

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES INDEX
MARCH 8, 2004
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:45 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 8:00 P.M.
MOUNT PROSPECT SCHOOL**

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The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by President Bracaglia.

I. Salute to Flag

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Ms. Bossart, Ms. Bracagila, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Carlucci (arrived at 6:15 p.m.), Mr. Koch, Ms. Seitz, Ms. Winter (arrived at 6:00 p.m.), Ms. Woolford, Ms. Zarabara

ABSENT: None

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 – 5:46 p.m. – Main Office Conference Room Mount Prospect School

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss the following: matters pertaining to specific personnel; 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 Ms. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Koch, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 5:46 p.m.

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

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the Gymnasium Mount Prospect School at 7:05 p.m.

V. **Discussion with Bernards Township Committee – 7:05 p.m. – Gymnasium Mount Prospect School**

Superintendent Goger showed a power point presentation on the District Metrics. Township Engineer Peter Messina presented two plans for additional parking and traffic flow surrounding Ridge High and Cedar Hill Schools. Discussion followed on possible reasons for the length of parent pickup lines. A group discussion followed on the need for a performing arts, fine arts and athletic complex. The Township is organizing a task force to report on this project by the end of the year. The cable access agreement was discussed and the need for a small committee to review what is aired.

VI. **Regular Session - Call to Order - 8:00 p.m. – Gymnasium Mount Prospect School**

VII. **Public Forum on Agenda Items**

Comments were made regarding traffic on blacktop paths surrounding Ridge High and Cedar Hill Schools.

VIII. **Student Representative's Report**

IX. **Superintendent's Report**

1) Ridge High School Principal Richard Stotler introduced National Merit Finalist – **Ellen Herman**. A second finalist **Monica Thanawala** was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Stotler outlined the achievements of both finalists.

2) Principal Judy Slutzky presented a school report, introducing several members of the faculty who highlighted various curricular programs. Ms. Scammel's 4th grade class performed a colonial dance. Assistant Principal Bill Kimmick reported on standardized testing results, and Ms. Slutzky then outlined challenges faced by the school, and resultant school goals.

X. **President's Report**

XI. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the initial budget for submission to the Somerset County Superintendent of Schools for his approval to advertise prior to the Public Hearing on March 29, 2004 and that the Business Administrator be authorized to make revisions as required:

Maximum Permitted Net Budget Before Spending Growth Limitation Adjustments	\$55,382,192
Statutory Adjustment Requests	
Changes in Enrollment	\$3,015,264
Capital Outlay Expenditures	\$35,148
Non-remote Transportation Costs	\$252,843
Special Ed Costs in Excess of \$40,000	\$16,168
Maximum Permitted Net Budget	\$58,480,327
Proposed 2004-2005 Net Budget	\$58,480,327

On motion by Ms. Seitz, seconded by Mr. Carlucci, Item #2 was approved by the following roll call vote:

2) 2004-05 Budget Presentation – Board Secretary Joseph Barcellona

“Ayes” - Ms. Bossart, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Carlucci, Mr. Koch, Ms. Seitz, Ms. Winter,
Ms. Woolford, Ms. Zarabara, Ms. Bracaglia
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Personnel Committee

Chairperson Patty Seitz noted the Negotiations Committee is scheduled to meet on the evening of Monday, March 15.

Policy Committee

No report.

Curriculum Committee

Chairperson Patty Seitz noted the committee is scheduled to meet on Friday, March 12.

Community Relations

No report.

New Jersey School Boards Association

Liaison William Koch noted that he attended the NJSBA Orientation.

XII. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding the designation of the A Cappella Choir course, utilization of Bishop Janes as an early childhood center and state aid.

XIII. Board Forum

Comments were made on the Municipal Alliance meeting to conduct a needs assessment for a county grant, traffic on the paths surrounding Ridge High and Cedar Hill Schools and use of the PA system at Lee Field.

XIV. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Zarabara, seconded by Ms. Woolford, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Barcellona
Board Secretary