

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
MINUTES INDEX  
MAY 13, 2013  
REGULAR SESSION 5:30 P.M.  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:31 P.M.  
REGULAR AGENDA 7:06 P.M.  
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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MAY 13, 2013  
REGULAR SESSION 5:30 P.M.  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:31 P.M.  
REGULAR AGENDA 7:06 P.M.  
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by President McGowan.

- I. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 5:30 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Auditorium**
- 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,  
Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin

ABSENT: None

- IV. **Executive Session – 5:31 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Conference Room**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education met in closed session to discuss: persons under consideration for employment; negotiations; 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. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 5:31 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. McKeon, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 7:02 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the William Annin Middle School Auditorium at 7:06 p.m.

V. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:06 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Auditorium**

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. 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.

VII. **Student Recognition**

Prior to introducing the coaches to speak on their student athletes, Athletic Director Rich Shello mentioned the sacrifice and dedication of both the students and their coaches that makes the athletic program the success it is.

- 1) **Acknowledge 2012-13 NJSIAA Girls State Epee Champion**

**Amy Tong**

- 2) Acknowledge 2012-13 **Skyland Conference 500 Meter Freestyle Champion**

**Aaron Schlemovitz**

- 3) Acknowledge 2012-13 **Boys Basketball Somerset County Champions**

**Patraic Brady**

**Thomas Chiriaco**

**Matthew Gerrity**

**Eric Klacik**

**Derek Lyons**

**Dan McCreesh**

**Kevin Menarquez**

**Jack Smith**

**Alex Wightman**

**Ryan Byrnes**

**Kevin Doolan**

**Andrew Kendall**

**Lane Legband**

**Jake Mahon**

**Austin Melville**

**Hugh Morris**

**Mark Szeluga**

- 4) Acknowledge 2012-13 **Girls Soccer NJSIAA State Section North II Group IV Champions**

**Lucy Aaron**

**Kaitlin Ardoff**

**Nicole Bates**

**Hannah Broos**

**Giavanna Cifelli**

**Jennifer Haskell**

**Kelliann McWhorter**

**Alexa Moy**

**Allison Pine**

**Brittany Sheehan**

**Lindsay Werner**

**Christina Weyrauch**

**Courtney Wu**

**Paige Anderson**

**Rachel Axt**

**Amanda Bosland**

**Samantha Carney**

**Erin Convery**

**Shaye McCoy**

**Alexandra Menza**

**Kristina Mueller**

**Andrea Rijo**

**Keri Villano**

**Alexandra Weyrauch**

**Katie Winter**

## VIII. Board Presentation

- 1) **Common Core Standards and Bernards Township Mathematics (K-12)** – Supervisor of Math Marian Palumbo & William Annin Middle School Principal Karen Hudock

Dr. Palumbo reviewed the change to the Common Core State Standards for Mathematics highlighting the following:

- 2 key features – mathematical practices & content domains
- Timeline for implementation – 2011-12 grades K-2; 2012-13 grades 3-5 & high school, 2013-14 grades 6-8
- Differences K-5 – primarily greater emphasis on fewer concepts with an explanation of each of the six concepts

- Conceptual categories at the high school level
- Differences high school – a greater emphasis on fewer concepts with an explanation of each of the six concepts
- Dr. Palumbo offered several online resources for parents and students to explore (through the state and her website)

Ms. Hudock reviewed the Common Core for the Middle School including:

- Content domains
- Difference in middle school – primarily greater emphasis on fewer concepts with an explanation of each of the six concepts
- Explanation of middle school pathways both accelerated path & compacted path
- 7<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra 1 (accelerated)
- Proposed addition of a 7<sup>th</sup> grade Mathematic Cycle
- Review of current 6<sup>th</sup> grade cycles, & the elimination of the writing cycle providing needed additional time & staff to provide additional instructional support classes

Questions from the Board included the impact on cycle courses at the middle school due to the implementation of the new math program, impact on current 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in algebra moving to geometry, the current 6<sup>th</sup> grade not having common core and moving to 7<sup>th</sup> grade next year, and the impact of pullout for math instructional support on band, orchestra and chorus.

Ms. Hudock stated there is collaboration among the math support teachers, instructional support traditionally involves cycle courses, and the importance of having student remediation at this level.

Click [here](#) to view the presentation.

## IX. Superintendent's Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated May 13, 2013.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve submission of applications to the Somerset County Department of Education to operate the following **2013 summer school programs:**

Elementary Summer Activities  
Camp Jumpstart

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Kusel, Items #1 & 2 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

#### X. Public Comments on Agenda Items

A comment was made regarding Dr. Marian Palumbo as a significant resource to special education staff members who teach math.

