

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
September 2, 2020
7:30 p.m**

A. Call to Order

President Stevinson called the meeting to order at 7:39 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 August 25, 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

| | | | | | |
|--------|---------------|-----|-------------|-----|---------------|
| Absent | 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 |

Mr. Casey joined the meeting at 7:45pm

E. Executive Session – 6:30 p.m.

- Legal, Personnel, School Re-opening

Open Public Meeting Immediately Following

F. 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.

- At 7:58pm President Stevinson - chat will not be activated, only during open public comment
- Superintendent Giordano -
 - 1st day back teachers and paraprofessionals - busy with trainings and setting up rooms, getting books together for pick up, some have not seen rooms since March, it has not been smooth, warehouse production backlogs on resources
 - Parking lot striping on Friday
 - tiling and paving projects were delayed, several power outages this summer
 - thank our entire office staff, admin team, custodial staff for all of their hard work
 - leak by cafe
- Mr. Wolkow -
 - On 8/25/2020 met with architect
 - Target filtration
 - OSHA
 - 6 feet apart and wear mask

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- NJEA -
 - Education recovery plan MERV13 filters is recommended if doesn't effect the HVAC system
 - DoE maintain filters use as manufacturers recommendation
 - Univents designed for 1" filters
 - We can only get up to a MERV8
 - Ionization units - \$1,000.00 per unit
 - Portable filters into classroom - can bring in mold - due to bringing in more humidity
 - Screens - can also bring the mold issue
- Ms. Kolodziejski - BEA wanted a walkthrough, NJEA consultant was also to join in 9/1/2020 - Monday Superintendent Giordano rescinded - certain restroom vents not working, feels the building is not ready for the staff, professional development could have been done from home, building unwelcoming, opening was rushed
 - BEA communicated 3 options to Superintendent Giordano
 - Giovanna question - we chose 1 of the 3 options - that teachers need to report
- Superintendent Giordano - report about opening of building give me a list of what wasn't prepared, tilers had to come back out
- Ms. Kolodziejski - stuff in hallway, leak in classroom on 1st floor, hallway, mouse in restroom, if staff didn't return this week building would have been in better shape
- \$1.2M bond issue for roof had to be postponed due to Covid pandemic
- Superintendent Giordano - vents on 1st floor were checked and are now working
- Ms. McKeown - bat issue - netting on the outside until after October - bat remediation
- Superintendent Giordano - doors were open during summer camp - mouse could have gotten in
- Ms. Burke - HVAC - architect disinfectant sprayers CDC doesn't recommend limited evidence that they work
- Ms. Newman - teacher assignment changes
 - Superintendent Giordano - commented elementary schedules were finalized, may fluctuate a bit, due to virtual teacher changes
- Ms. Mancini (teacher and resident of Bedminster) - screens to help circulate air flow, will there be midday cleaning when only staff will be in building, building isn't ready due to lack of time and changes in virus, need more thorough cleaning of building, not as clean as used to be, staff bathrooms, hallways with fans blowing, reconsider teachers in building, everything can be done from home

G. Business

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

The Board of Education took no action this evening.

President Stevinson - we are all in this together and should work together for the benefits of all stakeholders. This statement is in response to concerns related to the school re-opening.

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- At 8:35pm President Stevinson - chat will not be commenting only during open public comment
- Dr. Puglia - Ewing Public Schools upgraded to MERV13
- Parents can switch to virtual at any time
- Wickizer - students phased in 9/29 certain grade levels - 9/10 virtual all
- Ms. McKeown - what is holding us back to going virtual? This plan was presented by the teachers
- Ms. Lamiera - union member and wants to go back to work, happy to go back, needs to do for her students, teachers are essential workers, trust staff at her school have been getting building ready due to all the government standards, virtual teaching is not the same
- Ms. Marto - teachers requesting this time in building to adjust to this virtual setting
- Ms. Griffith - thanks to staff for all the hard work done over the summer, what happens if someone does fall oll or passes away, how will we explain to the students
- Ms. Holzberger - spring was a challenge, looks forward to going back to classroom, appreciates the extra time to get used to being, needs to know how students will be changing class, afraid challenges we face got lost tonight in conversation about air filters, reality a lot of little steps to get to where we need to be
- President Stevinson - we are all in this together and should work together for the benefits of all stakeholders

I. Adjournment

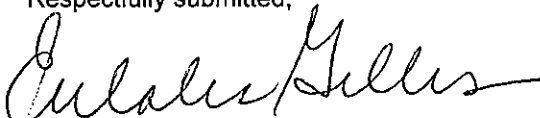
Motion to adjourn the Public Session at 9:18 p.m. moved by Mr. Wolkow, seconded by Ms. Johansson

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

NEXT MEETING(S) SCHEDULED FOR:

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

Respectfully submitted,



Eulalia Gillis
Board Secretary

