

BORDENTOWN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

+Document Provided  
\*\*Consent Agenda Item

MINUTES - March 1, 2017

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The Conference Meeting of the Board of Education of the Bordentown Regional School District was convened on the above date at 7:00 p.m. with the Board President presiding.

**SUNSHINE LAW STATEMENT**

The Board Secretary read the following statement:  
In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, this is to announce that adequate notice of this meeting was provided in the following manner: Schedule of this meeting was conveyed to the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times on January 5, 2017. The Secretary will enter this public announcement into the minutes of this meeting.

**B. FLAG SALUTE/SILENT REFLECTION**

The Board Secretary led the members of the Board and audience in the salute to the flag and moment of silent reflection.

**C. ROLL CALL**

The following members answered roll call: Mr. Schiano, Mr. Fausti, Mr. Creegan, Ms. Scozzari Mr. Barman, and Mr. Mercantini. ABSENT: Mr. Heberling (Arrived 7:18), Mr. Roselli and Mr. Tyler.

Also attending: Dr. Edward Forsthoffer, Superintendent, and Mr. Eloi Richardson, School Business Administrator.

Staff attending: Melanie Stokes, Daniel Riether, Kathy Creegan, Ann Marie O'Leary, and Michele Enrico.  
Visitors attending: Walter Kosul, Leonard de Groot, Christine Wright, Jill Popko, and Jennifer Kovac.

**D. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION - None**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Bordentown Regional School District ("Board of Education") has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of the Board of Education will reconvene following the end of the closed session, approximately 7:00 pm this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

\_\_\_\_ Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon: \_\_\_\_\_);

\_\_\_\_ Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;

\_\_\_\_ Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of Individual privacy ( \_\_\_\_\_ );

\_\_\_\_ Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract: \_\_\_\_\_);

\_\_\_\_ Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;

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Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer (If pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is entitled: \_\_\_\_\_) (If contract negotiation, the nature of the contract and interested party is \_\_\_\_\_)

Under certain circumstances, if public disclosure of the matter would have a potentially negative impact on the Board of Education's position in the litigation or negotiation, this information may be withheld until such time that the matter is concluded or the circumstances no longer present a potential impact);

Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under *South Jersey Publishing*, 124 N.J. 478, the employee(s) and nature of discussion is \_\_\_\_\_);

Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Board of Education Attorney advises the Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

I, Mr. Eloi Richardson, Board Secretary do hereby certify the above to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Bordentown Regional School District, Board of Education at its meeting held on 1/4/2017.

**E. PRESENTATION/STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

- PMS: Ms. Laney Rossell shared the following event at Peter Muschal: Successful food drive during the month of February; donated to St. Mary's Food Pantry, the Burlington Township Food Pantry, and the High School Key Club who is collecting for child hunger.

**F. PUBLIC FORUM - FOR AGENDA ITEMS** - None

Members of the public are invited to submit comments pertaining to educational matters during the public comment portion of the meeting. The Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, will not entertain comments pertaining to student or personnel matters or matters pertaining to negotiations or litigation and may choose not to respond to any comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting. However, the Board will give all comments appropriate consideration and will refer all complaints to the administration for resolution. Please be aware that all Board employees retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights against defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public. The maximum time per member of the public shall be five minutes. Please state your name and address for the record.

**G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None

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**H. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL (R.C.\*)**

A motion was made by Mr. Schiano, seconded by Ms. Scozzari to approve the following:

1. +Motion to approve Travel/Mileage reimbursement requests ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Item 1):

AYES: Mr. Schiano, Mr. Fausti, Mr. Creegan, Ms. Scozzari, Mr. Barman and Mr. Mercantini. NOES: None. ABSTENTIONS: None.

ABSENT: Mr. Heberling, Mr. Roselli, and Mr. Tyler.

Motion approved by majority.

**I. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Policy Committee Meeting, 2/21/17 - Ms. Sylvia Scozzari, Chair reported working on 1<sup>st</sup> readings of various New Jersey State mandated policies.
2. Finance Committee Meeting, 2/28/17 - Mr. Stephen Heberling, Chair reported on the current development status of the preliminary FY18 budget.

**J. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A motion was made by Mr. Creegan, seconded by Mr. Schiano to approve the following:

1. +Motion to accept HIB Report & Determinations

School	# of Reports	# of HIB
CBS	0	0
PMS	0	0
MIS	0	0
BRMS	0	0
BRHS	1	0
TOTAL:	1	0

**INFORMATION**

+Water Testing Update: March 1, 2017

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Item 1):

AYES: Mr. Heberling (arrived 7:18 PM), Mr. Schiano, Mr. Fausti, Mr. Creegan, Ms. Scozzari, Mr. Barman and Mr. Mercantini. NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Roselli and Mr. Tyler.

