

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING INDEX
MAY 6, 2019
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:01 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:00 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

- I. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center – page 324**
- II. **Salute to the Flag – page 324**
- III. **Roll Call – page 324**
- IV. **Executive Session – 6:01 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room – page 324**
- V. **Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:00 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center – page 325**
- VI. **Statement of Public Notice – page 325**
- VII. **Student Representative - Maddie Athanasiou – page 326**
- VIII. **Public Hearing 2019-20 Budget**
 - 1) **2019-20 School Budget Presentation** – Nick Markarian, Superintendent and Rod McLaughlin, Business Administrator/Board Secretary – page 326
 - 2) **Board Forum on Budget – page 326**
 - 3) **Public Comment on Budget – page 326**
 - 4) **Close Public Hearing on Budget – page 326**
- IX. **Superintendent's Report**
 - 1) **Approve School Bus Evacuation Drills 2018-19 School Year – page 326**
 - 2) **Affirm Receipt of HIB Report Dated May 6, 2019 – page 327**
- X. **Public Comment on Agenda Items – page 327**
- XI. **Approval of Minutes – page 327**
- XII. **Finance Committee Report**
 - 1) **Approve List of Disbursements Dated May 6, 2019 – page 327**
 - 2) **Approve Professional Development Expenses 2018-19 School Year – page 327**

- 3) Approve **School District Budget** 2019-20 School Year – page 328
- 4) Approve **Municipal Tax Levy** 2019-20 School Year – page 328

XIII. Personnel Committee Report

- 1) Accept Retirement **Fran Calvaruso** Business Teacher Ridge High School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 2) Accept Resignation **Anne Bonnefoi** Media Specialist Oak Street School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 3) Accept Resignation **Danielle Carter** English Language Arts Teacher William Annin Middle School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 4) Accept Resignation **Dennis Drake** Social Studies Teacher Ridge High School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 5) Accept Resignation **Jessica Karlovich** Grade 5 Teacher Liberty Corner School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 6) Accept Resignation **Elgen Lewis** LDTC Ridge High School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 7) Accept Resignation **Valerie Nelson** Special Education BD Teacher William Annin Middle School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 8) Accept Resignation **Jenna Valentine** Grade 2 Teacher Liberty Corner School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 9) Accept Resignation **Shane O’Flaherty** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School 2019-20 School Year – page 330
- 10) Accept Resignation **Joanne Zilli** School Aide Mount Prospect School 2019-20 School Year – page 330

XIV. Policy Committee Report – page 331
Report on Progress

XV. Curriculum Committee Report – page 331
Report on Progress

XVI. Advocacy Committee Report – page 331
Report on Progress

XVII. Ad Hoc SEL Committee Report – page 331
Report on Progress

XVIII. Liaison Committee Reports – page 331
Report on Progress

XIX. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items – page 331

XX. Board Forum – page 331

XXI. Adjournment – page 331

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RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

- I. **Regular Session – Call to Order – 6:00 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center**
- II. **Salute to the Flag**
- III. **Roll Call**
- IV. **Executive Session – 6:01 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss item(s) b and h below which falls within an exception of our open meeting policy and permits the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A.10:4-12b. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule:

- a. Individual privacy
- b. Collective bargaining agreements
- c. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- d. Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- e. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- f. Pending or anticipated litigation
- g. Attorney-client privilege
- h. Personnel – employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

Any discussion held by the Board, which need not remain confidential, will be made public as soon as practical. Minutes of the private session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. All appropriate persons, who may be discussed in private session, have been adequately notified.

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge and seconded by Ms. White and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 6:01p.m.

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge seconded by Ms. Korn and approved by all present, the Board closed the Executive Session at 6:50p.m.

V. Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:00 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

VI. Statement of Public Notice

This is 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, when 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 matter of public concern related to the schools.

When you approach the microphone, please state your name and address. Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to five (5) minutes duration. No participant may speak more than once during a given public comment session. In order to run efficient meetings and to allow maximum opportunity for members of the public to speak, the Board reserves the right to set a different time limit for individual comments and/or to set an overall time limit for the public comment portions of the agenda. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer, no participant may address or question Board members individually.

Please understand that public comment portions of our agendas are not structured as question and answer sessions, but rather they are offered as opportunities to share your thoughts with the Board. The Board may or may not respond to public comments. Any Board responses to public comments will generally be addressed during Board Forum, or during committee reports. However, all comments are considered and will be investigated and addressed as appropriate.

Please be courteous and mindful of the rights of others when speaking. Comments may not be abusive, obscene, threatening or irrelevant. Please understand that students and employees have specific legal and privacy protections. The Board is not permitted to respond in public to comments about students and employees. Please also understand that the Board will not be responsible for the content of comments made by members of the public. Members of the public are cautioned that they are speaking at their own risk and any personally directed statements they make may subject them to legal liability to the effected individual.

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 Representative - Maddie Athanasiou

Ms. Athanasiou reported on the meeting that the Ridge High School student government had with the Advocacy Committee of the Board of Education at 8:45AM on May 6th. Topics discussed at the meeting included academic integrity, vaping, how the media center is used and issues related to the food service program. Ms. Athanasiou also reported out on the status of the spring sports teams.

VIII. Public Hearing 2019-20 Budget

- 1) **2019-20 School Budget Presentation** – Nick Markarian, Superintendent and Rod McLaughlin, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. McLaughlin presented the financial aspect of the district's proposed budget for the 2019-2020 school year. Mr. McLaughlin detailed the anticipated revenue and expenditures, fund balance, capital projects, budget/state aid/tax histories, new tax rates, and a breakdown of general education, special education, support services and transportation expenditures. Mr. Markarian reviewed how the budget supported district goals and the anticipated staffing adjustments for budget year 2019-2020.

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

- 2) Board Forum on Budget

Board of Education members discussed trends in special education spending, efficiencies in transportation and the planned addition of a dance teacher at the middle school.

- 3) Public Comment on Budget

No public comments were made.

- 4) Close Public Hearing on Budget

Having concluded both Board and public comment, Board President McKeon closed the public hearing on the budget.

IX. Superintendent's Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **School Bus Evacuation Drills** for the 2018-19 school year:

<u>School:</u>	<u>Date:</u>
Liberty Corner School	4/25/2019
Oak Street School	4/24/2019

- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby affirm receipt of the **HIB Report** dated May 6, 2019.

On motion by Ms. White, seconded by Ms. Korn Items #1-2 were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Mr. Salmon, Ms. Schafer, Ms. White and Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

X. Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

XI. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following minutes:

April 22, 2019 - Executive Session Minutes
April 22, 2019 - Regular Session Minutes

On motion by Ms. Wooldridge seconded by Ms. Gray the foregoing were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Mr. Salmon, Ms. Schafer, Ms. White and Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

XII. Finance Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated May 6, 2019 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$4,528,906.28.
- 2) 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 2018-19 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
S. Smith	American School Counseling Association National Conference	\$550	06/29/2019 to 07/02/2019

- 3) WHEREAS, the Superintendent and Business Administrator prepared this 2019-2020 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 2019-2020 school year for purposes of establishing the tax levy:

	<u>CURRENT</u> <u>EXPENSE FUND</u>	<u>SPECIAL</u> <u>REVENUES</u>	<u>DEBT</u> <u>SERVICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
2019-2020 Total Expenditures	\$97,923,604	\$1,632,643	\$5,371,763	\$104,928,010
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$10,788,544	\$1,632,643	\$265,585	\$12,686,772
Taxes to be Raised:	<u>\$87,135,060</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$5,106,178</u>	<u>\$92,241,238</u>

And be it RESOLVED, That there should be raised for General Funds \$87,135,060 the ensuing school year 2019-2020.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the schedule of **municipal tax levy** for the 2019-2020 school year:

BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

2019-2020 TAX LEVY SCHEDULE

	General Funds:	Debt Services:	Total Payment
July	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
August	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
September	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
October	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
November	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
December	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
Sub Total:	<u>\$ 43,567,530.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,553,089.00</u>	<u>\$ 46,120,619.00</u>
January	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
February	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
March	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
April	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
May	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
June	\$ 7,261,255.00	\$ 425,514.83	\$ 7,686,769.83
Sub Total:	<u>\$ 43,567,530.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,553,089.00</u>	<u>\$ 46,120,619.00</u>
2019-2020 Levy:	<u>\$ 87,135,060.00</u>	<u>\$ 5,106,178.00</u>	<u>\$ 92,241,238.00</u>

On motion by Ms. Korn, seconded by Ms. Wooldridge Items #1-4 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Mr. Salmon, Ms. Schafer, Ms. White and Ms. Wooldridge
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - None

Mr. Salmon reported out on the finance committee meeting from April 17th. The committee received a report for district architect Tony Catana with conceptual ideas for a building expansion at Ridge High School that could facilitate the use of a rotating drop schedule with a unit lunch. Overall classroom space needs, cafeteria space needs and special education program classroom space needs were reviewed. The committee reviewed the status of a vacant leadership position in the Aramark contract - the position is the facilities manager that heads up the Aramark service team for the district. The committee also reviewed increases in the fee structures for use of facilities, subscription busing and the before and after care program. Finally the committee learned that a resolution may be forthcoming to amend the Title I grant to assist in making expenditures

of grant funds and they reviewed the action agenda items being voted on at the May 6th Board of Education meeting.

XIII. Personnel Committee Report

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following personnel items upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools:

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the retirement of **Fran Calvaruso** Business Teacher Ridge High School effective June 30, 2019.
- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Anne Bonnefoi** Media Specialist Oak Street School effective June 30, 2019.
- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Danielle Carter** English Language Arts Teacher William Annin Middle School effective June 30, 2019.
- 4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Dennis Drake** Social Studies Teacher Ridge High School effective June 30, 2019.
- 5) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Jessica Karlovich** Grade 5 Teacher Liberty Corner School effective June 30, 2019.
- 6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Elgen Lewis** LDTC Ridge High School effective June 30, 2019.
- 7) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Valerie Nelson** Special Education BD Teacher William Annin Middle School effective June 30, 2019.
- 8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Jenna Valentine** Grade 2 Teacher Liberty Corner School effective June 30, 2019.
- 9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Shane O’Flaherty** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School effective June 20, 2019.
- 10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Joanne Zilli** School Aide Mount Prospect School effective June 20, 2019.

On motion by Mr. Salmon, seconded by Ms. Gray Items #1-10 were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Gray, Ms. Korn, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Mr. Salmon, Ms. Schafer, Ms. White and Ms. Wooldridge
“Noes” - None
“Abstain” - None

Ms. McKeon reported out on Personnel Committee meetings from April 18th and May 1st. At the April 18th meeting, the committee discussed several confidential matters associated with contract negotiations for staff in the 2019-2020 school year. The committee also discussed how someone may be able to assist with social media communication and heard from Mr. Siet regarding how student sections were shaping up in master schedules as it related to staffing needs. At the May 1st committee meeting the agenda focused on matters relating to negotiations with the Bernards Township Education Association and related proposals.

XIV. Policy Committee Report

Ms. Korn reported that the next meeting would be May 13th.

XV. Curriculum Committee Report

Ms. Gray noted that the committee had just met on Friday May 3rd and the minutes had yet to be completed.

XVI. Advocacy Committee Report

No report as the committee had just met the morning of May 6th.

XVII. Ad Hoc SEL Committee Report

No report, the next meeting is May 23rd.

XVIII. Liaison Committee Reports

Ms. Wooldridge reported that the Municipal Alliance had completed the administration of the Pride survey and that the results would be reported out in the fall at a Board of Education meeting. Ms. Wooldridge also described how peer leader students at the middle school had contributed to a wellness unit and she summarized community resources available through the Somerset County Department of Human Services.

XIX. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

No comments were made.

XX. Board Forum

No comments were made.

XXI. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. White and seconded by Ms. Wooldridge and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary