

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2025
7:00 p.m.**

A. Call to Order 5:14 P.M.

B. Open Public Meeting Notice

*In compliance with the “Open Public Meeting Act of the State of New Jersey” adequate notice of this meeting of the Board of Education of the Township of Bedminster was provided in the following manner: On January 23, 2025, written notice of this meeting was published in *The Courier News*, *The Bernardsville News*, and to all subscribers. This notice was posted on the bulletin board in the Township Clerk’s Office at the Bedminster Township Municipal Building and the School’s Main Office and filed with the Township Clerk.*

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Roll Call

Board Members	Present	Absent
Ms. Anderson	X Arrived 5:35 P.M.	
Ms. Gomez	X	
Mr. Mabry	X	
Ms. Nathans	X	
Ms. Segal	X	
Ms. Stevinson		X
Mr. Wickizer	X	

E. Ethics and CSA Evaluation Training, Open to Public, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Closed Executive Session Meeting – 6:30 -7:00 p.m. Open Public Meeting 7:00 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bedminster Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss item(s) a, g, and h below, which fall within an exception of our open meeting policy and permit the Board to have a private discussion, since it deals with specific exceptions contained in N.J.S.A.10:4-12b. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule:

- a. Individual privacy - no HIB(s) (1 predetermination)
- b. Collective bargaining agreements
- c. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- d. Investment of public funds of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- e. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- f. Pending or anticipated litigation
- g. Attorney-client privilege
- h. Personnel - employment matters affecting a specific prospective or current employee

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Open Public Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

F. Superintendent's Report

- Hello and thank you for joining us this evening, revised voting boxes on the agenda
- Enrollment - no HIB(s), 1 predetermination
- Safety & security measures: Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE) process in place
- SHSD/BTS School Regionalization Feasibility study grant application is being processed
- MLL testing begins 3/3
- Wellness Committee students presented to all K-8
- Wellness students "Cupid Crew" Valentine Cards
- Thanks, township & police - Class III SLEO shared agreement & job description, posted
- NJQSAC committee: Ms. Thomas/Cere/Gurzakovic/Segal/full administrative team
- Thank you, Ms. Segal, chosen panelist for County Educator of the Year process
- Not enough players for baseball or LAX this spring, per the Athletic Coordinator
- Thanks, Patty Rees, NJSBA, for tonight's annual BoE ethics and CSA evaluation training
- Thanks to our parents for their input in the annual parent survey for district goals

Business Administrator's Report

- Currently finishing the budget preparation and budget presentation.
- Received notification from the State to expect a 3% reduction in State Aid for the 2025-2026 school year.
- J.5 Additionally transportation/tuition costs for a student transferring to a different program and a correction to Saint Abraham the per diem amount is \$207 and the total cost should not exceed \$19,044.00.
- K6 Approval of the 2 bids for the ROD grants for HVAC projects. We anticipate that they will hopefully start once the school year is finished.

G. Public Questions/Comments - no comments.

Please note that this segment will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. At this point in the meeting, comments from the public will be open to agenda items only. Each person is kindly requested to limit their remarks to three (3) minutes. As per Board Policy, all participants must preface comments by first stating his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. Any written statements are to be provided to the Board Secretary, in advance of the Board Meeting, prior to the statement being read at a Board Meeting.

H. Approval of Minutes

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the minutes of the following meetings:

- January 16, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- January 16, 2025 Executive Meeting Minutes

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Introduced	Seconded	Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
	X	Ms. Anderson	X			
		Ms. Gomez	X			
		Mr. Mabry	X			
		Ms. Nathans	X			
		Ms. Segal	X Reg.		Exec.	
		Ms. Stevinson				X
X		Mr. Wickizer	X			

I. Task Groups

Negotiations Committee - N/A

Somerset Hills School District - Gaby Gomez

- Crimson HS newspaper top 20 in the country
- Pinnacle literary magazine: 1st Place with special Merit
- Legally Blonde (Bernards HS play) - March 7th, 8th, and 9th
- Wrestling team: 2nd at the Irvington invitational tournament.
- Intergenerational prom 2025
- Emphasis on Immigration, ICE-safety protocols
- Alignment on the Math curriculum and requirements for placement
- Olcott lights installation approved
- Survey for cellphone use in school

Technology Representative - Gabriel Wickizer - no report

Security/Safety Ad Hoc Representative - Patricia Segal - no report

Child Care - Laurie Anderson - no report

Delegate/Representative Appointments

New Jersey School Boards Association - Marshall Mabry

- School Board NJSBA Report Outline - School Public Relations Forum, Equity Expo, Virtual Spring Conf
- 29 “Recommendations to Help Career-Focused Learners”
- NJSBA staff for an interactive webinar
- NJSBA Committee on Educational Opportunities for the Career-Focused Leader

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- Issues: Transgender, School Bus Safety, School District Going Broke, Election Laws, Dept of Education, Murphy pushes for phone-free schools, State Aid, Diversity
 - Awards and Ceremonies - CTE Scholar Award Program, 2025 Exemplary Educator Recognition Program, Innovations in Special Education Awards 2025
 - Tools NJSBA Salary Guide Development Service Takes Some Labor Out of Labor Relations
 - Upcoming Events - Annual Women’s Leadership Conference, Somerset County Hybrid Meeting
- PTO - Gaby Gomez and Gabriel Wickizer
- Spring Fling needs volunteers - Tickets are for sale
 - March 21, 2025 - 8th Grade vs. faculty basketball game

BUSINESS

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve:

Semi Waiver

J.1 WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2025-2026 budget year, and
 WHEREAS, the Bedminster Township School District desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having forty (40) or fewer Medicaid-eligible Special Education students for the 2025-2026 budget year, and
 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bedminster Board of Education hereby authorizes the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Somerset an appropriate waiver of the requirements of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-5.3 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Facilities Use Requests

J.2

Organization	Event	Room(s) Requested	Usage date(s)
PTO	Assembly - Civil Rights Movement Dance and the Principles of Hip Hop	Cafetorium	02/2025
	Family Science Night	Cafetorium, Gym	05/2025
Bedminster Recreation	Summer Camp Staff Orientation and Set-up	Cafetorium, Gym, Vocal & Inst., Music, Art, Faculty	06/27/2025

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Bedminster Recreation	Summer Camp Programs	Cafetorium, Gym, Vocal & Inst., Music, Art, Faculty	06/30/2025 - 08/15/2025
Bedminster Recreation	Adult Indoor Volleyball	Gym	03/12, 03/19, 03/26/2025 04/2, 04/9, 04/16, 04/30/2025 05/7, 05/14, 05/21/2025
8th Grade	8th Grade vs. Faculty Basketball Game	Gym, Cafetorium	03/21/2025

Donation

J.3 Donation of a refrigerator from Patrick McNamara for Science purposes and will be labeled appropriately.

Class III Special Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) Agreement

J.4 SLEO Officer Agreement C2024-0337 between the Township of Bedminster and Bedminster Township Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year.

Contracts

J.5 Pursuant to PL 2015, Chapter 47, the Bedminster Board of Education intends to renew, award, or permit to expire the following contracts previously awarded by the Board of Education. These contracts are, have been, and will continue to be in full compliance with all state and federal statutes and regulations; in particular, New Jersey State Title 18A:18. *et sec*, New Jersey Administrative Code Title 6A:23, and Federal Uniform Administrative Requirements 2CFR, Part 200. The specific terms of each of these contracts will be detailed in the resolution as the board takes official action.

Company	Rate	Comments
Able Transportation	\$926.00 per diem	Revised out-of-district special needs Transportation for student #289584
Saint Abraham, LLC through Somerset County ESC	Per diem amount not to exceed \$207	Transportation of student #7903691386 until no later than 6/18/2025
Somerset Secondary Academy Alternative	\$5,998.00 per month February through June, 2025	Tuition for student #269793

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Academic Program		
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Educational Coaching Services

J.6 Educere as a vendor to provide Educational coaching services to student #269793 - 5 courses per week from 01/15/2025 through 02/16/2025.

Patty Segal - Bridge between placement.

Psychological Evaluation

J.7 Center for Behavioral Health, MD PA, Rajeswari Muthuswamy, MD for a one-time psychological evaluation of student #269793 in the amount of \$575.00.

Policies

J.8 the first reading of the following policy:

Number	Description	Action
P 5516	Use of Electronic Communication Devices	R

*A- Abolished; N- New; R- Revised

Regulations

J.9 the first reading of the following regulation:

Number	Description	Action
R 5516	Use of Electronic Communication Devices	N

*Postponed until a later date A- Abolished; N- New; R- Revised

Policies

J.10 the second reading of the following policy:

Number	Description	Action
P 5111	Eligibility of Resident/Nonresident Students (M)	R
P 5512	Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (M)	R
P 5533	Student Smoking (M)	R
P 5701	Academic Integrity	R
P 5710	Student Grievance	R
P 7441	Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings and On School Grounds (M)	R

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P 8500	Food Services (M)	R
P 9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)	R

*A- Abolished; N- New; R- Revised

Regulations

J.11 the second reading of the following regulation:

Number	Description	Action
R 5533	Student Smoking	R
R 7441	Electronic Surveillance In School Buildings and On School Grounds (M)	R
R 9320	Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (M)	R

*A- Abolished; N- New; R- Revised

J. agenda items J.1 through J.11

Introduced	Seconded	Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
		Ms. Anderson	X			
	X	Ms. Gomez	X			
		Mr. Mabry	X			
		Ms. Nathans	X			
X		Ms. Segal	X			
		Ms. Stevinson				X
		Mr. Wickizer	X			

FINANCE

Finance & Facilities Committee Report - Gabriel Wickizer

- ROD Grants - move forward with the bid award. Tree removal completed 2/12/25.

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve:

2024-2025 Financial Reports

K.1 the Report of the Secretary for January 2025 submitted for Board review. As required by N.J.A.C.

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6A:23-A-16.10(c)(3), I, Eulalia Gillis, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certify that no line item account has been over-expended and sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations this fiscal year.

the recommendation that the Secretary’s Report for January 2025 be accepted and filed, and the Board of Education hereby certifies that no major account has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-16.10(c)(4) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the 2024-2025 fiscal year.

It is recommended that the Treasurer’s Report for January, 2025 be accepted and filed.

2024-2025 Transfers

K.2 transfers for the 2024-2025 school year totaling \$ 397,229.79 from January 1, 2025 through January 31, 2025.

2024-2025 Invoices-General Agency Account

K.3 invoices presented for payment totaling \$1,791,902.21 from the General Agency Account from January 17, 2025 through February 20, 2025.

Fund	Amount
(10) General Fund	1,758,906.40
(12) Capital Outlay	1,463.58
(20) Special Revenue	31,532.23
(30) Capital Projects	
(40) Debt Services	
Total	1,791,902.21

2024-2025 Invoices-Student Activities Account

K.4 invoices presented for payment totaling \$ 8,043.27 from the Student Activities Account from January 17, 2025 through February 20, 2025.

2024-2025 Invoices-Food Service Account

K.5 invoices presented for payment totaling \$ 53,485.27 from the Food Service Account from January 17, 2025 through February 20, 2025.

ROD Grant Bid Approval

K.6 bid for HVAC Chiller Rod Grant #G5-6955 from Centralpack Engineering Corp. in the amount of \$1,363,527,00 and the bid for HVAC RTU replacement Rod Grant #G5-6956 from T.M. Brennan Service, Inc. in the amount of \$1,296,000.00.

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K.

Introduced	Seconded	Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
		Ms. Anderson	X			
		Ms. Gomez	X			
		Mr. Mabry	X			
		Ms. Nathans	X			
	X	Ms. Segal	X			
		Ms. Stevinson				X
X		Mr. Wickizer	X			

PERSONNEL & PROGRAMS

Programs & Personnel Committee Report - Suzie Stevinson

- Gaby Gomez (reporting for Ms. Stevinson) met on 2/12, reviewed science curriculum and math criteria, and reviewed all L items.

Move that the Bedminster Township Board of Education, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve:

Workshop(s)/Site Visit(s)

L.1 the following staff for the workshop(s)/site visit(s) listed:

Name	Date	Title	Cost
Karna Johnsen	2/7/2025	The Process of Scheduling - Genesis	\$0.00 Registration; \$0.00 Mileage
Jennifer Giordano	3/03/2025	PERC - Public Employment Relations Commission - Trenton, NJ	\$0.00 Registration \$34.78 Mileage
Nicole Mancini	3/11/2025	NJECC Annual NJ Statewide EducationalTechnology Conference	\$0.00 Registration \$32.90 Mileage

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Gabriella Gomez	3/21/2025	NJSBA's Women's Leadership Conference, Mercer County College, Princeton Junction, NJ 08559	\$119.00 Registration \$0.00 Mileage
Corby Swan	4/2/2025	IXL Live for Administrators - Montclair, NJ	\$179.00 Registration \$25.00 Parking \$32.90 Mileage
Lauren Zugale	4/2/2025	IXL Live for Administrators - Montclair, NJ	\$179.00 Registration \$25.00 Parking \$27.73 Mileage
Marguerite Colonel	4/2/2025	Provisional Educator Process Virtual Training Session for School District Certification Staff	\$0.00 Registration \$0.00 Mileage

2024-2025 Stipends for Additional Hours

- L.2 the following stipends being offered for the 2024-2025 school year are part of the negotiated contract between the Bedminster Township Board of Education and the Bedminster BEA contract, in effect from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027, and within the terms and conditions of Stipends - Schedule A, Stipends - Schedule B, Stipends - Schedule C* (*C3 and C4 - not all staff being approved will be needed for all on-site or off-site duties) as per the Bedminster Township Board of Education and the Bedminster BEA Association Tentative Agreements:

BEDMINSTER SCHOOL 2024-2025 EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES		
Activity Title	Last Name of Staff Member	Stipend - Schedule
Ski Club Monitor	Alfone	Schedule "A" - 20 additional hours
Ski Club Monitor	O'Connell	Schedule "A" - 20 additional hours
Ski Club Advisor	Notte	Schedule "A" - 20 additional hours
Ski Club Advisor	Thomas	Schedule "A" - 20 additional hours

Somerset Hills Municipal Alliance/Youth Services Be-Well

- L.3 the following staff for the Municipal Alliance Be-Well funded stipend positions for the 2024-2025 school year:

Name of Staff Member(s)	Individual Stipend Amount
Ashley Isello	\$1,000 Spring 2025; \$1,000.00 Winter 2025
Melissa Skiba	\$1,000 Spring 2025; \$1,000.00 Winter 2025

Trips

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L.4 the following class/field trips:

Grade	Trip/Location	Date
Grade 8	Hershey Park, Hershey, Pennsylvania	6/2025
Grade 6	NJ School of Conservation	5/2025

Teacher Training

L.5 Jen Cerra from R.E.A.D. Intervention to provide training throughout the 2024-2025 school year for elementary general education and special education teachers for the Sound Start Literacy Program.

New Hires(s)

L.6 the following newly hired staff per the provisions of the Bedminster Education Association contract in effect from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027, pursuant to a successful clearance of P.L. 2018, c.5 and proof of fingerprinting:

Name	Position	Salary	Anticipated start date
Hannah Fay	Leave Replacement Paraprofessional	\$25,550.87 Prorated	3/7/2025

Resignation(s)

L.7 the following resignation(s):

Name	Position	Reason	Effective Date(s)
Hannah Scansaroli	Teacher (PreK Disabled)	Resignation	April 12, 2025

Leave of Absence

L.8 unpaid leave of absence for #B0001020 from January 30, 2025 - March 3, 2025.

L.9 the Bedminster Township Board of Education to go into Executive Session at 6:30 pm at the next regularly scheduled meeting on March 13, 2025.

L. agenda item L.1 through L.9

Introduced	Seconded	Board Members	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
X		Ms. Anderson	X			
		Ms. Gomez	X		L1	
		Mr. Mabry	X			
		Ms. Nathans	X			

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	X	Ms. Segal	X			
		Ms. Stevinson				X
		Mr. Wickizer	X			

Public Questions/Comments

- Ms. Najeeb, 15 Smokerise Lane has one child in BTS. Glad to come to the meeting and will continue to come in the future to learn what is going on at BTS.

Please note that this segment will be limited to thirty (30) minutes. At this point in the meeting, comments from the public will be open to agenda and non-agenda items. Each person is kindly requested to limit their remarks to three (3) minutes. As per Board Policy, all participants must preface comments by first stating his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate. Any written statements are to be provided to the Board Secretary, in advance of the Board Meeting, prior to the statement being read at a Board Meeting.

M. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn the public session at 7:49 p.m. Moved by Mr. Wickizer, second by Ms. Segal

Carried as follows: Yes: (6); No: (0); Abstain: (0); Absent (1)

NEXT MEETING(S) SCHEDULED FOR:

**March 13, 2025
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:30 PM
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7:00 PM**