#### XI. Committee Reports

##### FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated May 13, 2013 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$2,757,794.22.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby authorize the Spiegle Architectural Group to submit to the Department of Education the following School Facilities Project Applications as Non-Grant projects with no State funding:
  - a. Alteration and Renovations to Cedar Hill School – State Project #0350-070-13-1000
  - b. Alteration and Renovations to Oak Street School – State Project #0350-060-13-1000
  - c. Alteration and Renovations to Board of Education Offices at 100 Peachtree Road – State Project #0350-X01-13-1000
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **Liberty Corner PTO** in the amount of \$3,000 for the installation of A/C in room 102 at Liberty Corner School.
- 4) WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association Insurance Group (NJSBAIG) Board of Trustees approved proposed amendments to its Bylaws at a public meeting on March 20, 2013 in accordance with Article IX(C) of the current NJSBAIG Bylaws; and  
WHEREAS, the current NJSBAIG Bylaws require for the proposed amendments to be approved by member school districts; and



WHEREAS, seventy-five percent (3/4) of the member school districts must approve the proposed amendments within one hundred eighty (180) days of the hearing on the amendments:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that at a regular meeting of the Bernards Township Board of Education held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013, the Board does hereby approve the proposed amendments to the NJSBAIG Bylaws.

5) The Bernards Township Board of Education received bids for a waste disposal contract on Tuesday, May 7, 2013, at 2:00 p.m. The term of the contract shall be for three years from July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016, and may be renewed on an annual basis at the discretion of the Board of Education for a period of up to 2 years. Bids were received from the following companies:

<u>Company:</u>	<u>Bid:</u>
Kohler Waste Services	\$210,000
Republic Services	\$208,586
Waste Management	\$180,349
Peter Rubinetti Private Disposal	\$170,700

The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby award the bid for waste disposal to **Peter Rubinetti Private Disposal** as the lowest responsible bidder contingent upon attorney review and execution of a mutually agreeable contract.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education received bids for the alterations and renovations to Cedar Hill School, Administration Building, and Oak Street School on Thursday, May 9, 2013, at 11:00 a.m. Bids were received from the following companies:

<u>Contractor:</u>	<u>Base Bid:</u>	<u>Alternate Bid*:</u>	<u>TOTAL:</u>
Tekton Development	\$837,000	\$106,000	\$943,000
Tormee Construction Inc.	\$827,700	\$96,000	\$923,700

\*The Business Administrator is authorized to include this alternate in the contract if necessary.

The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby award the bid for the alterations and renovations to Cedar Hill School, Administration Building, and Oak Street School to **Tormee Construction Inc.** as the lowest responsible bidder contingent upon attorney review and execution of a mutually agreeable contract.

Finance Chairperson Bill Koch thanked the Liberty Corner School PTO for cost savings on its air conditioning project enabling them to donate funds for the installation of air conditioning in an additional room.

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. McKeon, Items #1 through 6 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

## PERSONNEL

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Marian Palumbo** District Supervisor of Math K-12 effective June 30, 2013, with regret, for the purpose of retirement.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Toby Sperber** Special Education Teacher Mount Prospect School effective June 30, 2013, with regret, for the purpose of retirement.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Amy Soltis** Special Education Teacher William Annin Middle School effective June 30, 2013.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby appoint **Kristen Wolff** District Supervisor of Math K-12 at a salary of \$89,000 effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

On motion by Ms. Kusel, seconded by Ms. Sherwyn, Items #1 through 4 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

Comments were made by Board President Susan McGowan, Superintendent Nick Markarian, and Assistant Superintendent Sean Siet regarding Dr. Marian Palumbo’s tenure in the district offering their congratulations and best wishes on her retirement.

Mr. Markarian and Mr. Siet welcomed Kristen Wolff as the new Supervisor of Math. Ms. Wolff is a 2001 graduate of Ridge High School and joined the district as a Math teacher in 2005. Ms. Wolff thanked the Board and the administration for their support.

## **CURRICULUM**

No report.

## **POLICY**

Chairperson Bev Cwerner updated the Board on the committee's progress reviewing the revised Policy Manual. The goal is to have the updated/revised policy manual approved at the June 24 Board meeting. The committee will meet again next Monday to review the 5000 – 7000 series. Information is available for Board members in the Drop Box.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Chairperson Audrey Sherwyn stated the minutes from the May 6 PTO Advisory Board meeting will be sent to the Board tomorrow. Discussion highlights from that meeting included organizing a joint all district meeting in the fall, a security update, and the district calendar (DynaCal) which is accessible on the district website.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

Ms. Sherwyn reported on the recent Municipal Alliance meeting. Discussion included the Twilight Challenge (Sunday, June 2) which is the main fundraiser for the Alliance, a booth at Ridge High prior to the prom regarding drinking and driving, grade 5 students sending letters to the seniors regarding being safe at the prom, and Youth Summit Day being held during NJASK week at William Annin Middle School.

## **XII. Public Comments on Other Than Agenda Items**

Comments were made regarding the Board index, and requesting an update on the Health Department driveway exit survey. Ms. McGowan stated the Township is conducting the survey and results should be forthcoming.

## **XIII. Board Forum**

Comments were made on SAT scores (a comparison with 27 other districts and a summary of the 2011-12 SAT results), receiving student feedback on the revisions to the homework guidelines, and a student stressors report.

## **XIV. Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Shah, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin  
Board Secretary