Motion approved by majority.

**K. CURRICULUM REPORTS**

A motion was made by Mr. Fausti, seconded by Ms. Scozzari to approve the following:

1. +Motion to approve a field trip for approximately 30 students from BRHS Teens on Fire to Pines Manor in Edison NJ, for a conference, May 16, 2017. There is no cost to the district.
2. Motion to approve the NJSIAA State Wrestling Tournament in Atlantic City, March 3, 2017 through March 5, 2017 for Mr. Matthew Benedetti and Mr. James Gill. The number of wrestlers has yet to be determined. Cost dependent upon the number of qualifying wrestlers. Approximate cost \$1,500.
3. +Motion to approve field trip change for PMS Pre-K to Adventure Aquarium. Originally approved to go to Jenkinson's Aquarium. Total cost per student including transportation is \$22/each.

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ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Items 1-3):

AYES: Mr. Heberling, Mr. Schiano, Mr. Fausti, Mr. Creegan, Ms. Scozzari, Mr. Barman and Mr. Mercantini. NOES: None.  
ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Roselli and Mr. Tyler.  
Motion approved by majority.

**I. PERSONNEL REPORT**

Appointments, Per Superintendent's Recommendation:

Resolution: Criminal History Check

The following staff, positions, and salaries are appointed for emergent hiring pending completion and certification of the State of New Jersey criminal history check. Affidavit(s) is (are) from the applicant(s) attesting to no criminal record are in the Superintendent's possession. Staff to whom this resolution applies are noted in bold print.

A motion was made by Mr. Schiano, seconded by Mr. Heberling to approve the following:

1. Motion to accept resignation from Mr. Michael Esposito from the position of Long Term Leave Substitute English Teacher at BRHS, effective March 23, 2017 or as soon as a replacement is found.
2. Motion to amend leave request from employee # 5337, effective March 27, 2017 through June 20, 2017. Originally approved as effective April 17, 2017 through June 20, 2017.
3. +Motion to approve Mr. Robert Lowrie as a long term leave replacement at BRMS, effective March 20, 2017 through June 20, 2017. Mr. Lowrie will be compensated in accordance with the long term, per diem substitute pay scale.
4. Motion to approve Mr. Donald Matthew an adjustment in salary due to acquiring his boiler license. As per the negotiated agreement, each maintenance personnel will receive a stipend of \$928/year for obtaining their required boilers license.
5. Be it resolved that the commencement of leave of absence requested by employee #4051, effective February 13, 2017 through approximately April 14, 2017 is hereby approved subject to verification of the requested duration of such leave in accordance with the applicable provisions of FMLA and NJFLA and Board Policy 4151.2/4251.2 and further subject to employee's continued payment of all required health care contributions in accordance with Board policy and applicable law.
6. Motion to approve Ms. Nicole Muraski, a graduate student of Rider University, to complete her classroom observation of various special education classrooms during spring of 2017 under the mentorship of Ms. Vanessa Bekarciak, Director of Special Services.
7. Motion to approve Mr. Jason Zablow as the BRHS 2016-17 Assistant JV Baseball Coach, Step 1, with a stipend of \$4,037. This replaces a resignation.
8. Motion to approve Ms. Ashleigh Johnson as the BRHS 2016-17 Assistant JV Softball Coach, Step 1, with a stipend of \$4,037. This replaces a resignation.

INFORMATION

9. +JOB POSTINGS: BRHS English Teacher Leave Replacement - (Repost) MIS Maternity Leave

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Items 1-8):

AYES: Mr. Heberling, Mr. Schiano, Mr. Fausti, Mr. Creegan, Ms. Scozzari, Mr. Barman and Mr. Mercantini. NOES: None.  
ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Roselli and Mr. Tyler.  
Motion approved by majority.

