

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MINUTES INDEX
MAY 9, 2016
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:01 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:02 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 9, 2016
REGULAR SESSION 6:00 P.M.
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:01 P.M.
RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S CONFERENCE ROOM
REGULAR SESSION 7:02 P.M.
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

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah, Ms. Wooldridge, Mr. Markarian, Mr. Siet, Mr. McLaughlin, Board Counsel John Croot

ABSENT: None

IV. Executive Session – 6:01 p.m. – Ridge High School Principal's Conference Room

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss: personnel and contract negotiations; matters of litigation; 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. Shah and approved by all present, the Board closed the Executive Session at 6:58p.m.

V. Reconvene Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:02 p.m. – Ridge High School Performing Arts Center

President Wooldridge reconvened the regular meeting in the Ridge High School Performing Arts Center at 7:02p.m.

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, and you may speak about any item that is listed on tonight's agenda. Towards the end of the meeting, there is another public comment to address any topic whatsoever.

When you approach the microphone, please state your name and address. 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 time limit for individual comments and/or public comment portions of the agenda. 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. 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 May 9, 2016.

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Ms. Richman item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Shah
Ms. Richman, and Ms. Wooldridge

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

2) **Staff Highlights:**

Stephanie Corcoran - Oak Street School

Deborah Goetjen - William Annin Middle School

Steven Isaacs - William Annin Middle School

Daria Pizzuto - William Annin Middle School

Daniel Zugale - Ridge High School

Several educators from the district were invited by Superintendent Nick Markarian to discuss their recent achievements.

Daniel Zugale, Ridge High School Band Director, discussed two awards that have been recently given to the high school. One is the Support Music Merit Award, a national award for schools that have outstanding achievement, in providing access to quality music education. He thanked colleagues Jennifer Curran and Barbara Retzko, the elementary and middle school music departments for their early development of students and the community for their support. Mr. Zugale also spoke about a second award, the New Jersey Band Association Gala Concert which features the best high school bands in the state.

Stephanie Corcoran is a fourth grade teacher from Oak Street School who has recently been awarded Level One Google Certification. She discussed two exciting events that recently took place at Oak Street School giving a presentation providing highlights from Colonial Day at the Budinot House and Google Day- the day that Google Expeditions came to the school. To view presentation click [here](#).

Deborah Goetjen is the Media Specialist at William Annin Middle School who has recently been given the ISTE Making it Happen Award (International Society for Technology in Education) which recognizes exceptional educators and leaders who are excelling in teaching, learning and leading in the digital age. She spoke of her IDEA (Innovation, Design, Engineering and Art) Lab Makerspace and how it promotes an environment of knowledge sharing throughout the grade levels. To view the presentation click [here](#).

Steve Issacs, a Technology Teacher from William Annin Middle School whose many achievements include being awarded William Annin Middle School Teacher of the Year in the 2015-16 school year and an invite to the White House for the Computer Science Tech Jam, discussed the Game Design and Development class at the William Annin. Mr. Issacs provided background as to how the program came about and the different challenges that were faced, how those challenges were overcome, noted the support of his fellow staff and administrators and discussed how the program has harvested skills and developed students. Mr. Issacs is also the 2016 ISTE Outstanding Teacher of the Year. To view the presentation click [here](#).

Daria Pizzuto, a Spanish teacher at William Annin Middle School, has recently been awarded the Fulbright Distinguished Teacher Award that recognizes and encourages excellence in teaching in the United States and abroad. Ms. Pizzuto spoke of her upcoming trip to Chile, her search for

authentic Spanish novels to add to the middle school curriculum and how these will both benefit the students at William Annin Middle School. To view the presentation click [here](#).

Superintendent Markarian thanked the presenters for their time and hard work and congratulated them on their achievements.

VIII. Public Comment on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

IX. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

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

April 25, 2016 – Executive Session Minutes

April 25, 2016 – Regular Session Minutes

May 2, 2016 – Regular Session Minutes

On motion by Ms. Cwerner seconded by Mr. Fry the foregoing were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Shah
Ms. Richman, and Ms. Wooldridge

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

X. Committee Reports

FINANCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a list of disbursements dated May 9, 2016 consisting of warrants in the amount of \$3,934,894.40.

- 2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve home instruction for student #305953 from April 27, 2016 to June 20, 2016 at **Professional Education Services, Inc.** in the amount not to exceed \$6,146.40.

- 3) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve home instruction for student #304649 from April 27, 2016 to May 20, 2016 at **Silvergate Prep** in the amount not to exceed \$1,536.60.

4) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve home instruction for student #303259 from May 5, 2016 to May 26, 2016 at **Silvergate Prep** in the amount not to exceed \$1,152.45.

5) **WHEREAS**, the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (“HCESC”), as Lead Agency for the HCESC cooperative pricing system (system identifier 34HUNCCP), has awarded a contract for proprietary Apple technology products following the public solicitation of sealed bids pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-15, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-13 and N.J.A.C. 5:34-9.1; and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Board of Education is a member of the HCESC cooperative pricing system and is authorized to make purchases from contracts awarded by the HCESC pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Apple technology products covered by the HCESC contract sought by the Bernards Township Board of Education are of such a specialized nature that only such products will meet the needs of the Bernards Township Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Bernards Township Board of Education has heavily invested time and funds into the acquisition and integration of Apple products in local operations that will be wasted if non-Apple products were used to supplement the existing technology; and

WHEREAS, the use of non-Apple products would require either the wholesale replacement of the technology currently used by the Bernards Township Board of Education or an unsupportable level of training, support and maintenance services that would utterly defeat the purpose of the public contracting laws;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education hereby authorizes the purchase of proprietary Apple technology products approved under the HCESC contract.

6) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve the following **field trip destinations** for the 2015-16 school year:

<u>Destination:</u>	<u>Group Attending:</u>	<u>Number of Students:</u>	<u>Date</u>
Randolph High School	Special Olympics	12	05/25/2016 Wednesday
William Patterson University	World Language Department	15	05/19/2016 Thursday
New Providence Middle School	William Annin Students	14	05/19/2016 Thursday

7) 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 2015-16 school year:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Name of Conference:</u>	<u>Cost:</u>	<u>Date(s):</u>
R.	Recognizing and Responding to	\$299	07/13/2016

McLaughlin	Fraud Risk in Governmental and Not-for-Profit Organizations		
R. Schnell	Project Lead the Way Training	\$3,400	07/10/2016 to 07/22/2016

8) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve home instruction for student #301591 from May 12, 2016 to May 26, 2016 at **Professional Education Services, Inc.** in the amount not to exceed \$768.30.

9) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept a donation from the **William Annin PTO** in the amount of \$8,249 to purchase sound system enhancements and learning space.

10) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby approve a Physical Therapy Evaluation for student #305461 on May 10, 2016 from **St. Joseph's Healthcare/ St. Joseph's Hospital** in the amount not to exceed \$1,370.38.

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

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah and Ms. Wooldridge

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

Ms. Wooldridge provided a summary of the finance items. A board member asked for detail regarding item #5 which Mr. McLaughlin provided.

PERSONNEL

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby accept the resignation of **Kristen Zizelmann** Assistant Principal William Annin Middle School effective June 30, 2016.

2) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby rescind the appointment of **Lauren Westover** Instructional Aide William Annin Middle School effective April 25, 2016.

On motion by Ms. McKeon, seconded by Ms. Cwerner Items #1 and #2 were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mr. Byrne, Ms. Cwerner, Dr. Dunten, Mr. Fry, Ms. Gray, Ms. McKeon, Ms. Richman, Ms. Shah and Ms. Wooldridge

“Noes” - None

“Abstain” - None

CURRICULUM

Ms. Gray noted that the next Curriculum Meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2016.

POLICY

Mr. Fry noted that there will be a Policy update at the May 23, 2016 Board of Education Meeting.

ADVOCACY

Ms. Richman provided an update from the Advocacy Committee Meeting that was held on May 2, 2016. Topics included upcoming PTO meeting dates, an invitation for all PTO Presidents to attend the next Advocacy Meeting on June 6, 2016 in the Board of Education Conference Room and a request for the PTO to provide PARCC testing feedback that will be used by Advocacy Committee to draft a letter to the State.

LIAISON REPORTS

Ms. Wooldridge provided an update regarding the Municipal Alliance Meeting that was held on May 3, 2016, a project where 5th and 6th grade students wrote letters to the Seniors at Ridge High School, a documentary being held on Monday, May 16 at the PAC called Anonymous People and the Twilight Challenge that will be held on June 5, 2016.

Ms. Shah and Dr. Dunten discussed different highlights from the iSTEAM NASA Field Trip they had attended on May 6, 2016. They also noted some of the programs and advantages that NASA has to offer school districts.

Ms. McKeon noted that she and two other board members will be attending a workshop called “The Pressure of Perfection on Student Health & District Practice” on Thursday, May 12.

XI. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Public comments were made regarding STEAM, the Substitute Teacher procurement process, communication tools available for teachers in classrooms, PARCC and thanking the Board of Education Members for their hard work.

Superintendent Nick Markarian addressed concerns and questions regarding STEAM, communication, PARCC and HIB concerns.

Assistant Superintendent Sean Siet addressed the substitute teacher procurement process noting that AESOP is the main communication tool used for daily substitute openings and that substitutes are a transient population of workers in high demand who tend to work between districts.

XII. Board Forum

Board members commented on the STEAM program and a wrecked vehicle that was on display at Ridge High School to warn students of the dangers of drinking and driving.

XIII. Adjournment

On motion by Ms. Cwerner, seconded by Ms. Gray, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rod McLaughlin
Board Secretary