

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES INDEX
DECEMBER 15, 2008
EXECUTIVE AGENDA 5:37 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 7:01 P.M.
BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2008
EXECUTIVE AGENDA 5:37 P.M.
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BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING**

I. Salute to the Flag

II. Roll Call

III. Executive Session – 5:37 p.m. – Board of Education Building

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education met in closed session to discuss litigation; 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. Carlsson, seconded by Ms. Cwerner, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 5:37 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Wilke, seconded by Ms. Winter, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 7:00 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the Board of Education building at 7:01 p.m.

IV. Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:01 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. Community Recognition

Board Vice President Susan Carlsson read the following resolution honoring Ms. Jaye Barre:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
HONORING**

JAYE BARRE

WHEREAS, Jaye Barre began her career with the Bernards Township School District in 1982 with a performance of "Cabaret" at William Annin Middle School; and

WHEREAS, Jaye Barre became advisor to the Ridge Drama Club in 1984; and

WHEREAS, Jaye Barre's first performance as director of Ridge High School's spring musical foreshadowed her final performance in 2008, as both shows were "Fiddler on the Roof;" and

WHEREAS, Jaye Barre’s encouragement and masterful inspiration have given thousands of students the opportunity to explore the world of theater both on stage and behind it; and

WHEREAS, Jaye Barre provided tens of thousands of audience members countless hours of high quality student entertainment and a deep appreciation of live performance art each spring for the past 25 years; and

WHEREAS, Jaye Barre once fittingly said in summing up her career at Ridge, “Generations of students and I learned about teamwork, organization, dedication, and satisfaction of a job well done;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION EXTENDS A HEARTY “BRAVA!” AND CONGRATULATES JAYE BARRE ON HER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE STUDENTS AND RESIDENTS OF BERNARDS TOWNSHIP.

Unanimously approved this 15th day of December 2008

VII. Public Forum on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

VIII. Board Response

IX. Board Presentation

1) Director of Curriculum Sean Siet reviewed the Secondary Testing & College Admissions Report highlighting the following areas:

- NJASK beginning in grades 3 through 8
- HSPA results (test required for high school graduation; 3 opportunities to take test March of junior year, October of senior year & March of senior year)
- Usage of online SAT prep course
- Comparison of SAT scores over previous 5 years
- SAT subject tests (small number of students participate)
- AP tests (2008 participation & results)
- 4-year AP testing trends
- AP scores in content areas
- Trends in college applications/acceptances
- Class of 2009 trends
- Increased interest in state schools & NJ Stars Program (applications to Rutgers up 33%; applications to ivy league schools down 24% perhaps due to economy)
- Matriculation data for 2007-08
- 2005-08 academic class profile performance
- ACT other option for students

- Mr. Byrne left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

2) Supervisor of Social Studies Kristin Fox reviewed the recent ‘mock elections’ held at both William Annin and Ridge High Schools this fall. As in the past, the exercise was part of the social studies curriculum at William Annin with voting held in the students’ classroom. The elections were brought to Ridge High for the first time this year. The REPP & Ridge Video clubs participated in this program having voter registration, voting booths set up in the lobby and pod casts running the entire day. The clubs wanted to stimulate student interest in the workings of the government and the voting process.

X. Superintendent’s Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a Model United Nations Conference trip to Baltimore, Maryland from Thursday, March 15, 2009 through Sunday, March 18, 2009.

On motion by Ms. Carlsson, seconded by Mr. Carlucci, Item #1 was passed unanimously by a show of hands.

XI. Business Administrator’s Report

Business Administrator Nick Markarian reviewed the following items:

- The current year’s revenue shortfall due to depressed interest rates
- Release of NJDOE 2009-10 budget guidelines
- Pending energy savings bills

XII. Approval of Minutes

November 10, 2008 – Regular Session
November 24, 2008 – Regular Session

On motion Ms. Woolford, seconded by Mr. Wilke, the foregoing was approved by all present.

XIII. Committee Reports

FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby a list of disbursements dated December 15, 2008 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$6,335,232.31.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the November 2008 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the monthly Investment Report for November 2008, and the Treasurer of School Monies report for November 2008.

