

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
CONFERENCE MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education was called to order on Thursday, January 10, 2008 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, Mr. Sincaglia and Mr. Smalley. Also present were Mrs. Rattner, Mrs. Qualshie and Mrs. Felezzola. Mrs. Schaumberg was absent.

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. Smalley and seconded by Mr. Reinstein 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 recommendations as set forth on the agenda; a student issue; and a legal case involving Mountainside.

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.
Motion carried.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the Board of Education return to Public Session. Motion carried.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:05 PM in the Columbia Middle School Multi Purpose Room.

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

Trevor Hain reported on the following:

- Hockey Team results
- Basketball Team results
- Fencing – 12 fencers will be going to the Jr. Olympics
- Penny Wars
- Senior Trip

Wendy Lin reported on the following:

- Drama Department Activities
- Community Service Activities conducted by high school students

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Rattner introduced Ms. Mary Ann McAdam who, along with students from Governor Livingston gave a presentation on the “Link Crew” – A program aimed at helping students make the transition to Governor Livingston High School.

Mrs. Rattner stated that she received a call from a freshman parent thanking the Board for “Project Connect” and the “Link Crew.”

Mrs. Rattner reviewed the process that will be followed to fill the open principal positions. Ads will be run and meetings will be scheduled with several groups to gather input from the staff, students and parents.

It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Mr. Lisk to accept the Superintendent’s report.

A voice vote indicated unanimous approval.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mrs. Kirsch reported that the last Union County Educational Services Commission meeting had to be rescheduled and the commission is developing its budget and tuition costs for next year.

Mr. Smalley and Mr. Reinstein attended the UCASBO sponsored “A Conversation with the Acting Executive County Superintendent, Dr. Carmen Centuolo” where they discussed sharing services.

Mr. Smalley reported on the Environmental Commission meeting and the Town Council meetings.

Mr. Sincaglia reported that the Finance Committee met three times with administrators to discuss the budget.

Mr. Reinstein reported on the County Superintendent meeting and the Berkeley Heights PTO meeting.

The board discussed the time of the next Facilities Committee and Finance Committee meeting.

FACILITIES REPORT

Mrs. Felezzola updated the Board on the construction project.

ADMINISTRATION

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

EDUCATION

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

BUSINESS

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

FINANCE

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

FISCAL AGENT

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

CITIZENS HEARING

Dr. Cuccioli of Timothy Field Road inquired about tenure rights of the Acting Mountain Park principal.

Mrs. Rattner responded.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Sincaglia asked if there is a mechanism to have public access programs broadcast via Verizon FIOS.

Mrs. Rattner stated that the Comcast agreement is with the town and that we will investigate this.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Mr. Sincaglia that the meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Felezzola
School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary