

**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES INDEX
APRIL 9, 2007
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REGULAR SESSION 8:00 P.M.
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
APRIL 9, 2007
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:00 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION 8:00 P.M.
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Carlucci.

I. Salute to Flag

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Koch, Ms. Smith,
Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter, Dr. Goger, Ms. Rudolph,
Mr. Smith

ABSENT: Ms. McGowan, Ms. Woolford

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 – 6:06 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Faculty Dining Room

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss the following: litigation; matters pertaining to specific personnel; 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. Carlsson, seconded by Ms. Stevens, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 6:06 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. Stevens, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 7:30 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the William Annin Middle School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

V. Ridge High School Student Government – 7:32 p.m. – William Annin Middle School Auditorium

VI. Regular Session – Call to Order – 8:05 p.m. – William Annin Media Center

VII. Student Representative’s Report

Student Representative Phil Moroni reported on the upcoming Junior Prom with setup and decorating due to begin this Friday. He updated the board on the progress of “Project Any Soldier” once again thanking ARAMARK for their contribution and assistance. Mr. Moroni stated that the *Ridge Bridge* would contain a list of items requested.

VIII. Business Administrator’s Report

Business Administrator Ronald Smith reported on the adopted budget stating it contained the lowest tax increase in ten years. The budget newsletter will be mailed to all township residents this week. Mr. Smith requested residents to contact him with questions.

IX. Legislative Update

Ms. Carlsson updated the board on three NJ Assembly bills. Bill A5 regards travel for staff and board members. Bill A4 approving the new county superintendent position was signed into law last week. This position will be a three-year political appointment with the assignment of combining municipalities, consolidation of K-8 districts into K-12 and training for all board members. Bill A1 will be signed into law next week. It deals with property tax relief and the 4% cap on the tax levy.

X. Superintendent's Report

1) Ridge High School Forensics Team – Advisor David Yastremski

Ridge High School Principal Frank Howlett introduced David Yastremski the Forensics Team advisor thanking him for the outstanding successes of this team. He commented on the “dynasty” the Forensics Team has become and the significant role Mr. Yastremski has played.

Prior to introducing the students, Mr. Yastremski commented on the last nine years of the Forensics organization and how quickly and successfully it has risen to its current status. 2007 is the sixth consecutive year they have earned the title of State Champions and even with this continued successes several other “firsts” were reached this year. He then introduced the students present and thanked the administration, the Board of Education and especially the parents for their continued support.

2) Supervisor of Social Studies Sean Siet & Technology Manager James Rollo presented an update on technology in Bernards Township. The district is in the midst of an innovative program utilizing new software and hardware while working within the district’s goals and guidelines. Their PowerPoint presentation explained OnCourse, NJN, Lecture 123 and the next generation SnapKast and how classroom teachers are utilizing them. Several examples were shown including moodles and actual lessons. At the end of the presentation an answer to “why” the district must continue to explore advanced technology and incorporate it into the curriculum was given via world-wide statistics and what future technology will mean to the students.

Questions regarding the presentation included: student access to computers outside of school, security of sites, training for teachers, tracking students ability and assistance for those who are having difficulty, Goggle search training, financial resources and maintenance of equipment costs.

XI. Public Forum on Agenda Items

No comments were made.

XII. Board Response

No comments were made.

XIII. Committee Reports

Finance Committee

Chairperson Bill Koch stated that Tuesday, April 17, is the Board election and budget vote.

Personnel Committee

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Bernards Township Board of Education does hereby ratify the settlement in the matter of an employee whose name is on file in the Board office, Docket Number EDU 08704-068, Agency Reference Number 391-10/06, and will await the final determination of the Commissioner of Education.

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. Stevens, Item #1 was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Koch, Ms. Smith, Ms. Stevens, Ms. Winter,
Mr. Carlucci

“Noes” - Mr. Byrne

“Abstain” - None

Policy Committee

No report.

Curriculum Committee

Chairperson Lisa Winter stated the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Friday, April 13.

Community Relations

Chairperson Lisa Winter stated the minutes of the previous meeting would be e-mailed tomorrow. She highlighted a recent meeting with the Township Committee regarding the school board election, shared services, solar energy panels, the access road at Ridge High School, compensatory time for municipal staff for election activities, the status of the siren being moved at the high school, and the logistics and cost of taping Board meetings.

Facility Committee

Chairperson Lou Carlucci stated the next meeting of the committee is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, at 4:00 p.m.

Liaison Reports

Comments were made regarding the BTEF (report to Board in June). Approximately 10 proposals have been received and corporate or foundation grants are being solicited. The organization is seeking additional volunteers. Grants are only available for a specified length of time so they are not suitable for funding positions over several years.

Ms. Winter commented on the 2007 Student Recognition Program sponsored by Somerset County School Boards Association, a program sponsored by Somerset County Educational Services Commission to assist emotionally disturbed students obtain employment and the renewal of the state 3-year grant for the township Municipal Alliance .

XIV. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items

No comments were made.

XV. Board Forum

Ms. Stevens stated that the Forensics Team raised \$4,000+ running the food consignment at the recent Destination Imagination state finals at RHS. Mr. Koch commented on the WAMS Athletic Organization and the middle school track team. Ms. Smith informed the board that she attended a luncheon at the YMCA with senior citizens.

All evening programs in the district will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the future. Discussion followed on a change in start time for future board meetings with the possibility of the executive session, when necessary, beginning at 6:00 p.m. and the public session at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Byrne reviewed information he had sent home in the most recent board packet and Ms. Carlsson commented on the popularity and success of the recent WAMS play.

Noting that the Board would reorganize at its next meeting on April 30, Mr. Carlucci thanked the sitting board for their work and input over the last year.

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Koch, seconded by Ms. Stevens, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

H. Ronald Smith
Interim Board Secretary