave replacement for Sandra Somers.

25) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Danielle Fitzgerald** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at salary of Step 1 \$21.15 per hour 7.5 hours per day 7.5 hours per day 110 days effective January 2, 2008 through June 12, 2008.

26) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the emergent hiring of **Joanna Ginder** Instructional Aide AT Home Program at a salary of \$30 per hour effective December 17, 2007 through June 12, 2008.

On motion by Ms. Winter, seconded by Ms. Woolford, Items #1-26 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Smith,  
Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Koch

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

**XIV. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items**

Comments were made regarding school funding and the upcoming legislature vote, placement of cell tower, the high school band concert, recreation scheduling in buildings and status of sick bank bill.

**XV. Board Forum**

Comments were made regarding League of Municipality on School Funding, *History of Schools in Bernards Township* by Josephine Waltz and seminar at Rutgers University on funding issues and support for districts.

**XVI. Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Woolford, seconded by Ms. Stevens, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Ronald Smith  
Interim Board Secretary