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**M. BUSINESS, FINANCE & OPERATIONS**

A motion was made by Mr. Heberling, seconded by Mr. Fausti to approve the following:

1. Motion to approve one out of district placement to MCSSSD High School, effective January 23, 2017 with a pro-rated tuition of \$50,320.
2. + Motion to enter into a shared services agreement between Bordentown Regional School District ("District") and Bordentown Township ("Township") pursuant to provisions of the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidated Act (N.J.A.S. 40:65-1, et seq) and N.J.A.C. 6A:23-1.1 et seq. for resurfacing the entrance/driveway (aka: H-Drive) to Bordentown Middle School, per Alternative #1 of the "FY2015 NJDOT Municipal Aid, Dunns Mill Road Resurfacing Bid" issued by the Township, at a submitted bid price of \$68,500 for construction costs. The total estimated project cost to the District, inclusive of the submitted bid construction cost, inspection, management, and contingency allowance, is not expected to exceed \$85,625; actual construction is to be coordinated with the end of the District's school year.

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Items 1-2):

AYES: Mr. Heberling, Mr. Schiano, Mr. Fausti, Mr. Creegan, Ms. Scozzari, Mr. Barman and Mr. Mercantini. NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Roselli and Mr. Tyler.

Motion approved by majority.

**N. POLICY**

A motion was made by Mr. Fausti, seconded by Ms. Scozzari to approve the following:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:
  - a. +Motion to amend Policy #2224, Nondiscrimination/Affirmative Action
  - b. +Motion to amend Policy #3570, District Records and Reports
  - c. +Motion to amend Policy #4111, Recruitment, Selection and Hiring
  - d. +Motion to amend Policy #4111.1, Nondiscrimination/Affirmative Action
  - e. +Motion to amend Policy #4112.8, Nepotism
  - f. +Motion to amend Policy #4131, Staff Development; Inservice Education/Visitations/Conferences
  - g. +Motion to amend Policy #4211, Recruitment, Selection and Hiring of Support Staff
  - h. +Motion to amend Policy #4231, Staff Development; Inservice Education/Visitations/Conferences
  - i. +Motion to amend Policy #5114, Suspension and Expulsion
  - j. +Motion to review Policy #5141.22, Medical Marijuana (New Policy)
  - k. +Motion to amend Policy #5145.4, Equal Educational Opportunity
  - l. +Motion to amend Policy #6121, Nondiscrimination/Affirmative Action
  - m. +Motion to amend Policy #6142.2, English as a Second Language; Bilingual Programs

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- n. +Motion to amend Policy #6147, Standards of Proficiency
- o. +Motion to amend Policy #6171.4, Special Education (State mandates adoption of this revised policy by April 7, 2017)

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Item 1):

AYES: Mr. Heberling, Mr. Schiano, Mr. Fausti, Mr. Creegan, Ms. Scozzari, Mr. Barman and Mr. Mercantini. NOES: None.  
ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Roselli and Mr. Tyler.  
Motion approved by majority.

**O. BOARD and PUBLIC FORUM**

Members of the public are invited to submit comments pertaining to educational matters during the public comment portion of this meeting. Please report to the microphone and state your name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board of Education. The board, pursuant to Open Public Meetings Act, will not publicly discuss personnel matters and may choose not to respond to comments made by members of the

public during this portion of the meeting; however, the board will give all comments appropriate consideration and will refer all initial complaints to the administration for resolution.

Please be aware that all Board employees retain the right of privacy and shall retain all rights against defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public. The maximum time per member of the public shall be five minutes. Please state your name and address for the record:

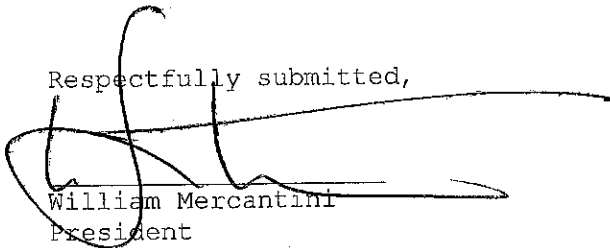
- Jill Popko spoke/commented on the following as Bordentown Township Council liaison to the Board:
  - 1) Finance Committee Report: Availability of budgeted tax rates
  - 2) 2016/17 state aid: Info on what this level could have been to the District under a fully funded State aid formula.
- Jennifer Kovac: Thanked the Board for their response to the lead issue?
- Leonard de Groot: Inquired about the recent water re-testing, particularly evaluating "dead laterals".
- Mr. Kosul: Commented/inquired about the budget process and the water testing report.


**P. NEW BUSINESS - None**

**Q. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Creegan, seconded by Mr. Heberling to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.  
Motion approved by majority.

Respectfully submitted,

  
William Mercantini  
President

  
Eloi Richardson  
Board Secretary