

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMBINED CONFERENCE &
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
JUNE 4, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER

The Combined Conference & Regular Meeting of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education was called to order on Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 6:30 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. Reinstein, Mr. Sincaglia, Mr. Smalley, Mrs. Walsh and Mrs. Williams. Also present were Mrs. Rattner, Mrs. Qualshie and Mrs. Felezzola.

STATEMENT

Mr. Beisser read the following statement:

On April 30, 2009, this body by resolution adopted the schedule for this meeting. The time, date and location of this meeting were accurately set forth therein.

On May 1, 2009, 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 Middle School.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Mr. Sincaglia 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, Construction Contracts, Employment Contracts and Negotiations.

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 Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Mr. Reinstein that the Board of Education return to Public Session. Motion carried.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:30 PM in the Columbia Middle School Gymnasium.

FLAG SALUTE

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

CORRESPONDENCE

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

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

John McNamara reported on the following:

- Awards Ceremony
- Senior prom and picnic
- Anticipating the yearbooks
- Student Council picnic
- World Language picnic is next week

Wendy Lin reported on the following:

- Interact Club year end activities
- Ice Cream social
- Literary Magazine
- Last coffee house was last week
- Academic Team
- Athletic forms are due for fall sports
- Sports results

Mrs. Rattner announced that Justin Amezquita won the state pole vault championship.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Recognition of Student Achievers from Governor Livingston High School.
- Recognition of 2008-2009 Student Representatives to the Board of Education.

Mrs. Qualshie welcomed all in attendance to be part of the annual recognition of the outstanding Governor Livingston High School students' accomplishments.

Awards were announced by administrators of the Berkeley Heights School Districts and presented by members of the Board of Education to outstanding students from Governor Livingston High School. They were honored for excellence in the areas of academic and athletic achievement, community service and the arts.

Mrs. Rattner congratulated all the recipients and their parents.

Mr. Beisser presented resolutions to student representatives, Wendy Lin and John McNamara.

The Board took a 15 minute recess.

Mrs. Rattner reported on Mountain Park's 50th birthday celebration.

Mrs. Rattner announced that this year's retirees will be honored at the June 18th board meeting.

It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Dr. Crisonino to accept the Superintendent's report.
A voice vote indicated unanimous approval.

LIAISON REPORTS

Mrs. Kirsch announced that Union County Educational Services Commission was asked by the state to take over two schools. Mrs. Kirsch was appointed vice-president of the UCESC.

Ms. Walsh reported that the area PTO is wrapping up things for the end of the year and stated that she received positive feedback on the Governor Livingston portal.

Mr. Beisser reported that he attended the Union County scholars breakfast run by Mrs. Rattner.

FACILITIES REPORT

Mrs. Felezzola reported that two construction projects are being awarded tonight for bathroom upgrades and ceiling upgrades at Governor Livingston.

Mrs. Felezzola stated that the door replacement project is being scheduled.

PRELIMINARY CITIZENS HEARING

Mrs. Mirabella of Timber Drive commented that the district has been successful in retaining students by continuing to offer a wide variety of classes and activities.

ADMINISTRATION

- A. APPROVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS/TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT** It was moved by Mr. Sincaglia and seconded by Mrs. Kirsch that the Board of Education approve professional development days and travel reimbursement for district staff members, as indicated on Attachment A. A roll call indicated unanimous approval.
- B. APPROVE RESOLUTIONS HONORING WENDY LIN AND JOHN MC NAMARA** It was moved by Mr. Sincaglia and seconded by Mrs. Kirsch that the Board of Education approve the Resolutions honoring Wendy Lin and John McNamara of Governor Livingston High School, who have served as Student Representatives to the Board of Education during the 2008-2009 school year (Attachment B). A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

PERSONNEL

- A. SUBSTITUTE/SUPPLEMENTAL PERSONNEL** It was moved by Mrs. Kirsch and seconded by Mrs. Williams that the Board approve the employment of the substitute/supplemental personnel listed below for the 2008-2009 school year:

Teacher Aides

Alarcon, Patricia
Kearny, NJ

Aronow, Maureen
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Floyd, Nancy
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Germansky, Shayna
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Murray, Lisa
Summit, NJ

Rodriguez, Aileen
Berkeley Heights, NJ

Secretary
Elmi, Erica
Berkeley Heights, NJ

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- B. APPROVE SUMMER GUIDANCE EMPLOYMENT** It was moved by Mr. Smalley and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the Board of Education approve the employment of the following Governor Livingston High School Guidance Counselors during the summer months of 2009, as indicated, for the purpose of registering new students, scheduling, and performing other guidance-related functions. Each counselor will be paid at the per-diem rate of his/her 2009-2010 annual salary for this work:

