

BORDENTOWN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

+Document Provided  
\*\*Consent Agenda Item

MINUTES - March 21, 2013

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The Budget Meeting of the Board of Education of the Bordentown Regional School District was convened on the above date at 5:30 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 meetings to be held from January 23, 2013 through December 11, 2013 was conveyed to the Burlington County Times, The Register News, and the Trenton Times on January 4, 2013. The change in time for this meeting was conveyed to the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times on March 13, 2013.

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: Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann.  
**ABSENT:** Mr. Creegan (arrived 7:58pm), Mr. Drew (arrived 7:50pm), and Mr. Potts.

**Also attending:** Dr. Constance J. Bauer, Superintendent, Mr. Eloi Richardson, School Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Mr. Cameron Morgan, attorney Parker McCay, and Mr. Harry Chung, attorney Zeller & Wieliczko.

**Staff attending:** Pat Lynch, C. McMillin, Roberta Hance, Anna Swiniuchowski, Doneanne Soult, Louisa Kenny, Joe Sprague, Louise Sullivan, Jeannette McCue, Anthony Rizzo, Rob Walder, Ed Chmiel, Lauren Stern, Joanne Kotelnicki, Jim Lymper, Lisa Sabo, Ray Snook, Dan Riether, Penny McCutcheon, and Chris O'Leary.

**Visitors attending:** Kathy Mascatiello, Kathie Seaman, Howard Zablow, John Moynihan, MARRISA CLADWELL, Sue Hopkins, Bruce & Kathy Hill, Mike Dauber, Melanie Kunkler, Marianne Jackson, and Thomas Fryc.

**D. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION**

Ms. Zablow read the following resolution, seconded by Ms. Gens and unanimously approved at 5:35 p.m.:

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.

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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;

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);

X 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 Tenure Charges);

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 03/21/2013.

The Board returned to open session at 6:45pm.

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**E. PUBLIC FORUM - FOR AGENDA ITEMS**

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.

*Public Hearing on FY 13-14 Budget:*

*Dr. Bauer presented a power point on the FY 2013-14 budget.*

A motion was made by Ms. Gens, seconded by Ms. Goff to approve the following:

1. Motion to suspend the 30 minute total time limit requirements of Policy # 9325.5, Meetings of the Board of Education, for the Budget Hearing Meeting only, to allow for extended time for public discussion on the 2013-2014 budget.

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Item 1):

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Mr. Drew, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.

Motion approved by majority.

Public Comments

- Mr. Heberling had the following comments/inquiries:
  - a. Adequacy spending-Does the State expect the district to spend more
  - b. AP Classes - What is being added?
  - c. Budget Meeting - Inquired if any were held as in the past
  - d. Board given more budget info but not enough information given to the average person. Expressed that the Business Office was gracious to provide information that he requested.
- Mr. Bruce Hill had the following comments:
  - a. Thanked the board for waiving time limit.
  - b. Glad to see children's safety is being taken into concern.
  - c. Concerned that BRSD is ranked 200+/300 in NJ Monthly; questioned how do we improve?
  - d. Commented that solar is not supposed to cost the taxpayers.
  - e. What is administration and instruction as a percentage of total budget? Mr. Richardson provided available information.
  - f. Would like to hear other board members speak for the community.
- Mr. Mike Dauber had the following comments:
  - a. Agreed with Mr. Hill and Mr. Heberling regarding the need for budget workshops, and suggested more budget meetings.
  - b. Thanked the Business Office Mr. Richardson for being helpful.
  - c. Commented that change in tax rates also driving the increase.
  - d. Questions on changes in specific budget lines changes for Improvement of Instruction and Athletics; Dr. Bauer and Mr. Richardson provided information.
  - e. Expressed that the Board is diverting S-RECs revenues to other uses, rather than for Debt Service repayments as was promised to tax payers. Cited \$150K being diverted. In response to inquiry from Mr. Richardson on this amount, Mr. Dauber indicated the \$150.0K reflected estimated savings from using solar and the budgeted \$49.0K in S-RECs revenues.

Board Comments

- Ms. Zablow had the following comments/inquiries:
  - a. Questioned staffing cuts/additions; utility changes; amount budget add backs once State aid was determined. Dr. Bauer and/or Mr. Richardson responded.
  - b. Commented that work shop meetings were only held once in her 6 years on the Board.

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- Ms. Hartmann had the following comments/inquiries:
  - a. Questioned the process in developing the budget, including input from administrators/staff; number of district administrators; areas of budget increases. Dr. Bauer and/or Mr. Richardson responded.
  - b. Inquired on what would happen if the budget was not approved at this hearing. Dr. Bauer indicates among other consequences, the district would not be able to raise tax revenues for the upcoming school year, but she would check with the County Office for other impact should the budget not be approved.
- Ms. Gens indicated that the goal is to support student achievement and that she believes the budget does this; not proud our spending is the lowest among our peers.

F. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION - See Item E

G. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - None

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

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

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

1. \*+Motion to approve Travel/Mileage reimbursement request.
2. \*+Motion to accept HIB Report.

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

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: Mr. Drew.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.

Motion unanimously approved.

J. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

K. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - None

L. PERSONNEL REPORT

A motion was made by Ms. Zablow, seconded by Ms. Goff to approve the following:

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.

