

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

**A. Call to Order**

President Stevinson called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

**B. Open Public Meeting Notice**

*In compliance with the "Open Public Meeting Act of the State of New Jersey" adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Bedminster was provided in the following manner: On May 7, 2020, adequate written notice of this meeting was posted at the bulletin board in the Township Clerk's Office at the Bedminster Township Municipal Building and the Main Office of the Bedminster Township School, mailed to The Courier News, The Bernardsville News, and to all subscribers, and filed with the Township Clerk. Tonight's meeting will be held remotely, with a call in option, and will offer the opportunity for public comment. Please see the District's website home page for information on how the public may participate.*

Ernie Turner read the open public meeting notice.

**C. Pledge of Allegiance**

Ernie Turner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**D. Roll Call**

Yes	Mr. Casey	Yes	Ms. Lamiera	Yes	Mr. Reaves
Yes	Mr. Haggerty	Yes	Ms. Marto	Yes	Mr. Wolkow
Yes	Ms. Johansson	Yes	Ms. Nathans	Yes	Ms. Stevinson

**E. Executive Session – 6:30 p.m.**

- Legal, Non-personnel contract discussion

**Open Public Meeting @ 7:33 p.m.**

**F. Superintendent's Report**

- Thank you: teachers, paraprofessionals, custodial staff, food service, transportation, office support, business office & admin teams - first month a safe environment for all
- Welcome Back, Bulldogs sign, thank you Mrs. Fredella
- District SEL: Partnering - Grace Chapel - holiday projects for those in need- thanks, Mrs. Infante
- Child Find requirements - thanks, Mrs. Zugale
- School Violence Aware. Week, Character Counts- thanks, Mrs. Infante & Ms. Deckhut
- District SEL Goal: BTS-Family Partnership Series Workshop "Tips for Distance Learning" thanks, Mrs. Zugale & Dr. Garcia-Albea
- District SEL Goal: CSE & BTS Committee 'brainstorming for solutions' - thanks, Mr. Swan
- Students back in building -cohorts A & B. Effective Mon, Nov 16, 2020/MP2 return to full day student schedule still 2 days in school, 3 days virtual, early dismissal schedule for Nov 25, 2020. As of now, students will remain virtual on Wednesdays
- ASI - ELA & ASI - Math have begun
- Dr. Elizabeth Omegna - new Middle School Principal
- Thank you - MS Principal Selection Committee: Mrs. Colonel, Mrs. Fredella, Mrs. Johansson, Mrs. Godfrey, Ms. Mancini, Mr. Oliveri, Mrs. Zugale, & Mr. Swan
- Winter sports - not committing to winter sports
  - Middle school - districts in Somerset County not committing to sports yet
  - Updated to follow in the next few weeks
- Retirement of Jo-Anne Magyar

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

- o Was here in 1993 to when the building was dedicated and opened. She worked tirelessly every year to make every school event successful. She is reliable, trustworthy, always goes above and beyond for the Bedminster School community. She will be greatly missed. Congratulations, Jo Anne

**Business Administrator’s Report**

- Mrs. Gillis spoke about what was addressed at the F&F meeting of 10/12/2020
- The additional \$20,596 of Extraordinary Aid received for the 19-20 school year. The new Coronavirus Relief funds from the State of NJ for \$27,392
- Tremco roof report and the free repair to the most serious leaks in the building
- Health Benefits change effective 1/1/2021

**G. Public Questions/Comments**

*Please note that this segment will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. At this point in the meeting, comments from the public will be open to agenda and non-agenda items. Each person is kindly requested to limit their remarks to three (3) minutes. As per Board Policy, all participants must preface comments by first stating his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. Any written statements are to be provided to the Board Secretary, in advance of the Board Meeting, prior to the statement being read at a Board Meeting. As tonight’s meeting is being held virtually, please see the directions on our District’s website which specify the manner in which questions and comments may be communicated to the BoE.*

**H. Approval of Minutes**

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- September 2, 2020 Executive Session Minutes
- September 2, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- September 17, 2020 Executive Session Minutes
- September 17, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve **Items H.** moved by Mr. Haggerty, seconded by Ms. Nathans  
Motion carried as follows: Yes: (9); No: (0); Abstain: (0)

Yes	Mr. Casey	Yes	Ms. Lamiera	Yes	Mr. Reaves
Yes	Mr. Haggerty	Yes	Ms. Marto	Yes	Mr. Wolkow
Yes	Ms. Johansson	Yes	Ms. Nathans	Yes	Ms. Stevinson

**I. Task Groups**

- Negotiations Committee – Jeff Reaves
  - o New Middle School principal
- Somerset Hills School District – Sarah Nathans
  - o Last meeting 9/30
  - o Back to school - kids are happy to be back
  - o Graduate report - 197 graduates
  - o HS replacements - looking for French teacher
- Wellness Committee - Sonia Marto
  - o No new updates
- Technology Committee - Thomas Casey
  - o Happy to see kids in school and working well with virtual learning
  - o Bandwidth expansion

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

- o Focus wireless antennas
- Security/Safety Ad Hoc - Giovanna Lamiera
  - o No updates
- Child Care - Jennifer Johansson
  - o No meetings have been scheduled

**Delegate/Representative Appointments**

- New Jersey School Boards Association - Brian Haggerty/Tom Casey
  - o Mr. Haggerty was not able to participate in last meeting
- Somerset Hills Municipal Alliance
  - o No report
- PTO – Suzie Stevinson
  - o No updates

**J. Business**

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve:

**Memorandum of Agreement with Law Enforcement**

J.1 the following resolution:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bedminster Township Board of Education hereby approves the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Regarding Police Access to School District Security Cameras.

**Maintenance Budget Worksheet-Form M-1**

J.2 the required Annual Maintenance Budget Amount Worksheet (Form M-1) calculation of \$37,638.00 for the 2021-2022 budget year. This calculation establishes the minimum maintenance budget as per state requirements and guidelines.

- Mr. Turner responded to a Board member question about how the calculation is done. He stated that the format has been used for about 25 years with a factor of \$143 sq ft by square footage of the building.

**Comprehensive Maintenance Plan**

J.3 adopt the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year (3) maintenance plans documenting "required" maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

**WHEREAS**, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of Bedminster Township School District are consistent with these requirements, and

**WHEREAS**, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bedminster Township School District hereby authorizes the School Business Administrator to submit the attached 2021-2022 Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the Bedminster Township School District in compliance with the Department of Education requirements.

**Facilities Usage Request**

J.4 the following facility requests:

Organization	Event	Room(s) Requested	Usage date(s) and time(s)
Rite Aid	Flu vaccine	Room 225	1:30pm-4:30pm on 10/15/2020

**Student/Services/Contracts**

J.5 the out of district contract for student #319496 to attend Garden Academy in West Orange, NJ effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 at the total cost of \$125,790.00.

J. agenda items J.1 through J.5

Motion to approve **Items J.** moved by Mr. Haggerty, seconded by Ms. Johansson  
Motion carried as follows: Yes: (9); No: (0); Abstain: (0)

Yes	Mr. Casey	Yes	Ms. Lamiera	Yes	Mr. Reaves
Yes	Mr. Haggerty	Yes	Ms. Marto	Yes	Mr. Wolkow
Yes	Ms. Johansson	Yes	Ms. Nathans	Yes	Ms. Stevinson

**K. FINANCE**

Finance & Facilities Committee Report - Howard Wolkow

- NJ Healthcare plan, COVID funds, Extraordinary funds, roof, UV carts, nurse's suite - old science office, screens proposal
- Superintendent Giordano update - enrollment number
  - BTS 486, BHS 233
  - Last year - BTS 522, BHS 219

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve:

**2020-2021 Financial Reports**

K.1 the Report of the Secretary for August and September 2020 submitted for Board review. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23-A-16.10(c)(3), I, Eulalia Gillis, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that no line item account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations this fiscal year.

the recommendation that the Secretary's Report for August and September 2020 be accepted and filed, and the Board of Education hereby certifies that no major account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(4) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District's financial obligations for the remainder of the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

It is recommended that the Treasurer's Report for August and September 2020 be accepted and filed.

**2020-2021 Invoices-General Agency Account**

K.2 the invoices presented for payment totaling \$1,109,122.02 from the General Agency Account from September 18, 2020 through October 15, 2020.

Fund	Amount
(10) General Fund	\$1,043,000.41
(12) Capital Outlay	\$5,200.00
(20) Special Revenue	\$60,921.61
(30) Capital Projects	\$0
(40) Debt Services	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,109,122.02</b>

**2020-2021 Invoices-Student Activities Account**

K.3 the invoices presented for payment totaling \$0.00 from the Student Activities Account from September 12, 2020 through October 9, 2020.

**2020-2021 Invoices-Food Service Account**

K.4 the invoices presented for payment totaling \$425.00 from the Food Service Account from September 12, 2020 through October 9, 2020.

**2020-2021 Transfers**

K.5 transfers for the 2020-2021 school year totaling \$15,000.00 from September 12, 2020 through October 9, 2020 as per the monthly transfer report.

