

BERLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

West Berlin, New Jersey

March 21, 2013 Public Hearing Minutes

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

March 21, 2013

HUSTER ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING – 7PM

Meeting called to order and flag salute by Deanna Reilly at 7:01pm.

Roll Call

Linda Davis	<u>absent</u>
Cynthia Mozee	<u>present</u>
Jocelyn Lewis	<u>present</u>
Melanie Middleman	<u>present</u>
Keith Jones	<u>arrived at 7:19pm</u>
Cecil Rodrigues	<u>present</u>
Deanna Reilly, <i>Vice President</i>	<u>present</u>
Brian Davis	<u>present</u>
Mary Williams, <i>President</i>	<u>absent</u>
<i>Dr. Leonard D. Fitts, Interim Superintendent</i>	<u>present</u>
<i>Megan Stoddart, Business Administrator</i>	<u>present</u>
<i>Charles Rizzi, Board Solicitor</i>	<u>present</u>

This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the regulation of the New Jersey Sunshine Laws. Public notice of these meetings will be placed in the Courier Post and The Central Record posted at the Huster Administrative Building, Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School, John F. Kennedy Elementary School, and the Berlin Township Municipal Building. Unless otherwise advertised, the meetings are held in the Huster Administration Building, 225 Grove Avenue, West Berlin. They begin at 6:45 PM with an Executive Session, which is closed to the public, and reconvene at 7:30 PM, during which public input is permitted and encouraged.

Laptops being used by Board members are property of the school district. These laptops were purchased for and are used on a daily basis by the district's students. After Board meetings, these computers are returned to the schools for student use.

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March 21, 2013 Public Hearing Minutes

“Educating Today for Tomorrow’s Success”

DISTRICT & BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS

2011-2012

DISTRICT

1. Supervise the final stages of the construction project improving our facilities’ deficiencies and renovation needs.
2. Focus on maintaining and improving district programs and curriculum offerings in order to retain our current students and attract students from other communities through the school choice program.
3. Maintain a strong focus on and conviction to improving student performance, as measured in various ways, in the belief all students can learn and achieve at high levels.

BOARD GOALS

1. Increase the amount of communication with the superintendent in order to establish more input on decision making.
2. Develop and implement processes to engage and expand community involvement.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The slogan of the Berlin Township School District of “Educating Today for Tomorrow’s Success” is meant to focus the educational community on the broad goal of giving ALL of our children the necessary skills to be successful in all future endeavors. Student achievement is the major priority; the district prides itself on its creative approach to learning and its emphasis upon helping each student to discover his or her potential. Teachers use a variety of teaching methods to reach students with a wide range of abilities. Student engagement as volunteers in the learning process is our primary focus. It is our responsibility to create structures and systems where students are totally engaged in the instruction, which will then leads to deeper learning and understanding.

The Berlin Township School District commits itself to all children by creating a standards-based school district in which all students receive the very best educational opportunities possible. Each and every student will surpass the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards. To achieve this, the members of the district will focus on:

- Establishing high standards of excellence for both staff and students
- Communicating openly and frequently within the district and with the community to foster a trusting relationship
- Ensuring a safe and orderly environment for staff and students
- Recognizing that a school district serves as a role model and has the responsibility to encourage high quality character behavior

