

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES
OCTOBER 11, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education was called to order on Thursday, October 11, 2007 at 7:00 PM in the Clausen Administration Building by the Board President, Mr. Beisser.

ROLL CALL

A roll call indicated the presence of the following members:

Mr. Beisser, Dr. Crisonino, Mrs. Kirsch, Mr. Lisk, Mr. Reinstein, Mrs. Schaumberg, Mr. Sincaglia and Mr. Smalley. Also present were Mrs. Rattner, Mrs. Qualshie and Mrs. Felezzola.

STATEMENT

Mr. Beisser read the following statement:

On April 26, 2007, this body by resolution adopted the schedule for this meeting. The time, date and location of this meeting were accurately set forth therein.

On April 30, 2007, a copy of said schedule was posted at the Town Hall, the Public Library, the Railroad Station and the Administration Building. On the same date a copy was mailed to the Independent Press, Courier News, all PTO Presidents and delivered to the BHEA President, all schools, all Supervisors and filed with the Municipal Clerk. The meeting was also announced on the District Sign at Columbia School.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Lisk and seconded by Mrs. Kirsch that the Board of Education adjourn to executive session,

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A.10:4-1 et seq.) expressly provide that a public body may move into Executive Session and exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the public body discusses any of the nine areas set forth in N.J.S.A.10:4-12b; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Heights Board of Education has determined it necessary to move into Executive Session to discuss the following subjects, all of which are included in the aforesaid exceptions:

Personnel, Construction Contracts, and Student Issues.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Berkeley Heights Board of Education that it does hereby move into Executive Session pursuant to N.J.S.A.10:4-12b to discuss the aforesaid matters; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the aforesaid discussions shall be made public either at the Public Meeting following said Executive Session or at such time as any litigated or personnel matters are concluded; or upon conclusion of any negotiations or related discussions; or as otherwise specified; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect pursuant to law.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Mr. Smalley that the Board of Education return to Public Session. Motion carried.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 PM in the Columbia School Cafetorium.

FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Beisser led the Board and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes on the agenda and indicated they should be presented at the next public meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to be presented to the Board at this time.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Wendy Lin and Trevor Hain reported on the following:

They are enjoying the new schedule at the high school.

The one hour Lunch is working well.

The Cross Country team won the conference championship.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Rattner introduced Mrs. Gasparini who, along with Mr. Gazic from Commerce Bank explained the poster and essay contest that was that was jointly sponsored by the schools and the bank. Mrs. Gasparini announced the winners.

Winners of Poster Contest:

First Place – Griffin Spielman

Second Place – Dennis McLaughlin

Third Place – Tyler Wu

Winners of Essay Contest:

First Place – Julia Martin

Second Place – Joshua Stern

Third Place – Owen Faesher

Mrs. Rattner updated the Board on the Facilities Strategic Planning Strategy. Mrs. Rattner reported that the buildings are inspected monthly by the principals and custodians. Mrs. Rattner gave an update on the construction project. Mrs. Rattner reported that the Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) has been submitted and the district is waiting for state approval. The Comprehensive Maintenance Plan will be on the next board meeting agenda.

Mrs. Rattner gave updates on sporting events and commended the Tennis team and Cross-country Track teams for their recent successes. Mrs. Rattner reported on the recent in-service day and the parent workshop offered at Woodruff this past Tuesday.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Sincaglia reported on “The Reality of the School Accountability Act (A5)” workshop held by U.C.S.B.A. He reviewed the new obligations.

The Board discussed.

Mrs. Kirsch reported that the Union County Educational Services Commission has met the enrollment projections.

Mr. Smalley reported that the Environmental commission will work with a group from Governor Livingston High School.

FACILITIES REPORT

Mrs. Felezzola updated the Board on the HVAC Upgrades and the repainting of the Columbia Middle School Gymnasium floor.

Mrs. Felezzola stated that the Facilities Committee met and discussed outstanding issues.

PRELIMINARY CITIZENS HEARING

Dr. Monroe of Winchip Road expressed concerns over the weight of the books that the students must carry back and forth to school and stated that he appreciated the fact that some of the classrooms were equipped with an extra set of books.

It was moved by Mr. Smalley and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the Citizens Hearing be closed.

ADMINISTRATION

The Board reviewed the administration items on the agenda and indicated they should be presented at the next public meeting.

The Board discussed the addition of workshops for Accountability Training to be added to next agenda.

EDUCATION

The Board reviewed the education items on the agenda and indicated they should be presented at the next public meeting.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

The Board reviewed the business and finance items on the agenda and indicated they should be presented at the next public meeting.

FISCAL AGENT

There were no fiscal agent items to be presented to the Board at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Felezzola reported that the November 15, 2007 meeting will be changed to a Combined Conference and Regular Meeting to allow for the acceptance of the NJQSAC report.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Reinstein and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna A. Felezzola
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary