

BERLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

West Berlin, New Jersey 08091

January 4, 2024

Reorganization Meeting Minutes

“Educating Today for Tomorrow’s Success”

***This meeting is being recorded and livestreamed through YouTube.
Anyone not wishing to appear on camera during the meeting may be excused.***

1. Call Meeting to Order

I, Megan Stoddart, Business Administrator, call this meeting to order under the Open Public Meetings Act at 7:04pm.

This is to advise the general public and to instruct that it be recorded in the Minutes, that in compliance with Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of 1975, entitled the “Open Public Meetings Act,” the Berlin Township Board of Education, caused to be posted at the Business Office of the Board of Education located at 225 Grove Avenue, West Berlin, New Jersey and advertised in the Courier Post on December 20, 2023 and the Central Record for the week starting December 20, 2023 a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

Election Results

Stacey Juliano	920
Kayla Hanna	897
Rebecca Allen	904

The oath of office will be given by the board solicitor or the school business administrator, to the following elected/appointed Board of Education members:

Rebecca Allen, Kayla Hanna, Stacey Juliano

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Yr Began/Current Term Expires

Mr. Brian Davis	<u>Present (via phone)</u>	2012 / 2024
Mrs. Kimberly Reed, Vice President	<u>Present</u>	2015 / 2024
Mrs. Lisa Hill-Muff	<u>Present</u>	2018 / 2024
Ms. Rebecca Allen	<u>Present</u>	2021 / 2026
Mrs. Kayla Hanna	<u>Present</u>	2021 / 2026
Mr. Scott Golden, President	<u>Present</u>	2021 / 2025
Mrs. Stacey Juliano	<u>Present</u>	2020 / 2026
Mr. Keith Jones	<u>Present</u>	2023 / 2025
Mrs. Michele Williams-Oriente	<u>Present</u>	2023 / 2025
Dr. Anthony Petruzzelli, Interim Superintendent	<u>Present</u>	
Mrs. Megan Stoddart, Business Administrator	<u>Present</u>	
Joe Betley, Board Solicitor	<u>Present</u>	

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4. OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The School Business Administrator accepts Nominations for School Board President.

Roll Call Vote to appoint Scott Golden for school board president.

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

The School Business Administrator relinquishes the floor to the Board President.

The Board President accepts Nominations for School Board Vice President.

Roll Call Vote to appoint Kimberly Reed for school board vice president.

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

5. Public Comments – Open

Recognition of Citizens – for subjects appearing on the agenda

The Public is reminded that they should attempt to resolve problems and/or complaints through initial contact with the staff member or members involved therein and the Chief School Administrator prior to petitioning the Board of Education. Complaints should only be brought to the Board after the appropriate school staff have had a reasonable opportunity to resolve the problem at the employee level. Statements should be limited to topics to be addressed on the published agenda.

Public participation shall be governed by the following rules as per Regulation 9322:

- All persons wishing to participate in a public board meeting shall register their intent by signing in with the board secretary in advance of the meeting;
- A participant must be recognized by the presiding officer and must preface comments by an announcement of his/her name, place of residence, and group affiliation, if appropriate;
- Each statement made by a participant shall be limited to five minutes’ duration;
- No participant may speak more than once on the same topic;
- All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question board members individually;

The presiding officer may:

- Interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant’s statement when the statement is too lengthy, abusive, obscene, or not an agenda item;
- Request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
- Request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person’s conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
- Call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action; and
- Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the board’s business.

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The portion of the meeting during which the participation of the public to speak on agenda items only shall be limited to 30 minutes which can be extended due to exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the presiding officer.

Motion by Kimberly Reed, seconded by Scott Golden to open the meeting to the public for the discussion of agenda items only. Time in: 7:10pm

6. Public Comments – Closed

Motion by Kimberly Reed, seconded by Scott Golden to close the meeting to the public. Time closed: 7:10pm.

7. Appointment of delegates by Board President

- a. The school board presidents appoints Lisa Hill-Muff as the delegate to the New Jersey Schools Boards Association.
- b. The school board presidents appoints Kayla Hanna as the alternate delegate to the New Jersey Schools Boards Association.
- c. The school board presidents appoints Brian Davis as the delegate to the Camden County Schools Boards Association.
- d. The school board presidents appoints Stacey Juliano as the alternate delegate to the Camden County Schools Boards Association.
- e. The school board presidents appoints Michele Williams-Oriente as the representative to the Camden County Educational Services Commission.
- f. The school board presidents appoints Kimberly Reed as the representative to the Pine Hill Board of Education from this date to the date of the next reorganization meeting in 2024.
- g. The school board presidents appoints the following members to, or advisors of the Board’s negotiations committee for BTEA:

Brian Davis (chairperson)

Keith Jones (member)

Scott Golden (member)

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- h. The school board presidents appoints the following members to, or advisors of the Boar3d’s negotiations committee for BTPSA:

Brian Davis (chairperson)

Lisa Hill Muff (member)

Kimberly Reed (member)

- i. The school board presidents appoints the following members to, or advisors of the Board’s Finance Committee:

Rebecca Allen (chairperson)

Kayla Hanna (member)

Stacey Juliano (member)

8. ESTABLISHMENT OF BOARD PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

- a. Motion by Lisa Hill-Muff, second by Stacey Juliano to resolve that the Berlin Township Board of Education establish the time and date of their regularly scheduled meetings as the 4th Thursday of each month with exceptions as listed below:

**BERLIN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING CALENDAR
2024**

January 25, 2024/Action Meeting	July 25, 2024/ Action Meeting
February 22, 2024/Action Meeting	August 22, 2024/Action Meeting
March 18, 2024*/Action Meeting/Budget Submission	September 26, 2024/Action Meeting
April 25, 2024 /Budget Hearing /Action Meeting	October 24, 2024/Action Meeting
May 23, 2024/Action Meeting	November 21, 2024*/Action Meeting
June 27, 2024/Action Meeting	December 12, 2024*/Action Meeting

*All meetings are scheduled on the 4th Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.
Motion carried, roll call vote, all present voting “yes”.

9. New Business

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10. Personnel

- a. Motion by Stacey Juliano, seconded by Lisa Hill-Muff
RECOMMEND that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve a leave of absence for Employee #1467 from January 16, 2024 through February 5, 2024. The employee will utilize sick days for this leave.

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

11. Business and Finance

- a. Motion by Stacey Juliano, seconded by Scott Golden
RECOMMEND, that the Board of Education on the recommendation of the Superintendent and the School Business Administrator, approve the travel/professional development for the following staff members:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Location/Date of Travel</u>	<u>Expense Amount</u>
Marilyn Bright	\$0	Legal One, NJPSA/FEA – 1/16/24, 1/18/24, & 1/23/24	\$0

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

12. Public Comments – Open

Recognition of Citizens – for any subjects not appearing on the agenda

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- Waive these rules when necessary for the protection of privacy or the efficient administration of the board’s business.

Motion by Stacey Juliano, seconded by Kimberly Reed to open the meeting to the public for the discussion of non-agenda items only. Time in: 7:18pm

Motion carried, voice vote, all present voting “yes”.

13. Public Comments – Closed

Motion by Kayla Hanna, seconded by Kimberly Reed to close the meeting to the public. Time closed: 7:18pm.

14. Executive Session – In

Motion by Stacey Juliano, seconded by Kayla Hanna to go into Executive Session to discuss: personnel, legal, contractual and negotiation issues. Time in: 7:21pm.

Motion carried, voice vote, all present voting “yes”.

Discussion Items:

Litigation – PM v Berlin Township School District

Resolution for Executive Session:

Whereas Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances, and whereas this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist. Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Berlin Township Board of Education, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion and action upon hereafter specified subject matters. They are:
 - a. Any matter which by express provision of federal law or state statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential.
 - b. Matters dealing with Federal Funding.
 - c. Discussion of any materials, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy.
 - d. Matters dealing with collective bargaining.
 - e. Matters dealing with the sale or purchase of public land.
 - f. Discussion of any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation.

15. Executive Session – Out

Motion by Kimberly Reed, seconded by Scott Golden to come out of Executive Session. Time out: 7:25pm.

16. Adjournment

Motion by Stacey Juliano, seconded by Scott Golden to adjourn the meeting. Time meeting adjourned 7:26pm.

Megan Stoddart, Business Administrator

Date

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