\*ALL BREA SALARIES AND STIPENDS WILL BE PAID AT 2011-2012 RATES AND WILL BE ADJUSTED PENDING NEGOTIATIONS\*

1. Motion to approve Ms. Patricia Greaves, a student of Mercer County College, to observe at the Bordentown Regional Middle School on March 22, 2013. She will be observing four teachers over the course of four hours under the supervision of Ms. Yakobosky, Mr. Rivera, Mr. Melber and Mrs. Kohnke.
2. Motion to accept resignation from Ms. Karen Lambiase from the position of Autistic Aide effective March 15, 2013.
3. Motion to approve Mr. Chad Looney temporary change in position from 1:1 aide at BRHS to 1:1 aide in Autism Program at PMS due to current student Mr. Looney supports is temporarily out of school. As there is a change in hours worked, temporary salary will be \$19,833 (32.5 hrs/wk). Current salary is \$21,230 (37.5 hrs/wk) effective March 18, 2013.

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

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Mr. Drew, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.

Motion unanimously approved.

**M. BUSINESS, FINANCE & OPERATIONS**

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

1. +Motion to adopt final budget for FY 2013-14 with the following:

|                            | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Local Tax Levy</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Total General Fund         | \$ 36,025,676 | \$ 25,579,178         |
| Total Special Revenue Fund | \$ 824,706    | n/a                   |
| Total Debt Service Fund    | \$ 3,208,265  | \$ 2,712,123          |
| Totals                     | \$ 40,058,647 | \$ 28,291,301         |

2. Motion to approve one out-of-district placement to Garfield Park Academy with a pro-rated tuition of \$45,900
3. Motion to approve one out-of-district placement to Search day School with a pro-rated tuition of \$53,188 (\$295.49 per diem)
4. +Motion to approve contracting for transcription services at a price estimated not to exceed \$5.50 per page, with the actual costs based on the number of pages per meeting. [As a guide, one hour of meeting equates to between 45 to 60 pages per quotes received.] - **Tabled**

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Item 1):

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: Mr. Drew, Mr. Hartmann, and Ms. Wehrman.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.

Motion approved by majority.

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Items 2-3):

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Mr. Drew, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.

Motion approved by majority.

A motion was made by Ms. Gens, seconded by Ms. Zablow to table Item #4 and refer to policy committee:

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Item 4):

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Mr. Drew, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: None.

ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.

Motion approved by majority.

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**N. POLICY**

A motion was made by Ms. Zablow, seconded by Ms. Gens to approve the following:

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - (revisions on district website, proposed edits are highlighted)
  - a. +Motion to revise Policy # 1230, School Connected Organizations
  - b. +Motion to revise Policy # 6142.10, Technology
  - c. +Motion to revise Policy # 6173, Home Instruction
  - d. +Motion to revise Policy # 9001, District Mission Statement
  - e. +Motion to revise Policy # 9120, Officers & Auxiliary Personnel
  - f. +Motion to revise Policy # 9322, Public and Executive Sessions
2. Motion to adopt the following policies after 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
  - a. Motion to adopt Policy # 1230, School Connected Organizations
  - b. Motion to adopt Policy # 6142.10, Technology
  - c. Motion to adopt Policy # 6173, Home Instruction
  - d. Motion to adopt Policy # 9001, District Mission Statement
  - e. Motion to adopt Policy # 9120, Officers & Auxiliary Personnel
  - f. Motion to adopt Policy # 9322, Public and Executive Sessions

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Items 1a, 1f, 2a, and 2f):

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: Mr. Drew.  
ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.  
Motion approved by majority.

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Items 1b, 1c, 1d, 1e, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e):

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Mr. Drew, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: None.  
ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.  
Motion approved by majority.

**O. CURRICULUM REPORTS**

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

1. +Motion to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Rider University, Big Ideas Learning through Science Practices, for the following five staff members at a cost of \$1,000 (\$200 each):
  - a. BRHS - Terri Smith
  - b. BRMS - Beth Santillo
  - c. MIS - Ann Marie O'Leary
  - d. PMS - Liz Brotherton
  - e. CBS - Donna Sensi

ON A ROLL CALL VOTE (Item 1):

AYES: Mr. Creegan, Mr. Drew, Ms. Gens, Ms. Goff, Mr. Hartmann, Ms. Wehrman, Ms. Zablow, and Ms. Hartmann. NOES: None.  
ABSTENTIONS: None. ABSENT: Mr. Potts.  
Motion approved by majority.

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P. DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS - None

Q. NEW HANOVER REPORT - None

R. BOARD and PUBLIC FORUM

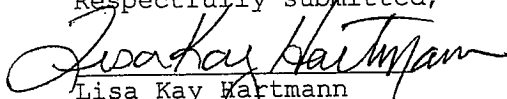
Members of the public are invited to submit comments pertaining to educational matters during the public comment portion of this meeting. Please report to the microphone and state your name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board of Education. The board, pursuant to *Open Public Meetings 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. The board may set time limits for the Public Forum and will let the public know of these restraints at the beginning of each Public Forum session. 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.

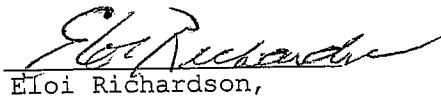
- Mr. Hill  
Expressed having trouble hearing speakers; that the Board members did not have sufficient comments on the budget; that using the 2% to the detriment of the taxpayers
- Ms. Kunkler expressed not understanding how the 2013-14 school calendar was developed; expressed feelings about comments from the Board table that she ascribes as blaming the parents for the school going "downhill".
- Mr. Dauber commented on public access to the HIB report, not putting S-RECs money back to the budget; and that Board should request the Superintendent to revise it.
- Mr. Heberling questioned the attendance of board member, Mr. Potts; commented on the lack of AP classes; questioned the additional revenue line (Under-Adequacy) received; questioned the details for Miscellaneous Revenue.
- Mr. Drew expressed would like Board to revisit the policy on board member's attendance, particularly, criteria for "good cause". Ms. Hartmann responded that current policy follows Statute.

S. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Wehrman, seconded by Mr. Hartmann to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m.  
Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lisa Kay Hartmann  
Board President

  
Eloi Richardson,  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

