

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2020
7:30 p.m**

A. Call to Order

President Stevinson called the meeting to order at 7:34 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, Personnel

Open Public Meeting @ 7:34 p.m.

F. Superintendent's Report

- All supplies have been received
- No cases of school transmission
- USDoE anticipates states will administer statewide assessments, required under ESSA
- standardized test results within 60 days - Renaissance assessment results shared from fall 2020 tonight
- screentime update, brought up at the Tech Committee, teachers including reading/brain/recess/snack/stretch breaks & other breaks throughout the day. Please remind your child to have a book daily
- National Education Support Professionals Day, thanks to our support staff
- thanks to three substitute teachers, Mr. Brady, Mr. Zetler & Ms. Apanovich
- keep face coverings over face, - some are dropping the face coverings below nose & be aware of how students present themselves on camera
- If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please communicate with Nurse Michelle,
- Per our local DoH, some positive cases are community exposure, & will not be reported through our chain of communication
- No Winter sports, Mr. Swan will review in the months to come
- Shortage of substitute teachers, nurses, and school bus drivers, temporary increase sub rates during MP2-MP3 for in-person subs, Nurse out one day
- Rumors on one or two teachers - nobody lost their job, some staff take leave, receive accommodations
- Reminder: submit child's immunization records
- Thanks Mr. John Mantz @ Bed DPW - tent use

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- Thanks Mrs. Canninzarro, running BTS BOOK CHAT PART 2
- Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT) Thx Officer Cooper & Ms. Deckhut
- Letter from Mr. Randall Westbrook of FDU thanking Mr. Swan. Thank you, Mr. Swan, for always remaining positive, even in these very difficult times
- Remembering Mr. Mark Biedron - instrumental in bringing sustainability to our community
- Healthy, safe and Happy Thanksgiving - let's continue to keep our community safe by social distancing and limiting our exposure to those around us

Business Administrator's Report

- New HEPA air filters were distributed throughout the classrooms and offices this past month
- Architects have been commissioned to evaluate the building in December
- The alternate health office construction was completed yesterday
- TREMCO completed a free roof patch. No leaks have been reported
- A draft of the audit presented - Valerie Dolan of Nisovoccia at F&F meeting Tuesday

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.

- Theresa Guarriello - has a kindergartener, it is a long day and is an issue for her child
- Anna Spitaleri - were teachers asked their opinions about returning to a full day schedule? Half day schedule was going very well for her children
 - Superintendent Giordano - goal was to return to as much of a normal day as possible
- Nicole Mancini - grade 5 ELA - understands screen time situation, her students are glad that they don't have to rush, we are doing our best, never had to do hybrid crisis teaching, please give us a chance to adapt to this new schedule
- Kori Edwards - thank you teachers for working very hard, has district considered audible books - curriculum based, understands long day is challenging especially for her child. It is a work in progress, long day is taxing on children
- Sonia Marto - speaking as Board Member - decisions are being made very thoughtfully, not carelessly and are what's best for the entire student body. Every child learns differently, can't come up with a plan that will make everyone happy, parents should communicate with teacher to come up with solution to help their child be happy
- Danielle Fredella - her children going in full hybrid days are very happy to be back in school full day, they are learning more than before. If they're not on computer learning they are playing video games or chatting with their friends

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:

- October 15, 2020 Executive Session Minutes
- October 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve **Items H.** moved by Mr. Wolkow, seconded by Ms. Nathans

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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
 - No report
- Somerset Hills School District – Sarah Nathans
 - 2 Board meetings since our last meeting, presentation on ESL, refunding bond for interest savings. Achievement of sports for the Fall, Football win, Soccer 5th in State, Girls Soccer finals are today, senior photos, honors and A level labs have started, 2019 National Merit Honors - 8 winners, HS only virtual learning, winter sports - looking for guidance from NJSIAA, IT administration outsourcing, staffing issues at HS
- Wellness Committee - Sonia Marto
 - No report
- Technology Committee - Thomas Casey
 - Meeting Wednesday, software subscriptions, subscription survey going on, Go Guardian - digital learning software
- Security/Safety Ad Hoc - Giovanna Lamiera
 - Haven't met in a while, Suzie and Giovanna met and discussed some things that should be followed up from last school year, questions were sent to Mr. Swan
- Child Care - Jennifer Johansson
 - Nothing to report, no meetings