Christopher Coughlin – 3 days

Carolyn Dennerlein – 3 days

Marissa Gold – 3 days

Michelle Morin – 3 days

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- C. APPROVE SUMMER WEIGHT TRAINING PERSONNEL** It was moved by Mr. Smalley and seconded by Dr. Crisonino that the Board of Education approve the employment of the following district staff members as supervisors in the Governor Livingston High School summer weight training program for 2009 at the stipend of \$947 each: Gregory Dunkerton, Daniel Hewette-Guyton, John Mahon, Jeffrey Marretta. (This is the 2008-2009 stipend figure for this position; the actual stipend figure for this assignment will be recommended for approval when a new negotiated Agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association is approved and new extra-curricular activities stipends are established.)
A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

BUSINESS

- A. APPROVE TUITION RATES** It was moved by Mrs. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Smalley that the Board of Education accept 2006-2007 certified tuition rates form the New Jersey Department of Education as listed below:

PreSchool/Kdg	\$8,256	Grades 9-12	\$12,400
Grades 1-5	10,982	Pre-K Disabilities	66,038
Grades 6-8	11,300		

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- B. AUTHORIZING AGREEMENT FOR CERTAIN LEGAL SERVICES** It was moved by Mrs. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Smalley that the Board of Education approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, there exists a need for specialized legal services in connection with labor negotiations by The Board of Education of the Township of Berkeley Heights in the County of Union, a body of the corporate of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, such special legal services can be provided the law firm of Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, P.C., Westfield, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for this purpose;

1. The law firm of Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, P.C., Westfield, New Jersey is hereby retained to provide specialized legal services necessary in connection with labor negotiations.
 2. The Contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “Professional Service” in accordance with the Public School Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-5(a)(1), because it is for services performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession.
 3. A copy of this resolution as well as the Contract shall be placed on file with the Secretary of the Board.
 4. A notice in accordance with Public School Contracts Law of the State of New Jersey shall be published in The Courier-News.
- A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Berkeley Heights Board of Education approves the contract with Lindabury, McCormick, Estabrook & Cooper, P.C. for legal services for labor negotiations at a rate of \$160.00 per hour, not to exceed \$7,500.00.

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- C. CEILING UPGRADES AT GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL** It was moved by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Smalley that the Board of Education award, subject to attorney review, a contract to W.D. Snyder for the base bid price of \$219,000.00 to provide Ceiling Upgrades at Governor Livingston High School.

Explanatory Note: Bids were opened on May 27, 2009, at 10:00 AM. Ten additional bids were received as follows:

C&E Contracting	\$239,000	Apex Enterprises	\$267,000
Grafas Painting	239,000	Pakis Construction	278,100
Fine Wall Corp	246,300	McCann Construction	283,000
Oradell Constr.	254,400	CV Electrical	294,000
Desapia Constr.	259,760	Louis Gargiulo Constr.	321,000

The attorney is reviewing the bid documents.

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- D. TOILET UPGRADES AT GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL** It was moved by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Smalley that the Board of Education award, subject to attorney review, a contract to Altec Building Systems for the base bid price of \$217,691.00 and an alternate bid of \$105,900.00 for a total bid of \$323,591.00 to provide Toilet Upgrades at Governor Livingston High School.

Explanatory Note: Bids were opened on May 27, 2009, at 11:00 AM. Eleven additional bids were received as follows:

	Base Bid	Alternate Bid	Total
Grafas Painting	\$229,000	\$115,000	\$344,000
Louis Gargiulo Constr	237,000	114,000	351,000
Alltec Inc.	249,994	129,724	379,718
C&E Contracting	263,000	124,000	387,000
Desapia Constr.	283,860	131,750	415,610
Pakis Construction	288,900	134,800	423,700
Salazar & Associates	296,000	152,000	448,000
W.D. Snyder	298,000	160,000	458,000
T.M. Brennan	332,000	128,000	460,000
Apex Enterprises	317,000	169,000	486,000
CV Electrical	378,000	191,000	569,000

The attorney is reviewing the bid documents.

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- E. APPROVE PURCHASE OF TRUCK** It was moved by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Smalley that the Board of Education approve the purchase of a Ford Super Duty F350 truck with plow and towing package for \$32,342.09 through the Morris County Cooperative Purchasing Council.

A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

- F. ACCEPT DONATION** It was moved by Ms. Walsh and seconded by Mr. Smalley that the Board of Education accept the donation from Mrs. Marie D’Innocenzio of a used guitar and stand to be used by the district’s music department.
A roll call indicated unanimous approval.

FINAL CITIZENS HEARING

There was no one who wished to be heard.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Rattner commented on the status of the consolidation initiative reporting that 10 initial pilot studies will be done by the state.

Mrs. Kirsch stated that legislation is being presented to move crossing guards from the town to the school budgets.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna A. Felezzola
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary