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**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION  
BASKING RIDGE, NEW JERSEY  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES INDEX  
NOVEMBER 9, 2009  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 5:30 P.M.  
MEETING WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT GOVERNMENT 6:30 P.M.  
REGULAR SESSION 7:02 P.M.  
WILLIAM ANNIN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

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

**I. Salute to Flag**

**II. Roll Call**

PRESENT: Mr. Byrne, Ms. Carlsson, Mr. Carlucci, Ms. Cwerner, Mr. Koch,  
Ms. McKeon, Ms. McGowan, Ms. Sherwyn, Mr. Wilke

**III. Executive Session – 5:30 p.m. – William Annin Conference Room**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bernards Township Board of Education met in closed session to discuss: negotiations; 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. Carlsson, and approve by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 5:32 p.m.

On motion by Mr. Carlucci, seconded by Ms. Cwerner, and approved by all present, the Board returned to public session at 6:31 p.m.

The Board met with the Ridge High School Student Government beginning at 6:33 p.m.

The Board reconvened the regular meeting in the at 7:02 p.m.

**IV. Meeting with Ridge High School Student Government – 6:30 p.m. – William**

**V. Annin Middle School Auditorium  
Regular Session – Call to Order – 7:00 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. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Goger spoke on her recent experiences at the Blue Ribbon Award Ceremony in Washington, D.C. Ridge High School Principal Frank Howlett and Director of Curriculum Sean Siet accompanied her to the presentation. Ridge High School was the only comprehensive high school in New Jersey this year to receive this distinction. The

criteria was based strictly on academic achievement. While in Washington, Dr. Goger attended several programs presented by schools from across the country and received a flag to fly at the high school signifying it as a Blue Ribbon School.

#### VIII. **Public Forum on Agenda Items**

No comments were made.

#### IX. **Business Administrator's Report**

Business Administrator Nick Markarian presented an energy update, mentioned the principals are compiling a list of capital projects for review by the Finance Committee, and the status of his preliminary budget work.

#### X. **Board Presentation**

1) Board of Education Vice President Susan Carlsson presented a PowerPoint report on the **New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC)** a self assessment program the district will participate in every three years. Areas she reviewed included:

- NJQSAC vs. QAAR
- Areas of review: Instruction & Program, Personnel, Fiscal Management, Operations & Governance
- District review committee and procedures followed
- Process and timeline of monitoring activities
- Examples of indicators and methods utilized in defense of them
- District Performance Review criteria will be posted on website this week along with Ms. Carlsson's presentation

Superintendent Valerie A. Goger reported to the Board on the implementation and dissemination of the Code of Student Conduct.

Questions raised by the Board included:

- Amount of staff time utilized on this project
- 3-year look back to prove meeting student mandates
- Replacing former seven-year monitoring by state & QAAR
- A public reporting of results will be in the spring
- Amount of time the county will be in district (1.5 days plus their desk audit)

## **XI. Committee Reports**

### **Finance Committee**

Finance Chairperson Lou Carlucci stated the Finance Committee is continuing its work on methods of energy savings and meeting with various companies. The committee will meet on Wednesday, November 11.

### **Personnel Committee**

No report.

### **Curriculum Committee**

Chairperson Susan Carlsson stated the committee will meet on Thursday, November 12.

### **Community Relations Committee**

Chairperson Robin McKeon discussed the letter inviting representatives to the January Board meeting. Comments were made regarding the format and question session when the representatives attend.

### **Policy Committee**

Chairperson Bev Cwerner stated the committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, November 11. Ms. Cwerner requested that any comments or concerns regarding upcoming policy approval be directed to her prior to the meeting.

### **Liaison Reports**

Susan Carlsson reported back to the Board on the recent Bernards Township Municipal Alliance meeting where she saw a presentation on a specific program regarding alcohol and drug use geared for athletes and the potential consequences. The Somerset County School Boards Association meeting is scheduled for November 30.

## **XII. Board Forum**

The Board discussed having formal presentations sent to them prior to the meeting. Several comments were made by attendees regarding the New Jersey School Boards convention. The consensus was that the convention was very informative and all Board members were encouraged to attend. Convention dates for next year are October 27 through October 29, 2010.

## **XIII. Public Forum on Other Than Agenda Items**

No comments were made.

**XIV. Adjournment**

On motion by Ms. Carlsson, seconded by Ms. Cwerner, and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Markarian  
Board Secretary