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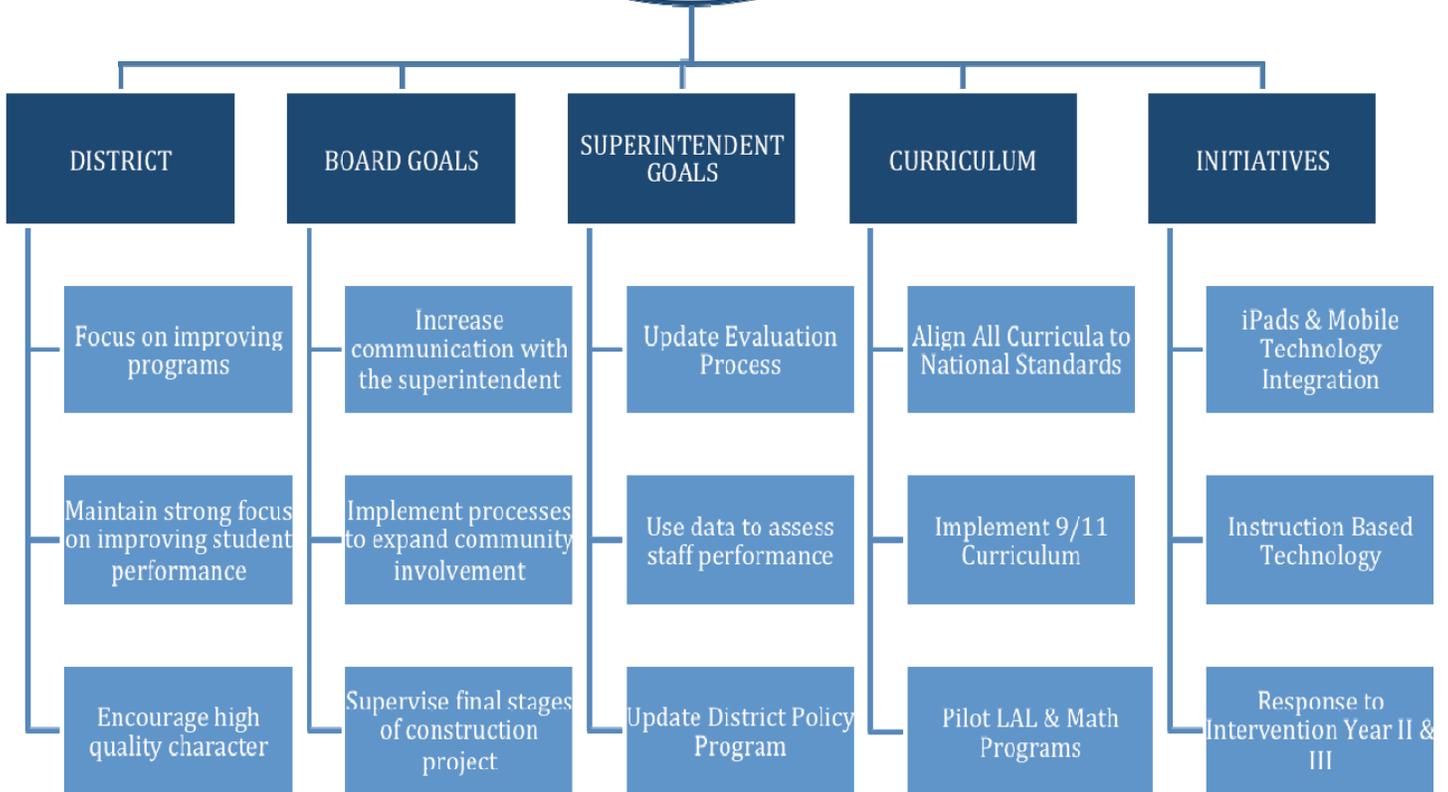
West Berlin, New Jersey

March 21, 2013 Public Hearing Minutes

MISSION:

- Establishing high standards of excellence for both staff and students
- Communicating openly and frequently within the district and with the community (to foster a trusting relationship)
- Ensuring a safe and orderly environment for staff and students
- Recognizing that a school district serves as a role model and has the responsibility to encourage high quality character behavior

ALL STUDENTS LEARNING



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March 21, 2013 Public Hearing Minutes

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS - OPEN

Motion by Cecil Rodrigues second by Cynthia Mozee to open the meeting to the public for the discussion of agenda items only. Open time: 7:02pm. Motion carried, voice vote, all present voting “yes”.

Public in attendance as follows:

*Jeffrey Patterson, Dorothy Micale, Dan Costello, Jr., Jonathan Liano,
Bea Jackson, Jaime Friedman, Danielle Inman, Patti Tideman,
Danielle Alessandrino, Peggy Farlow, Ward Walker, Joe Campisi,
Denise Smithen, Kimberly and Ian Reed, Antonette and John Pearson,
Tammy and Dekovin McCaulley*

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS - CLOSED

Motion by Brian Davis second by Melanie Middleman to close the meeting to the public. Close time: 7:02pm. Motion carried, voice vote, all present voting “yes”.

3 ADOPTION OF 2013-2014 BUDGET

Motion by Melanie Middleman second by Cynthia Mozee to approve the adoption of the proposed 2013 – 2014 Budget for Berlin Township School District.

Be it resolved, to approve the 2013- 2014 school district budget as follows:

	Budget	Local Tax Levy
General Fund	\$14,503,381	\$7,867,771
Special Revenue	\$ 334,889	\$ - 0 –
Debt Service	\$ 501,923	\$ 407,185
Total Base Budget	\$15,340,193	\$8,274,956

Be it resolved that there should be raised for the General Funds \$7,867,771 for the ensuing school year (2013-2014).

Be it further resolved that there should be raised for Debt Service \$407,185 for the ensuing school year (2013-2014).

Motion carried, roll call vote, all present voting “yes”.

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4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Brian Davis second by Cecil Rodrigues to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned: 7:12pm. Motion carried, voice vote, all present voting “yes”.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Stoddart, Business Administrator