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 November line item transfers totaling \$51,050 to the 2008-09 school budget, list on file in the Board office.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following out-of-district placements for the 2008-09 school year:

<u>Student #:</u>	<u>School:</u>	<u>Prorated Tuition:</u>
302639	The Craig School commencing November 12, 2008-June, 2009	\$26,433.37
201054	Shepard Academy commencing November 3, 2008-June, 2009	\$34,132.60
302628	Brehm Preparatory School commencing October 14, 2008-May 29, 2009	\$27,834.84

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the sale of the 1999 Ford Pick Up F-250 Vin Number 1FTNF21F4XEC95703 via sealed bid auction.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following professional development expenses in accordance with P.L. 2007 An Act Concerning School District Accountability and annual Board resolution for the 2008-09 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Purpose of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
D. Brown	Attention Language Processing & Sensor Motor Disorders	Enhance teaching skills as speech therapist	\$200	1/23/09
P. Wu	Southern Connecticut College Tour	Become familiar with colleges in that area	\$270	3/29/09- 4/1/09

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following field trip destinations for the 2008-09 school year:

- Central Jersey Music Educators Association Festival, South Brunswick, NJ
- New York City Stock Exchange, New York City, NY
- Consumer Bowl, Somerville, NJ
- The Big Onion Walking Tour, New York City, NY
- Future Business Leaders of America Competition, Lawrenceville, NJ
- Future Business Leaders of America/Marketing Day Competition, Jackson, NJ
- Meadowlands, East Rutherford, NJ
- Federal Reserve Bank of NY, New York, NY
- Independence Hall, Philadelphia, PA
- St. Hubert's, Madison, NJ
- Mercer County College, Lawrenceville, NJ
- Herbert Irving Cancer Center

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a contract with the **New Jersey Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired** for services for the following student during the 2008-09 school year:

<u>Student #:</u>	<u>Services:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
203560	Level 3 Services	\$10,900

On motion by Ms. McGowan, seconded by Ms. Cwerner, Items #1-8 were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. McGowan, Mr. Wilke, 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 **Joanne Anderson** Art Teacher William Annin Middle School effective February 28, 2009.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid child care leave of absence for **Anne Duque** Guidance Counselor Mount Prospect School effective March 6, 2009 through March 19, 2009 utilizing 10 personal illness days then

an unpaid Federal Family Leave of absence effective March 20, 2009 through May 4, 2009 then returning May 5, 2009.

3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid child care leave of absence for **Katherine Simon** Math Teacher Ridge High School effective December 23, 2008 through March 2, 2009 utilizing 40 personal illness days then an unpaid Federal Family Leave of absence effective March 3, 2009 through June 4, 2009 then an unpaid child care leave effective June 5, 2009 through June 30, 2009 returning September 1, 2009.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid child care leave of absence for **Megan Taxeras** Grade 5 Teacher Cedar Hill School effective March 27, 2009 through May 28, 2009 utilizing 38 personal illness days then an unpaid Federal Family Leave of absence effective May 29, 2009 through October 23, 2009 then an unpaid child care leave effective October 24, 2009 through February 1, 2010 returning February 2, 2010.

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid child care leave of absence for **Jodie Westergom** Grade 4 Teacher Cedar Hill School effective April 3, 2009 through June 8, 2009 utilizing 40 personal illness days then an unpaid Federal Family Leave of absence effective June 9, 2009 through November 3, 2009 then an unpaid child care leave effective November 4, 2009 through June 30, 2010 returning September 1, 2010.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve intermittent days of Federal Family Leave for **Kathy Hedden** Media Specialist William Annin Middle School effective December 8, 2008 until February 28, 2008.

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following change in assignments and/or locations:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>From:</u>	<u>To:</u>
Bill Baker	OS Winter Intramurals 1.5 days per week \$845 11 years/2 points/\$382	OS Winter Intramurals 2 days per week \$1,126 11 years/2 points/\$382
Liana LaVecchia	OS Fall Intramurals 1.5 days per week \$845 5 years/1 point/\$190	OS Fall Intramurals 2 days per week \$1,126 5 years/1 point/\$190

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Kathleen Heitmann** Instructional Support Teacher at Cedar Hill School and Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 5 MA \$52,408 prorated to \$31,440 to reflect start date effective January 5, 2009 through June 30, 2009.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Lisa Kautz** School Aide at Liberty Corner School as a medical leave replacement at a salary of \$20.23 per hour effective December 1, 2008 until end of assignment.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following extracurricular assignments for the 2008-09 school year with stipends and longevity:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>School:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>2008-09 Payment/Longevity:</u>
Craig Burfeindt	RHS	.5 Co-Head Ski Team	\$2,754/0 years/0 points/\$0
John Brum	RHS	.5 Co-Head Ski Team	\$2,754/0 years/0 points/\$0
Ken Le Cour	WA	Team Leader 7 th Grade	\$3,956
Lori Thompson	WA	Winter Site Manager	\$50 per daily event/ \$75 per multiple events
Nick Gregorio	WA	Winter Site Manager	\$50 per daily event/ \$75 per multiple events
Ryan Thomas	RHS	Ridge Pep Band	\$1,911/0 years/0 points/\$0

11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following volunteer coaches for the 2008-09 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Activity:</u>	<u>School:</u>
Katie Donahue	Girls Basketball	WAMS
Katie Vasto	Field Hockey	WAMS
Lisa Filippini	Cheerleading	WAMS
Michael Clark	Girls Basketball	RHS
Paul Davis	Wrestling	WAMS

12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following student coaching volunteers at William Annin Middle School for the 2008-09 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Activity:</u>
Jared Bond	Wrestling
John Meyers	Boys Basketball
Matt Spina	Wrestling
Richard Reed	Wrestling
Shannon Scott	Girls Basketball

13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following teachers to provide home training to parents via home visits at a rate of \$60 per hour:

Ann Aron	Joy Shutte
Carole Deitchman	Jessica Rothschild
Cheryl Zuppa	Marcus Lozano
Linda Valera	Kerry Mikus
Michelle Lenzi	

14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following mentor for the 2008-09 school year, mentoring fee to be paid by the provisional teacher:

<u>Provisional Teacher:</u>	<u>Position:</u>	<u>Mentor:</u>	<u>Payment:</u>
Ivon Garcia	Spanish	Megan Yerkes	\$550

15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following substitute teachers for 2008-09 school year at a salary of \$80 per day and \$120 per day for substitute nurses:

Theresa Creedon
 Kimberly McCavera
 Nicole Angioletti
 Vita Caravias
 Jeff Wyszowski
 George Maliakel
 Marissa Marton

*Subject to County Approval
 +Subject to Fingerprint Clearance

16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following students as aides in the After School Care Program at a salary of \$12 per hour:

Paige Twillmann
 Matthew Fojo-Prieto

17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following student intern for the 2008-09 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>College/University:</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher:</u>
Lisa Steiner	Seton Hall University	Mount Prospect School/Megan Petersen 12/8/2008 and 12/9/2008

On motion by Ms. Winter, seconded by Ms. Carlsson, Items #1-17 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. McGowan, Mr. Wilke,
 Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Koch
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - None

POLICY

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following policies on second reading and adopt said policies:

- a) Policy File Code: M 5200 Academic Attendance
- b) Policy File Code: 5512 Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying & Hazing
- c) Policy File Code: 8210 School Year Calendar
- d) Policy File Code: 8468 Crisis Intervention & Violence Prevention

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby adopt school calendars for the following academic years: 2009-10, 2010-11 & 2011-12. (attached)

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

- “Ayes” - Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. Cwerner, Ms. McGowan, Mr. Wilke,
Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford, Mr. Koch
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

XIV. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding random drug testing.

XV. Board Forum

Mr. Koch explained the procedure for establishing Board Forum topics.

1) Board Email – consolidated Board email vs. individualized email for community contacting the Board of Education. Discussion was held on the first choice being emailing the Board as a whole with the option to email individual members. The Community Relations Committee felt Board members should be emailed as a group. The Policy Committee felt the option to email as a group and individually should be available. On a show of hands, 2 in favor of group emailing and 6 in favor of both options, the Board will have both options available on the website.

2) Video Taping Board Meetings – survey will be sent in this week’s District Friday Folder in order to obtain parental opinions on this topic.

- 3) Board Goals – at the January 12 Board meeting discussion will be held to establish the structure to be utilized in the future to establish Board goals.
- 4) Random Drug Testing Policy – due to the 4-4 vote at the November 24 meeting, this topic may be brought forward for discussion at a future date. At this time there are no such plans to revisit this topic.

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Carlsson, seconded by Mr. Wilke, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Markarian
Board Secretary