

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES INDEX
FEBRUARY 9, 2004
EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:30 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 8:00 P.M.
OAK STREET SCHOOL**

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On meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Bracaglia.

I. Salute to Flag

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Ms. Bossart, Ms. Bracaglia, Mr. Carlucci, Mr. Koch, Ms. Seitz,
Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford (arrived at 7:35 p.m.), Ms. Zarabara

ABSENT: Mr. Byrne

III. 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.

IV. Executive Session – 7:30 p.m. – Conference Room Oak Street School

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss the following: 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 Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. Zarabara, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 7:31 p.m.

On motion by Ms. Seitz, seconded by Ms. Winter, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 7:45 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the Cedar Hill All-Purpose Room at 8:00 p.m.

V. Regular Session - Call to Order - 8:00 p.m. – Gymnasium Oak Street School

VI. Public Forum on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

VII. Student Representative's Report

VIII. Superintendent's Report

1) Principal Jane Costa provided an overview of Oak Street School including a power point presentation, discussion of test results, staff development and challenges within staffing and facilities. She spoke about the school's involvement in several individualized programs including service projects, enrichment programs, Character Ed and the Star School. The chorus and orchestra each presented a short program and a student acted out a play she had written.

IX. President's Report

X. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Chairperson Lou Carlucci spoke on the budget in regard to staffing requirements and capital projects. The Board meeting originally scheduled for March 22 will be postponed until March 29 to accommodate the timeframe required by the Department of Education to hold a Public Hearing on the 2004-05 budget. The Finance Committee will meet with Townships' Finance Committee on February 12.

Personnel Committee

The Personnel Committee met prior to the Board meeting and Chairperson Patty Seitz reported that the discussion included personnel issues and negotiations.

Policy Committee

Chairperson Paula Bossart stated that the committee's next meeting is February 10.

Curriculum Committee

Chairperson Patty Seitz reported on the January 23 meeting.

Community Relations

Chairperson Ann Marie Woolford reported that the committee met last week and the subcommittee reviewed the June 2003 climate survey results.

New Jersey School Boards Association

Liaison William Koch reported that New Jersey ranks 45th in the nation in state support of public education.

XI. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding kindergarten registration, redistricting, grant money through the Health Dept. to perform surveys, building capacity vs. future enrollment. Dr. Goger commented on the decline in birthrate and redistricting. Mr. Barcellona explained the 30-year population cycle. Comments were made regarding the high school A Cappella music program. Concerns were raised regarding air conditioning at elementary schools and teacher retention.

XII. Board Forum

Comments were made regarding the Facility Committee's work and the pre-school autistic program.

XIII. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Zarabara, seconded by Ms. Winter and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Barcellona
Board Secretary