**Nurse's Office**

K.6 the proposal from Hanna's Mechanical Contractor's, Inc. for repairs to the new Nurse's office (Room 284) at Bedminster School. This is to provide negative air pressure in order to ventilate office and create a more suitable and safer environment to address COVID-19 concerns.

We solicited quotes from five vendors, two of whom declined to submit a quote. The following are the three quotes received.

1. Hanna's Mechanical Contractor's, Inc. \$3,250.00
2. Sunnyfield Corp. \$5,500.00
3. Industrial Cooling Corp. \$5,900.00

Therefore, a contract with Hanna's Mechanical Contractor's, Inc. is hereby awarded.

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

- K.7 Parette Somjen Architects, LLC to prepare specifications for the new Nurse’s office (Room 284) to upgrade the ventilation system in the amount of \$5,350.00

**Mechanical Ventilation**

- K.8 a proposal dated 9/25/2020 for Parette Somjen, LLC in the amount of \$1,900.00 to perform professional services for a preliminary mechanical ventilation analysis in accordance with ASHRAE epidemic task force.
- K. Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve agenda items K.1 through K.8

Motion to approve **Items K.** moved by Ms. Lamiera, seconded by Ms. Marto  
Motion carried as follows: Yes: (9); No: (0); Abstain: (0)

Yes	Mr. Casey	Yes	Ms. Lamiera	Yes	Mr. Reaves
Yes	Mr. Haggerty	Yes	Ms. Marto	Yes	Mr. Wolkow
Yes	Ms. Johansson	Yes	Ms. Nathans	Yes	Ms. Stevinson

**L. PERSONNEL & PROGRAMS**

Programs & Personnel Committee Report– Jennifer Johansson

- Nothing to report
- Welcome to Dr. Omega
  - Dr. Omega thanks BTS community for the opportunity and looking forward to joining the BTS community

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve:

**Revisions/Salary Adjustments**

- L.1 Meredith Valentine from MA Step 16 (\$80,135.00) to MA+30 Step 16 (\$81,855.00) effective September 1, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year per the terms and conditions of the Bedminster Township Board of Education and the BEA contract in effect from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023.

**Retirement**

- L.2 the retirement of Jo-Anne Magyar, Supervisor of Building and Grounds, effective January 1, 2021 and thank you for her dedicated service to the students of Bedminster Township School.
- Brian Haggerty commented - shout out to Mrs. Magyar. She is an amazing worker and is a genuinely nice person and is very dedicated. God bless
  - Suzie Stevinson - Jo Anne will be missed

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

**Workshops**

L.3 the following staff for the workshop listed:

NAME	DATE	TITLE	COST
Edward Billings	10/14/2020-10/16/2020	NJRPA - Playground Safety	\$625.00
Stephen Lemoine	Fall 2020	Structural and Mechanical Systems	\$483.00
	Fall 2020	Information Systems	\$483.00
James Puglia	Fall 2020	Computer Science VEXcode Virtual Robotics Certification training	\$0.00

**Paraprofessional SOA**

L.4 the Statement of Assurance (SOA) regarding the use of Paraprofessional Staff for the 2020-2021 school year.

**New Hire**

L.5 Dr. Elizabeth Omegna as Middle School Principal at the annual salary of \$123,000.00 (prorated) effective on or about December 14, 2020 through June 30, 2021 pursuant to a successful clearance of P.L. 2018, c.5.

L.6 go into Executive Session at 6:30pm at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board on November 19, 2020.

L. Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve agenda item L.1 through L.6

Motion to approve **Items L.** moved by Ms. Stevinson, seconded by Ms. Lamiera  
Motion carried as follows: Yes: (9); No: (0); Abstain: (0)

Yes	Mr. Casey	Yes	Ms. Lamiera	Yes	Mr. Reaves
Yes	Mr. Haggerty	Yes	Ms. Marto	Yes	Mr. Wolkow
Yes	Ms. Johansson	Yes	Ms. Nathans	Yes	Ms. Stevinson

**M. Public Questions/Comments**

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- Suzie Stevinson - distance learning has been going much better this year. Parents and education is going so much better than spring. Thank teachers and staff.

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
October 15, 2020  
7:30 p.m**

**N. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the Public Session at 8:21 p.m. moved by Ms. Johansson, seconded by Mr. Haggerty

Carried as follows: Yes: (9); No: (0); Abstain: (0)

**NEXT MEETING(S) SCHEDULED FOR:**

**November 19, 2020  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:30 PM  
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted,



Eulalia Gillis  
Board Secretary