

**BEDMINSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
December 14, 2023
7:00 p.m**

A. Call to Order

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 June 2, 2022, adequate written notice of this meeting was posted at the bulletin board in the Township Clerk’s Office at the Bedminster Township Municipal Building and the Main Office of the Bedminster Township School, mailed to The Courier News, The Bernardsville News, and to all subscribers, and filed with the Township Clerk.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Roll Call

	Ms. Biedron		Ms. Gomez		Ms. Segal
	Mr. Calulo		Ms. Nathans		Mr. Wickizer
	Ms. Creelman		Mr. Reaves		Ms. Stevinson

E. Executive Session – 6:30 p.m.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Bedminster Township Board of Education shall meet in closed session to discuss item(s) h below which falls within an exception of our open meeting policy and permits 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
- 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

Open Public Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

- F. Retirement Celebration - Mr. Hogan**
- Recognition of Board Members - Ms. Creelman and Mr. Calulo**
- Superintendent’s Report**
- Business Administrator’s Report**

G. Public Questions/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.

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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:

- November 16, 2023 Executive Session Minutes
- November 16, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

	Ms. Biedron		Ms. Gomez		Ms. Segal
	Mr. Calulo		Ms. Nathans		Mr. Wickizer
	Ms. Creelman		Mr. Reaves		Ms. Stevinson

I. Task Groups

- Negotiations Committee – Suzie Stevinson
- Somerset Hills School District – Sarah Nathans
- Technology Committee - Stephen Calulo
- Security/Safety Ad Hoc - Suzie Stevinson
- Child Care - Gabriel Wickizer

Delegate/Representative Appointments

- New Jersey School Boards Association - Christy Biedron
- PTO – Suzie Stevinson

J. BUSINESS

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

NJDOE Non-Public Program Purchase(s)

J.1 the following non-public purchase for the 2023-2024 school year:

School	Items	Program	Allocation
Willow	iRover2 for Interactive Flat Panels	Technology	\$1,464.21

Rescind NJDOE Non-Public Program Purchase(s)

J.2 the following non-public purchase for the 2023-2024 school year:

School	Items	Program	Allocation
Willow	Epson Classroom Projector ESCNJ/AEPA-22G	Technology	\$1,399.00

Annual Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist

J.3 submission of the Annual Health and Safety Evaluation of School Buildings Checklist to the Department of Education for the 2023-2024 school year.

Educational Services Commission of New Jersey

J.4 Psychiatric Evaluation for Student #221146 in the amount of \$270.00.

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2024 Contract – Special Education Attorney of Record

J.5 Nathanya G. Simon of the law firm Scarinci Hollenbeck, LLC 1100 Valley Brook Avenue, Lyndhurst, New Jersey as the special education attorney of record from January 1, 2024 through the January 2025 reorganization meeting at an hourly rate of \$175.00 for special education legal matters. Work performed by Associates shall be billed at the hourly rate of \$165.00. Work performed by paralegals and law clerks shall be billed at the hourly rate of \$100.00, as per their Legal Counsel Retainer Agreement dated December 8, 2023.

2024 Contract – Lead Attorney of Record

J.6 Nicholas Celso III, Esq. of the Busch Law Group, LLC, 450 Main Street, Metuchen, New Jersey, as attorney of record from January 1, 2024 through the January 2025 reorganization meeting at an hourly rate of \$172 for general legal services, special education and construction matters. Work performed by paralegals and law clerks shall be billed at the hourly rate of \$100, as per their Legal Counsel Retainer Agreement dated November 13, 2023.

Facilities Use Request(s)

J.7 the following facility requests:

Organization	Event	Room(s) Requested	Usage date(s) and time(s)
Bedminster Recreation	World Monuments Art After School Program	262	Tuesdays on 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20, 2/27; 3:35pm - 4:35pm
	Make-up Class for Lego Engineering-Bricks Challenge After School Program	262	1/3/2024; 3:35pm - 5:00pm
PTO	Assembly for Middle School - "Cyber Bullying & Social Media"	Cafetorium	1/5/2024; 8:30am - 10:45am

Rescind Facilities Usage Request(s)

J.8 the following facility requests:

Organization	Event	Room(s) Requested	Usage date(s) and time(s)
PTO	Assembly for Middle School - "Cyber Bullying & Social Media"	Cafetorium	11/17/2023; 8:30am - 10:30am

Fundraising

J.9 the Student Council fundraising event(s) for the 2023-2024 school year:

Candy Cane Gram	December 2023
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2023-2024 Music and Drama Service Providers

J.10 the following:

Provider	Activity	Estimated Cost
Edward Redinger	Piano tuning and repair	\$405.00

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REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
December 14, 2023
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Policy

J.11 the second reading of the following policy:

Number	Description	Action
P 2270	Religion in the Schools	N
P 3161	Examination of Cause (Revised)	N
P 4161	Examination of Cause (Revised)	N
P 3212	Attendance (M) (Revised)	N
P 4212	Attendance (M) (Revised)	N
P 3324	Right of Privacy (Revised)	N
P 4324	Right of Privacy (Revised)	N
P 5111	Eligibility of Resident / Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)	N
P 5116	Education of Homeless Children and Youths (Revised)	N
P 8500	Food Services (M) (Revised)	N

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

Regulation

J.12 the second reading of the following regulation:

Number	Description	Action
R 3212	Attendance (M) (Revised)	N
R 4212	Attendance (M) (Revised)	N
R 5111	Eligibility of Resident / Nonresident Students (M) (Revised)	N
R 5116	Education of Homeless Children and Youths (Revised)	N

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

J. agenda items J.1 through J.12

	Ms. Biedron		Ms. Gomez		Ms. Segal
	Mr. Calulo		Ms. Nathans		Mr. Wickizer
	Ms. Creelman		Mr. Reaves		Ms. Stevinson

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REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
December 14, 2023
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K. FINANCE

Finance & Facilities Committee Report - Stephen Calulo

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

2023-2024 Financial Reports

K.1 the Report of the Secretary for November 2023 submitted for Board review. As required by N.J.A.C. 6A:23-A-16.10(c)(3), the Business Administrator/Board Secretary, certifies that no line item account has been over expended and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations this fiscal year.

the recommendation that the Secretary’s Report for November 2023 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 2023-2024 fiscal year.

It is recommended that the Treasurer’s Report for November 2023 be accepted and filed.

2023-2024 Invoices-General Agency Account

K.2 invoices presented for payment totaling \$1,257,956.54 from the General Agency Account from November 17, 2023 through December 14, 2023.

Fund	Amount
(10) General Fund	\$1,235,145.24
(12) Capital Outlay	\$0
(20) Special Revenue	\$22,811.30
(30) Capital Projects	\$0
(40) Debt Services	\$0
Total	\$1,257,956.54

2023-2024 Invoices-Student Activities Account

K.3 invoices presented for payment totaling \$5,051.30 from the Student Activities Account from November 17, 2023 through December 14, 2023.

2023-2024 Invoices-Food Service Account

K.4 invoices presented for payment totaling \$54,512.55 from the Food Service Account from November 17, 2023 through December 14, 2023.

2023-2024 Transfers

K.5 transfers for the 2023-2024 school year totaling \$76,856.31 for the month from November 1, 2023 through November 30, 2023 as per the monthly transfer report.

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REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
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Approval of SOARS Corrective Action Plan

K.6 to authorize the School Business Administrator and Payroll /Benefits Specialist to submit and implement a Corrective Action Plan in the Schools Online Administrative Review System (SOARS) in order to address findings resulting from the November Administrative Review for the National School Lunch Program for 2023-2024.

Approval of 2023-2024 ESEA Grant Amendment

K.7 WHEREAS, the State Department of Education requires Boards of Education to approve the submission EVERY STUDENT SUCCEEDS ACT (ESSA) grant application and any amendments;
WHEREAS, the Bedminster Township Schools Board of Education is in need of amending the fiscal and program allocations, AMEND ESSA - TITLE II grant application to accept and distribute 2023 carryover of \$15,437.00. Funds are available for obligation between July 1, 2023 and must be expended by September 30, 2024.

Title	2023-2024 Amount	Carryover	Total
Title IA	\$34,987.00	\$0.00	\$34,987.00
Title IIA	\$11,982.00	\$15,437.00	\$27,365.00
Title IVA	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00

2024 IDEA Grant Amendment

K.8 WHEREAS, the State Department of Education requires Boards of Education to approve the submission of IDEA grant application and any amendments;
WHEREAS, the Bedminster Township Schools Board of Education is in need of amending the fiscal and program Allocations, AMEND 2024 IDEA grant application to fund IDEA PreK contracted services. Funds must be unencumbered by September 30, 2024. Remaining funds may be carried over into the next fiscal year for a complete period of availability through September 2025.

K. agenda items K.1 through K.8

	Ms. Biedron		Ms. Gomez		Ms. Segal
	Mr. Calulo		Ms. Nathans		Mr. Wickizer
	Ms. Creelman		Mr. Reaves		Ms. Stevinson

L. PERSONNEL & PROGRAMS

Programs & Personnel Committee Report– Christy Biedron

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

Bernards High School Performing Arts Showcase Assembly

L.1 for Middle School Students on December 21, 2023 at Bedminster Township School.

Hourly Wage Revision

L.2 approve an hourly wage of \$15.13 effective January 1, 2024 for Technology Assistant, Brandon Lekai, to meet minimum wage with a maximum of 5 hours per week.

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Resignation(s)

L.3 the following staff members:

Name	Position	Date
Karolina Zerjav	Paraprofessional	November 16, 2023
Walter Miklewicz	Custodian	December 22, 2023

New Hires - Substitute Teacher(s)

L.4 the following pursuant to proof of fingerprinting:

Name	Salary	Anticipated start date
Kelly Stier	per the substitute salary guide and pursuant to successful clearance of P.L. 2018, c.5	2023-2024 school year

2023-2024 Stipends

L.5 the following stipends being offered for the 2023-2024 school year are part of the negotiated contract between the Bedminster BoE and the Bedminster BEA in effect from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023.

BEDMINSTER SCHOOL 2023-2024 EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES		
Activity Title	Name of Staff Member	Individual Stipend Amount
Assistant Baseball Coach	Dan O'Connell	\$1,999.00

Rescind Workshop(s)

L.6 Edward Billings, Boiler Controls and Safety Devices webinar on October 10, 2023 in the amount of \$150.00 registration.

ARP- ESSER Fund Use

L.7 the following for ELA, Math and social-emotional well-being support at \$42.00 per hour.

Peter Prinz	Colin White	Jolanta Kolodziejski
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Piano Accompanist Bedminster Township School Choir

L.8 Christopher Fortin for December 2023 rehearsals and performances for a total of \$300.00.

CPR/First Aid/AED Certification Training & 2 Year Emergency Care and Safety Institute Certification

L.9 the following on January 22, 2024 via zoom 3:30pm-4:30pm with Talent Stock Training at a total cost of \$180.00.

Elizabeth Rosnell	Joanna Alfone	Jenna Thomas	Gary Steinert
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Author

L.10 Paul (PJ) Fusca, published author, to visit Grade 5 ELA classes on December 21, 2023.

Unpaid Leave of Absence

L.11 an unpaid leave of absence for Dan Schantz, Teacher, from December 18, 2023 through December 22, 2023.

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Main Office/Central Office Support Staff 2023-2024

L.12 the following Main Office/Central Office for the 2023-2024 school year:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Johnsen	Karna	School Secretary/Data Specialist	\$62,579 \$1,500 (sub coverage stipend)
Meechan	Elizabeth	Payroll/Benefits Specialist	\$73,569
Rica	Lisa	Accounts Payable/Purchasing Specialist (10 Months)	\$47,857

Administrative Contracts 2023-2024

L.13 the following Administrators for the 2023-2024 school year:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>First Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Salary</u>
Omegna	Elizabeth	Middle School Principal	\$134,408
Pickett	Kevin	Technology Manager	\$98,856
Swan	Corby	Elementary School Principal	\$149,305
Zugale	Lauren	Director of Student Services	\$129,119

L.14 the Bedminster Township Board of Education to go into Executive Session at 6:30 pm at the next regularly scheduled meeting on January 18, 2024.

L. agenda item L.1 through L.14

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	Mr. Calulo		Ms. Nathans		Mr. Wickizer
	Ms. Creelman		Mr. Reaves		Ms. Stevinson

M. Public Questions/Comments

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N. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING(S) SCHEDULED FOR:

**January 4, 2024
OPEN PUBLIC RE-ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING 6:00 PM
Immediately followed by
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING**

**January 18, 2024
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:30 PM
OPEN PUBLIC MEETING 7:00 PM**