

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES INDEX
NOVEMBER 12, 2007
REGULAR SESSION 7:02 P.M.
BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING**

- I. **Salute to Flag** – page 69
- II. **Roll Call** – page 69
- III. **Ridge High School Student Government – 6:30 p.m. – Board of Education Building** – page 69
- IV. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:02 p.m. – Board of Education Building** – page 69
- V. **Statement of Public Notice** – page 69
- VI. **Student Representative’s Report** – page 70
- VII. **Business Administrator’s Report** – page 70
- VIII. **Board Meeting Presentations**
 - 1) **Technology Presentation** – Director of Curriculum Sean Siet & Supervisor of Science & Technology Brian Heineman – page 70
- IX. **Public Forum on Agenda Items** – page 71
- X. **Board Response** – page 71
- XI. **Committee Reports**
 - Finance Committee** – page 71
Report on Progress
 - Personnel Committee** – page 71
Report on Progress
 - Curriculum Committee** – page 71

Report on Progress
Policy Committee – page 71
Report on Progress

Community Relations – page 71
Report on Progress

Facilities Committee – page 72
Report on Progress

Liaison Reports – page 72
Report on Progress

XII. **Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items** – page 72

XIII. **Board Forum** – page 72

XV. **Adjournment** – page 73

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 12, 2007
REGULAR SESSION 7:02 P.M.
BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Koch.

I. Salute to Flag

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Koch, Ms. McGowan
Ms. Smith, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Ms. Woolford

ABSENT: None

III. Ridge High School Student Government – 6:30 p.m. – Board of Education Building

IV. Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:02 p.m. – Board of Education Building

Board President Bill Koch noted the Board met earlier in the evening with members of the Ridge High School Student Government representatives.

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. Student Representative's Report

No report.

VII. Business Administrator's Report

Business Administrator Ron Smith noted the construction project at the high school is on schedule, control of boilers is being transferred to district personnel, and temporary heat has been installed in classrooms.

VIII. Board Meeting Presentations

1) Director of Curriculum Sean Siet, Supervisor of Science & Technology Brian Heineman, Technology Manager Jim Rollo, Mount Prospect School staff member Mike Pepitone and Ridge High School staff member Alice Keller presented information and 'lessons' utilizing Smartboard and Tablet PC technology. Mr. Siet and Mr. Heineman included information on classroom use, staff training, rollout of equipment, impact of updated technology on staff and students, availability of classroom lessons online for student access and accessibility of a student/teacher question and answer method of dialogue.

IX. Public Forum on Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding the rollout timeframe for additional technology equipment at the schools, online accessibility of teacher lessons and the type of Table PC anti-theft measures in place.

X. Board Response

Dr. Goger responded to comments from the public on purchase of technology equipment stating that regardless of fundraising, all equipment contained within the Three-Year Technology Plan would be purchased either thru contributed or district funds. An explanation of the anti-theft device within the Tablet PC was given.

XI. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Chairperson Janet Smith noted the committee is scheduled to meet on November 20. Discussion will include a review of the previous fiscal year audit report and the preliminary budget forecast for 2008-09.

Personnel Committee

No report.

Curriculum Committee

Chairperson Leslie Stevens noted the committee is scheduled to meet on December 7. Discussion will include Language Arts K-5, infusion of ethics in district curriculum and review of the district testing report summary.

Policy Committee

Chairperson Susan McGowan noted the committee is scheduled to meet on November 15 with a review of policies scheduled for second reading at the November 26 Board of Education meeting.

Community Relations

Chairperson Susan Carlsson stated that minutes from the October 21 meeting had been distributed. She reviewed a recent discussion with Denise Coyle, a newly elected representative and shared comments from workshops recently attended at the New Jersey School Boards convention. A consensus of availability for a Board retreat on either Monday, December 3 or Monday, December 10 is needed.

Facilities Committee

Chairperson Lou Carlucci noted the committee is scheduled to meet on November 13. He commented on the success of the construction project and the low percentage of change orders. Discussion followed on the repaving of paths on the Ridge High and Cedar Hill campus. The Board requested the company paving the Ridge High parking lot be asked to submit an estimate. By a show of hands it was agreed that the timeframe of repaving would be left up to the administration.

Liaison Reports

No reports.

XII. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items

Comments were made regarding criminal history review language contained within three district policies, size of proposed storage facility at Ridge High, the high school lunch schedule, status of solar panel project, utilization of surplus funds for capital projects, contract with the BTEA, status of drug testing policy and township cable channel.

Dr. Goger offered an explanation of recent information released by the state in regard to the proposed drug testing program. An update of district plans will be presented in January. Comments were made regarding the financials of the referendum project. The contract between the BTEA and the Board of Education is currently at the printers and will be available online in the near future.

XIII. Board Forum

Comments were made regarding the recent ARAMARK Food Service report, the warehouse storage project, the BTEA contract, school funding, NAEP test results and achieving a paperless Board office with the possibility of a presentation to the Board on this topic. Ms. Carlsson offered a brief explanation of QSAC, a three-year self-evaluating system that will replace the current QAAR, and annual board member training. A meeting with the Township Committee is scheduled for January 17 at 4:00 p.m.

XIV. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

H. Ronald Smith
Interim Board Secretary