Delegate/Representative Appointments

- New Jersey School Boards Association - Brian Haggerty/Tom Casey
 - Virtual meeting on Saturday morning, November 21st, will report next meeting
- Somerset Hills Municipal Alliance
 - No report
- PTO – Giovanna Lamiera
 - Covid forms and Thanksgiving break - Mr. Swan, homeroom parents have been assigned, no gifts to be bought for teachers, gift cards were suggested, no more box tops, Spiritwear - \$95 profit, Spring Fling - somewhere, somehow, no December meeting, new treasurer, need a chairperson for assemblies

J. BUSINESS

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

Policies

J.1 the first reading of the following policies:

Number	Description	Action

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P 1620	Administrative Employment Contracts	R
P 1648	Restart and Recovery Plan	R
P 1648.02	Remote Learning Options for Families	R
P 1648.03	Restart and Recovery Plan - Full-Time Remote Instruction	N
P 2431	Athletic Competition	R
P 5330.05	Seizure Action Plan	N
P 6440	Cooperative Purchasing	R
P 6470.01	Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification	N
P 7440	School District Security	R
P 7450	Property Inventory	R
P 7510	Use of School Facilities	R
P 8420	Emergency and Crisis Situations	R
P 8561	Procurement Procedures for School Nutrition Programs	R

Regulations

J.2 the first reading of the following regulations:

Number	Description	Action
R 2431.1	Emergency Procedures for Sports and Other Athletic Activity	R
R 5330.05	Seizure Action Plan	N
R 6470.01	Electronic Funds Transfer and Claimant Certification	N
R 7440	School District Security	R

2021 Board of Education Meeting Dates

J.3 the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of New Jersey (1975) known and hereinafter designated as the "Open Public Meetings Act" requires notification of meetings of public bodies, as therein defined, in the manner therein set forth;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that for the purpose of compliance with the "Open Public Meetings Act", the Board of Education of the Township of Bedminster hereby makes the following designations:

1. The Bernardsville News and The Courier News are hereby designated as the two (2) newspapers to receive notice of meetings as required by any and all sections of the "Open Public Meetings Act", it appearing that those newspapers are most likely to inform the local public of such meetings, and meet the requirements of NJSA 35:1-2.2.

2. The location for posting of notice of meetings shall be the bulletin board in the Township Clerk's office located in the Township Municipal Building, One Miller Lane, Bedminster, New Jersey, and the Main Office of the Bedminster Township School, 234 Somerville Rd. Bedminster, New Jersey.

3. Announcements will be mailed to any person requesting individual notice of meetings as provided in Section 14 of the "Open Public Meetings Act".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Township of Bedminster, in the County of Somerset, New Jersey, will meet to discuss or act upon public business at 7:30 P.M., with a closed session commencing at 6:30 P.M., unless otherwise noted, on each of the dates set forth below, at the Bedminster Township School, 234 Somerville Rd. Bedminster, New Jersey with the exception of the open public 2021 **Reorganization** meeting which will be held at Bedminster Township School at 6:00 P.M. immediately followed by a regular business meeting. Meetings are typically held on the third Thursday of every month unless noted by the asterisk (*).

Month	Date
January	*January 5, 2021 - Reorganization - Bedminster Township School at 6:00 p.m. immediately followed by a regular business meeting. Action will be taken.
January	January 21, 2021
February	February 18, 2021
March	March 18, 2021 (Budget Adoption)
April	*April 29, 2021 (Budget/Public Hearing)
May	May 20, 2021
June	*June 10, 2021
July	July 15, 2021

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Student Contract

- J.4 the out of district renewal contract for student #120 to attend ECLC of New Jersey, Chatham, NJ for the 2020-2021 school year at the total cost of \$62,022.00 including ESY.
- J. agenda items J.1 through J.4

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

Yes	Mr. Casey	Yes	Ms. Lamiera	Yes	Mr. Reaves
Ye	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

- Met with auditor, discussed last year ending figures, distribute electronic copies, please note - on track to put aside money for tuition bubble, infrared study November 23rd, bat boxes - cub scout - no more bats in hallway, allocated money to the reserves,
 - Brian Haggerty - thanks to the scouts
 - Howard Wolkow - good job on the transfers

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 October 2020 submitted for Board review. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23-A-16.10(c)(3), the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies 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 October 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.

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

2020-2021 Invoices-General Agency Account

- K.2 invoices presented for payment totaling \$1,303,390.83 from the General Agency Account from October 16, 2020 through November 19, 2020.

Fund	Amount
(10) General Fund	\$1,157,568.71
(12) Capital Outlay	\$12,000.00

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(20) Special Revenue	\$133,822.12
(30) Capital Projects	\$0
(40) Debt Services	\$0
Total	\$1,303,390.83

2020-2021 Invoices-Student Activities Account

K.3 invoices presented for payment totaling \$25.00 from the Student Activities Account from October 16, 2020 through November 14, 2020.

2020-2021 Invoices-Food Service Account

K.4 invoices presented for payment totaling \$14,453.28 from the Food Service Account from October 16, 2020 through November 14, 2020.

2020-2021 Transfers

K.5 transfers for the 2020-2021 school year totaling \$23,078.60 from October 16, 2020 through November 14, 2020 as per the monthly transfer report.

K. agenda items K.1 through K.5

Motion to approve **Items K.** moved by Mr. Haggerty, seconded by Mr. Casey
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

- We really are talking about screen time and want the best for the kids, we have to do what is best for the majority of the students, thanks to all the teachers, very hard to get subs - please reach out if someone is interested in subbing, 60 credits needed

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

- L.1 approve Maxim Healthcare Services for ongoing nursing services for up to 10 hours per week for student #289584 for the 2020-2021 school year, at a rate of \$57.00 per hour, for LPN services and \$62.00 per hour for RN services.
- L.2 Donna LaMarca to receive the contractual amount of \$9,375.50 representing payment for 89.5 unused sick days payable upon retirement, on or after October 1, 2020, per the terms and conditions of the applicable employment contract.

Maternity Leave

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- L.3 a maternity leave of absence for Melissa Deegan, 4th Grade Teacher, under the Family and Medical Leave Act to begin, on or before, February 16, 2021 through, on or about, June 30, 2021.

Leave of Absences

- L.4 a leave of absence for teacher Employee # 21731773 for FFCRA for childcare, effective November 16, 2020 through December 31, 2020, as well as approve teacher to take the remainder of a 12 week leave using NJFLA for childcare leave, from January 1, 2021 through February 17, 2021.
- L.5 a leave of absence for teacher Employee# 24976458 for 12 weeks of FMLA for the Serious Condition of a Family Member, effective November 16, 2020 through February 17, 2021.

Bilingual/ESL Program Plan

- L.6 the Bilingual/ESL Three Year Program plan for school years 2020 through 2023.

Substitute Teacher Rates - On-Site Only

- L.7 the following substitute rates for On-Site Only Substitute Teachers, effective November 16, 2020 through April 1, 2021 (Marking Periods 2 and 3):

Years of Service	Number of days in Service	Rate Non-Degree	Rate Degreed, NJ Teacher Certificate
1,2,3	1-10	\$115 per diem	\$120 per diem
1,2,3	11+	\$125 per diem	\$130 per diem
After 3 years	1st day of Service	\$135 per diem	\$150 per diem

- L.8 Ms. Rodriguez to teach a sixth grade class of Spanish during her scheduled Wednesday Prep and will be compensated at the rate of \$35.00 (thirty-five dollars) per forty minute period for that class. Ms. Rodriguez will also do planning for two fifth grade Spanish classes. This planning can be done either during her Prep Periods or outside of her contracted hours. Ms. Rodriguez will be compensated at a rate of \$42.00 (forty-two dollars) per hour up to 3 hours per week.
- L.9 go into Executive Session at 6:30 pm at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board on December 17, 2020.

- L. agenda item L.1 through L.9

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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- Jennifer Holzberger - thank you so much, she felt really part of a communal team, need positivity, loves teaching in school, extra time with students, she doesn't feel so rushed, pluses to having more time with the students, need consistency and are trying to piece it all together, very impressed with what we are doing at Bedminster, should be very proud of what we have accomplished
- Suzie Stevinson - meetings possibility that we may be able to have in person meeting, discussion going forward, staff prefer remain virtual, rules changed yesterday
- Sonia Marto - speaking as a parent - highlights creativity that some teachers have been doing, highlighting 4th grade teachers working hard getting a number of additional students in their class.

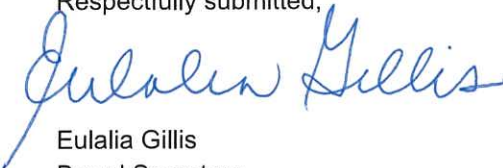
N. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the Public Session at 9:13 p.m. moved by Mr. Haggerty, seconded by Ms. Nathans
Carried as follows: Yes: (9); No: (0); Abstain: (0)

NEXT MEETING(S) SCHEDULED FOR:

**December 17, 2020
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:30 PM
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted,



Eulalia Gillis
Board Secretary

