

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING INDEX
MARCH 28, 2013
REGULAR SESSION 5:30 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:32 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL MAIN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:05 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PAC**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 28, 2013
REGULAR SESSION 5:30 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:32 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL MAIN OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:05 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PAC**

I. Regular Session – Call to Order – 5:30 p.m. – Ridge High School Main Office Conference Room

II. Salute to Flag

III. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Koch, Ms. Kusel, Ms. McGowan,
Ms. McKeon, Ms. Shah, Ms. Sherwyn, Ms. Wooldridge

ABSENT: None

IV. Executive Session – 5:32 p.m. – Ridge High School Main Office Conference Room

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education met in closed session to discuss: negotiations; matters pertaining to specific personnel; confidential student 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.

On motion by Ms. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 5:32 p.m.

On motion by Ms. Shah, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 6:55 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the William Annin Middle School Auditorium at 7:05 p.m.

V. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:05 p.m. – Ridge High School PAC**

VI. **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. Any Board responses to public comment will be addressed during Board Forum, or during committee reports.

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.

VII. **Superintendent's Report**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated March 28, 2013.

On motion by Ms. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Cwerner, Item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Koch, Ms. Kusel, Ms. McKeon,
Ms. Shah, Ms. Sherwyn, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McGowan
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

VIII. Board Presentations

1) Fine & Practical Arts Presentation

Supervisor of Fine & Practical Arts Michael Fackelman reviewed the state of the arts in grades K-12 highlighting new offerings at the high school for the 2013-14 school year. Samples of students' art work were displayed throughout the presentation.

- Grades K-5 – general music includes ensembles before school; art focuses on *artsonia* an online art gallery where student portfolios may be shared; prior to concerts students' art galleries are highlighted
- Grades 6-8 – music ensembles; grade 8 curriculum contains nine choices; grade 6 & 7 cycles include six course choices
- Grades 9-12 – review of course offerings in theater, dance, music, and visual art courses with a spotlight on AP Studio Art Photo III. Mr. Fackelman explained an upcoming partnership with Raritan Valley Community College where students will be able to participate in courses for college credit at a significantly reduced tuition rate. New courses for 2013-14 include Accounting, Personal Finance II, AP Art History, & Exploring Music Composition.
- What's next? More time for ensemble classes grades 6-8; additional scheduling for art courses at the high school.

Comments from the Board included the new high school offerings, additional ensemble time at William Annin Middle School, the partnership with Raritan Valley Community College, exploring the possibility of additional college courses being made available, placing the virtual art gallery on the website, and the acceptance process for admission into the RVCC program.

Click [here](#) to view presentation

IX. Public Hearing 2013-14 School Budget

1) Budget Presentation

Business Administrator Rod McLaughlin and Superintendent Nick Markarian reviewed the proposed 2013-14 school budget including revenue, lost state aid, a five-year tax history, instructional information, general education, and special education. A snapshot of expenditures included planned renovation work, and additional equipment and technology costs required to meet the PARCC test requirements.

Click [here](#) to view presentation

2) Board Forum on Budget

No comments were made.

3) Public Forum on Budget

No comments were made.

4) WHEREAS, the Superintendent and Business Administrator prepared this 2013-2014 budget on forms prescribed by the State Department of Education and submitted it along with required supporting documentation to the Executive County Superintendent, and

WHEREAS, the Executive County Superintendent reviewed and approved the budget, and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget includes sufficient funds to provide curriculum and instruction which will enable all students to achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards, and is in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A and N.J.A.C. Title 6 and 6A

RESOLVED, the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve and adopt the following school district budget for the 2013-2014 school year for purposes of establishing the tax levy:

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUES	DEBT SERVICE	TOTAL
2013-14 Total Expenditures	\$86,949,699	\$1,393,833	\$5,859,670	\$94,203,202
Less: Anticipated Revenues	<u>\$9,576,257</u>	<u>\$1,393,833</u>	<u>\$354,304</u>	<u>\$11,324,394</u>
Taxes to be Raised:	<u>\$77,373,442</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$5,505,366</u>	<u>\$82,878,808</u>

And be it

RESOLVED, That there should be raised for General Funds \$77,373,442 for the ensuing school year 2013-2014.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Mr. Koch, Item #4 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Koch, Ms. Kusel, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Shah,
Ms. Sherwyn, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McGowan

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - Mr. Byrne

Mr. Markarian thanked the Business Administrator Rod McLaughlin and the Assistant Business Administrator Jim Rollo for the work on the 2013-14 school budget. Mr. McLaughlin and Mr. Rollo were successful in leveraging State and Federal revenue to set aside \$1M for capital projects in the 2013-14 budget.

X. Superintendent’s Report continued

1) Joint Task Force Update

Superintendent Nick Markarian reported on the March 25 public meeting. The primary goal of the Task Force is to improve student safety on the campus and during the morning drop off. A total of 13 options were brought forward. Mr. Markarian reviewed each option and associated drawing highlighting the positives and negatives. These are all concept plans and when a full engineering plan is completed, additional information may be presented.

