

**TOWNSHIP OF BEDMINSTER  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE BUSINESS OF ORGANIZATION  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 5, 2021 - 6:00 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

- (1) Call Meeting to Order Interim Board Secretary E. Gillis  
● Ms. Gillis called the meeting to order at 6:05pm

- (2) Open Public Meetings Act Statements Interim Board Secretary E. Gillis  
● Ms. Gillis read the following:

*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 December 1, 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.*

- Ms. Johansson arrived at 6:05pm.

- (3) Pledge of Allegiance Interim Board Secretary E. Gillis  
● Ms. Gillis led the Pledge of Allegiance

- (4) Appoint Board Secretary Interim Board Secretary E. Gillis  
as Temporary Chair

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bedminster Board of Education appoint Eulalia Gillis, Interim Board Secretary, as the temporary chair of the 2021 Reorganization Meeting.

- (5) Election Results 2020

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Bedminster Board of Education certified the results of the Annual School Board Election held on November 3, 2020, including absentee ballots, for membership to the Board of Education of three (3) persons for three (3) year terms as follows:

- Ms. Gillis read the following election results:

3-Three Year Terms

Giovanna Lamiera	3,045 Votes Cast
Howard Wolkow	2,245 Votes Cast
Stephen Calulo	238 Votes Cast (Write In)

- (6) Oath of Office to New Board Members Interim Board Secretary E. Gillis  
● Ms. Gillis administered the Oath to Ms. Lamiera, Mr. Wolkow, and Mr. Calulo

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- (7) Roll Call Interim Board Secretary E. Gillis

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

- (8) Election of Board President Interim Board Secretary E. Gillis
- (a) Motion to Open the Nominations by Board moved by Ms. Marto, seconded by Mr. Reaves
- (b) Nominations for President
- Mr. Reaves nominates Ms. Stevinson
- (c) Motion to Close the Nominations moved by Ms. Marto, seconded by Mr. Reaves
- (d) Roll Call Vote

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

Ms. Stevinson elected President by majority. Ms. Stevinson accepted the nomination.

- (9) Election of Board Vice President 2021 Board President
- (a) Motion to Open the Nominations by Board moved by Ms. Stevinson, seconded by Ms. Marto
- (b) Nominations for Vice President
- Ms. Stevinson nominates Ms. Johansson
- (c) Motion to Close the Nominations moved by Ms. Stevinson, seconded by Ms. Marto
- (d) Roll Call Vote

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

Ms. Johansson elected Vice-President by majority. Ms. Johansson accepted the nomination.

- (10) Public Comments 2021 Board President
- Members of the Public  
Limited to 3 Minutes
- no comments

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(11) BOE Comments

- Ms. Stevinson - welcome to 2021, lots of challenges in 2020. Have made the best of a bad situation. Let's all work together to make 2021 better than 2020.
- Mr. Wolkow - financial challenges ahead of us but we have a road map. Come out at least financially well through the 2020 Covid crisis.

(12) Action Items

**Policies**

- (a) Move to continue in effect all present regulations, bylaws and policies of the Bedminster Township Board of Education for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Code of Ethics**

- (b) Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education adopt the Code of Ethics as it appears per N.J.S.A. 18A:12-21 et seq.

- I will uphold and enforce all laws and regulations of the State Board of Education, and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and will seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, or social standing.
- I will confine my board action to policy making, planning, and appraisal, and I will help to frame policies and plans only after the board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer the schools, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run.
- I will recognize that authority rests with the board of education and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the board.
- I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools which, if I disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals or the schools. In all other matters, I will provide accurate information and, in concert with my fellow board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
- I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available at the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- I will support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.

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- I will refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.

**2021 Contract – Lead Attorney of Record**

- (c) Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education approve **Dr. Nicholas Celso III, Esq.** of the Busch Law Group, LLC, 450 Main Street, Metuchen, New Jersey, as attorney of record from January 1, 2021 through the January 2022 reorganization meeting at an hourly rate of \$172 for general legal services, special education and construction matters. Work performed by paralegals and law clerks shall be billed at the hourly rate of \$100, as per their Legal Counsel Retainer Agreement dated December 17, 2020.

**2021 Contract – Special Education Attorney of Record**

- (d) Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education approve **Nathanya G. Simon** of the law firm Scarinci Hollenbeck, LLC 1100 Valley Brook Avenue, Lyndhurst, New Jersey as the special education attorney of record from January 1, 2021 through the January 2022 reorganization meeting at an hourly rate of \$175 for special education legal matters. Work performed by Associates shall be billed at the hourly rate of \$165. Work performed by paralegals and law clerks shall be billed at the hourly rate of \$100, as per their Legal Counsel Retainer Agreement dated December 3, 2020.

agenda items 12(a) through 12(d):

Motion to approve **Item 12.** moved by Ms. Stevinson, seconded by Mr. Wolkow  
Motion carried as follows: Yes: (9); No: (0); Abstain: (0)

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

**(13) 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. See guidance under section 2. of this agenda for commenting remotely.*

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(14) Adjournment: Special Meeting For The Business of Organization/ Board of Education Meeting

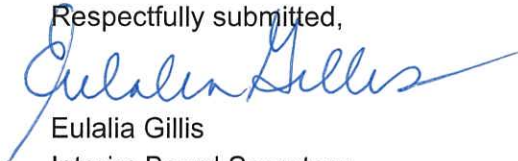
Motion to adjourn the Public Session at 6:29 p.m. moved by Ms. Marto, seconded by Ms. Stevinson

Voice vote: 9 ayes; 0 nays; 0 abstain

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

**January 21, 2021  
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:30 PM  
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7:30 PM**

Respectfully submitted,



Eulalia Gillis  
Interim Board Secretary

