

BERLIN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

West Berlin, New Jersey 08091

May 7, 2026

Public Hearing 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.***

I. Call Meeting to Order

I, Brian Davis, President, call this meeting to order under the Open Public Meetings Act at 7:00pm.

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 on January 8, 2026, 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 7, 2025 a meeting notice setting forth the time, date and location of this meeting.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

Yr Began/Current Term Expires

Mr. Brian Davis, President	<u>Present</u>	<i>2012 / 2027</i>
Mrs. Lisa Hill-Muff, Vice President	<u>Present</u>	<i>2018 / 2027</i>
Ms. Rebecca Allen	<u>Present</u>	<i>2021 / 2026</i>
Mr. Matt Phillips	<u>Present</u>	<i>2025 / 2026</i>
Mr. Scott Golden	<u>Present</u>	<i>2021 / 2028</i>
Mrs. Stacey Juliano	<u>Present @ 7:10pm</u>	<i>2020 / 2026</i>
Mrs. Sarah Rowe	<u>Present</u>	<i>2025 / 2028</i>
Mrs. Michele Williams-Oriente	<u>Present</u>	<i>2023 / 2028</i>
Vacancy	<u> </u>	
Mr. Adam Lee, Superintendent	<u>Present</u>	
Mrs. Megan Stoddart, Business Administrator	<u>Present</u>	

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IV. Public Hearing on the 2026-2027 Budget

2026-2027 Public Budget Hearing Presentation by Megan Stoddart, Berlin Township Business Administrator

V. Public Comments – Open

Motion by Scott Golden, seconded by Stacey Juliano to open the meeting to the public for the discussion of agenda items only. Voice Vote. Time in: 7:15pm

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

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.

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.

VI. Public Comments – Closed

Motion by Stacey Juliano, seconded by Rebecca Allen to close the public portion of the meeting. Voice Vote. Time closed: 7:16pm.

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

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VII. Approval of Budget

On a Motion by Stacey Juliano, and seconded by Lisa Hill-Muff to approve **Approval of Budget** Item VII. Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Golden	Yes	Mrs. Rowe	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes	Mrs. Hill-Muff	Yes
Ms. Allen	Yes	Mrs. Juliano	Yes
Mr. Phillips	Yes	Mrs. Williams-Oriente	Yes

RECOMMEND that the Board of Education, on the recommendation of the School Business Administrator, approve the Adoption of the Final Budget as approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools.

Whereas, the Berlin Township Board of Education adopted a tentative budget on Thursday, March 16, 2026, and submitted it to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval, and

Whereas, the tentative budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on Monday, April 20, 2026 and

Whereas, the tentative budget was advertised in the legal section of the Courier Post on April 30, 2026, and

Whereas, the final budget was presented to the public during a public hearing held in the Huster Administration Building, 225 Grove Avenue, West Berlin, NJ 08091 on Thursday, May 7, 2026.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that in consideration of the above, the Board of Education, hereby adopts the following final budget for SY2026-2027:

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Debt Service	TOTAL
2026-27 Total Expenditures	\$20,504,027	\$1,517,223	\$303,000	\$22,324,250
Less: Anticipated Revenues	\$ 8,392,584	\$1,517,223	\$ - 0 -	\$9,909,807
Taxes to be Raised	\$12,111,443	- 0 -	\$303,000	\$12,414,443

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VIII. Business & Finance

On a Motion by Scott Golden, and seconded by Brian Davis to approve **Business & Finance** Item XII.

Mr. Golden	Yes	Mrs. Rowe	Yes
Mr. Davis	Yes	Mrs. Hill-Muff	Yes
Ms. Allen	Yes	Mrs. Juliano	Yes
Mr. Phillips	Yes	Mrs. Williams-Oriente	Yes

Financial Report – Period Ending March 2026

Board Secretary Financial, Revenue and Treasurer’s Reports

- A. Board Secretary’s Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the month of March, 2026.
The Board Secretary certifies that no line item account has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A: 23A-16.10 (c) 3 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- B. Treasurer’s Report in accordance with 18A: 17-36 and 18A: 17-9 for the months of March 2026. The Treasurer’s and Secretary’s report are in agreement for the months March 2026.
- C. Board Secretary in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A -16.10 (c) 2 certifies that there are no changes in anticipated revenue amounts or revenue sources.
- D. Board of Education Certification – pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10(c) 4, we certify that after review of the secretary’s monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate District officials, that to the best of our knowledge no major accounts or funds have been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23A – 16.10 (b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Scott Golden, seconded by Michele Williams-Oriente to adjourn the meeting. Voice Vote. Meeting adjourned: 7:17pm.

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

Megan Stoddart, Business Administrator

Date