Board member comments included issues with access to Lots C & D, the existing traffic light, situation of traffic flow on South Finley Avenue and Lake Road, utilization of the municipal complex, and the need to work within the available parameters.

XI. Public Forum on Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding the Joint Task Force report and Option 9, additional anticipated traffic, drop-off separation of buses and cars, and utilization of municipal complex.

XII. Approval of Minutes

March 4, 2013 – Executive Session Minutes
March 4, 2013 – Regular Session Minutes

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

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Koch, Ms. Kusel, Ms. Shah,
Ms. Sherwyn, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McGowan
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - Ms. McKeon

XIII. Committee Reports

FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated March 28, 2013 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$9,881,895.79.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the February 2013 Financial Reports from the Board Secretary, the monthly Investment Report for February 2013, and the Treasurer of the School Monies Report for February 2013.

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 February 2013 line item transfers totaling \$224,213.45 to the 2012-13 school budget, list on file in the Board office.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the sale of the following items which are outmoded in design, construction or in need of extensive repair on GovDeals.com:

<u>Items:</u>	<u>Quantity:</u>
Monitors	18
LCD	1
Laptops	19

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 for the 2012-13 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
C. Capozzi	NJACAC 2013 Annual Conference	\$180	6/4/2013

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the modification of the send/receive contract for student # 305389 from Warren Township Public School District to include a 1:1 aide in the amount of \$16,217.85 from March 5, 2013 to June 30, 2013.

7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **William Annin PTO** in the amount of \$3,066 to purchase wireless presenters, minecraft EDU, step pulley drill press and color pencils.

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **Parents of Exceptional Children PTO** in the amount of \$4,000 to purchase materials to support the new social skills program.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the use of the existing Ridge High School weight/training room and adjoining maintenance/custodial receiving area as a renovated training facility subject to a mutual agreement with the Ridge Sports Foundation as to funding for the renovation and equipment as well as compliance with the requisite New Jersey Department of Education and New Jersey Uniform Construction Codes. Furthermore, The Board of Education’s acceptance of any donations from the Ridge Sports Foundation and any actual work to occur in the weight/training room is contingent on future Board of Education approval.

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. Kusel, Items #1 through 9 were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes”- Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Koch, Ms. Kusel, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Shah, Ms. Sherwyn, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McGowan
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - None

Mr. Koch acknowledged the donations from the William Annin Middle School PTO and PEC. He noted a meeting had been held with the Ridge Sports Foundation regarding renovation work in the high school weight room.

PERSONNEL

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Josephine Waltz** Language Arts Instructional Support Teacher William Annin Middle School effective June 30, 2013, for the purpose of retirement.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Beth Anne Kulik** Language Arts Teacher Ridge High School effective June 30, 2013.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Kate Malamut** Grade 1 Teacher Liberty Corner School effective June 30, 2013.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Isis Sarnowski** Kindergarten Teacher Cedar Hill School effective June 30, 2013.
- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Nicole Savastano** Grade 1 Teacher Oak Street School effective June 30, 2013.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Jacqueline Vazquez** Spanish Teacher William Annin Middle School effective June 30, 2013.
- 7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Amanda Bien** Science Teacher Ridge High School effective June 30, 2013.
- 8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Lisa Brodman** Secretary Special Services District Office effective June 30, 2013.
- 9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Jennifer Cook** Math Teacher Ridge High School effective September 4, 2013 through October 10, 2013 utilizing 26 personal illness days then an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave effective October 11, 2013 through November 21, 2013 running concurrently with Federal Family Leave effective October 11, 2013 through January 9, 2014 then an unpaid child care leave effective January 10, 2014 through June 30, 2015 returning September 1, 2015.

- 10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave for **Emily Lipnick** Language Arts Teacher Ridge High School effective September 1, 2013 through October 11, 2013 running concurrently with unpaid Federal Family Leave effective September 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013 then an unpaid child care leave effective December 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014, returning September 1, 2014.
- 11) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a paid Child Care Leave for **Kerry Sedorak** Instructional Support Teacher Cedar Hill School effective June 14, 2013 through June 30, 2013 utilizing 9 personal illness days then an unpaid Federal Family Leave September 1, 2013 through November 30, 2013 then an unpaid child care leave effective December 1, 2013 through January 31, 2014, returning February 3, 2014.
- 12) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve an unpaid New Jersey Family Leave for **Shukti Mukherji** Language Arts Teacher William Annin Middle School effective March 3, 2013 through April 12, 2013.
- 13) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Jeannine Contreras** Special Education Teacher ABA Program Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 BA+30 effective April 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013. Certificate of Eligibility-Alternate Route Mentoring Required.
- 14) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Amanda King** Grade 1 Teacher Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 1 MA \$52,160 effective April 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013 as a maternity leave replacement for Megan Moran. Certificate of Eligibility w/Advanced Standing-Mentoring Required.
- 15) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Sukaina Ali** Grade 2 Teacher Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 BA \$46,160 effective April 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013 as maternity leave replacement for Jessica Green. Certificate of Eligibility w/Advanced Standing-Mentoring Required.
- 16) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Christina Miller** Science Teacher William Annin Middle School at a salary of \$331.00 per diem effective April 17, 2013 through June 27, 2013.
- 17) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Gina Delli Bovi** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School at a salary of Step 1 \$24.20 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective March 28, 2013 through June 26, 2013.

18) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Jeanine McGlynn** Instructional Aide Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 1 \$24.20 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective April 1, 2013 through June 26, 2013.

19) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Taryn Schnell** Instructional Aide Ridge High School at a salary of Step 1 \$24.20 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective March 25, 2013 through June 26, 2013.

20) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Alyssa Stockl** Instructional Aide Mount Prospect School at a salary of Step 1 \$24.20 per hour 7.5 hours per day effective April 3, 2013 through June 26, 2013.

21) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Karen Lai** Permanent Substitute Mount Prospect at a salary of \$90 per diem effective April 1, 2013 through June 26, 2013.

22) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **various assignments** for the 2012-13 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Salary:</u>
Michaela Stoudemayer	At Home Program	\$60 per hour
Heather Grimaldi	After School Care Program	\$12 per hour
Serena Paczkowski	At Home Program	\$30 per hour
Kaitlyn Schaefer	At Home Program	\$30 per hour
Abby Way	At Home Program	\$30 per hour
Michael Bennett	Friday Night Activities	\$24.20 per hour

23) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **Extracurricular Assignments** for the 2012-13 school year:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Staff Member:</u>	<u>Assignment:</u>	<u>Stipend:</u>	<u>Longevity 12-13:</u>
CH	Carolyn Latkovich	Drama Club .5	\$800	None
CH	Brian McCarthy	Spring Intramurals 1 x week	\$589	0 years/0 points/\$0
RH	Katherine Cass	Winter Guard	\$1997	n/a

24) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **AP Exam Proctors** at a salary of \$80 per diem for the 2012-13 school year:

Michael Vena
William Hanley
Carol Regner
Kyle Winter

Halina Haring
 Sharon Cerchiaro
 Todd Schroeder
 Marc Schroeder
 Kim Matarante

25) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **volunteers** for the 2012-13 school year:

Peter Samilia	WAMS Athletic	Softball
Caitlyn Wyant	WAMS Athletic	Softball (Student Assistant)
Vincent Sweeney	WAMS Athletic	Baseball
Bobby Tamburri	WAMS Athletic	Baseball (Student Assistant)
Patrick Vreeland	WAMS Athletic	Boys' Lacrosse
Russell Sullivan	WAMS Athletic	Boys' Lacrosse (Student Assistant)
Victoria Thornton	WAMS Athletic	Girls' Lacrosse
Abby Behrins	WAMS Athletic	Girls' Lacrosse (Student Assistant)
Susan Wargo	WAMS Athletic	Track & Field
Lori Thompson	WAMS Athletic	Track & Field
Frank LoCascio	WAMS Athletic	Track & Field
Annette Kuperus	WAMS Athletic	Volleyball Clinic
Kevin Karch	WAMS Athletic	Track Clinic
Peter Hall	RHS Athletic	Baseball
Brian Gagnon	RHS Athletic	Track
Michele Mannix	RHS Athletic	Softball
Casey McCoy	RHS	Band

26) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **student interns** for the 2012-15 school years:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>College/University:</u>	<u>Cooperating Teacher:</u>
Loriana Takacs	TCNJ	Art/Carla Falb/RHS 10/21/13-12/13/13
Loriana Takacs	TCNJ	Art/Kim Ace/CHS 9/3/13-10/18/13
Laura Harabedian	Rutgers	Elementary/Kim Madden OSS 9/4/13-12/1/13
Molly Wilcox	Montclair	Guidance/Marguerite Cahill/RHS 9/4/13-12/15/15
Agnese Cuccaro	TCNJ	Guidance/ Kathy Vanderstad/RHS 9/4/13-12/15/13
Agnes Cuccaro	TCNJ	Guidance/Cara Miscia/WAMS 1/4/14-5/25/14

Laura Kalis	Westminster Choir	Vocal Music/Carol Beadle/LC 9/4/13-12/9/13
Erica Holan	Rutgers	Technology/Steve Isaac/WAMS 4/1/13-06/1/13

27) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint the following **substitute teachers** for the 2012-13 school year at a salary of \$80 per diem:

Joseph Alden-Sawtelle
Kerri Moore
Jennifer Beck
Krislyn Klingert
Brandon Alboum

28) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Robin Laversa** Instructional Aide Cedar Hill School at a salary of Step 1 \$24.20 per hour 5.5 hours per day effective April 1, 2013 through June 26, 2013.

On motion by Ms. Sherwyn, seconded by Ms. McKeon, Items #1 through 28 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Koch, Ms. Kusel, Ms. McKeon,
Ms. Shah, Ms. Sherwyn, Ms. Wooldridge, Ms. McGowan
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

XIV. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding Ridge High traffic issues and use of public property.

XV. Board Forum

Comments were made regarding the ability of police to reach schools in the event of a crisis.

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Mr. Koch, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary