



Berlin Borough School District
215 South Franklin Ave
Berlin, NJ 08009



To ensure that the public retains the ability to attend this meeting and provide comments, the remote meeting will be streamed in realtime on Zoom. You can access the feed by clicking [here](#). The purpose of utilizing this method of meeting is to ensure the continuity of school district operations while maintaining the necessary social distance to avoid the spread of COVID-19. Anyone who wishes to comment during the public portion of the meeting should email the Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Campisi, via campisij@bcsberlin.org. As per [Bylaw 0167](#), anyone wishing to comment to the Board shall include their full name and address within the email or it will not be read.

Date	Time	Location
April 21, 2021	6:30 PM	Virtual/Remote

Board of Education		
Mrs. Jocelyn Lewis, President	Mrs. Jenine Del Palazzo	Mrs. Kristen Simone
Mrs. Rebecca Holland, Vice-President	Mr. Jeffrey Greenberg	Mrs. Brandy Titus
Mrs. Susan Embrey	Mrs. Lisa Kehoe	Mr. Joshua Zagorski

Board Solicitor	Superintendent	Business Administrator
Daniel Long, Esq	Dr. Joseph Campisi	Mr. Robert O'Brien

Mission Statement

The mission of the Berlin Community School, in an active partnership between school and community, is to provide effective and comprehensive educational opportunities in a nurturing environment designed to challenge all students to strive for personal excellence and responsible citizenship. This will foster the pursuit of lifelong learnings while achieving proficiency in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and meet the challenges of an evolving global society.

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA/MINUTES

I. PUBLIC SESSION

- A. Meeting Called to Order at 6:33 p.m.**
- B. Flag Salute**
- C. Statement of Open Meeting Compliance**

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Berlin Borough Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, and place published in the Courier-Post and posted in the Berlin Community School, the Berlin Community School Website, (www.bcsberlin.org.) Borough Hall.

D. Roll Call

Board Member	Present	Absent	If late, time of arrival
Jenine Del Palazzo		X	
Susan Embrey	X		
Jeffrey Greenberg	X		
Lisa Kehoe	X		
Kristen Simone	X		
Brandy Titus	X		
Joshua Zagorski	X		
Rebecca Holland, VP	X		
Jocelyn Lewis, President	X		



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E. STRATEGIC PLANNING

1. District Stakeholder Group Work - Presenters: Jesse Adams & Terri Lewis, NJSBA Representatives

- a. Mr. Adams reviewed the previous meeting and developed 10 common themes from last meeting's discussions. They were the basis for the survey that went out to the stakeholder group. The purpose was to get additional feedback from the community on the work done and how the stakeholders would prioritize the themes. The survey results will feed the work done in the breakout groups at tonight's meeting.
- b. Mr. Adams went over stakeholder input surveys to and listed out the following:
 - i. 10 Strengths & Achievements
 - ii. 10 Challenges
 - iii. 10 Vision Initiatives
 - iv. 10 Skills/Qualities/Characteristics Suggested
- c. Dr. Campisi noted that in the survey it was brought up that the district's State Aid was decreasing, but in fact, the district is on the right side of the S-2 Bill and is receiving additional State Aid over the next several years.
- d. Mr. Adams briefly talked about the focus areas that stakeholder breakout groups would be discussing at tonight's meeting:
 - i. Student Achievement
 - ii. Professional Development
 - iii. Program Resources
 - iv. Facilities
 - v. Collaboration
 - vi. Communication
 - vii. Whole Child
- e. After groups rejoined from their breakout sessions, the groups presented their top 5 focus areas.
- f. Mr. Adams went over the next few assignments for the stakeholder group:
 - i. Superintendent assigns a focus area to each stakeholder sub committee
 - ii. Sub committee group leaders will schedule meetings with their team April 22 - May 3
 - iii. Each stakeholder sub committee will develop a goal statement and 4-8 objectives to accomplish the goal
 - iv. Each sub committee will present their goal and objectives at the May 5 stakeholder committee meeting.
- g. Next steps going forward:
 - i. Strategic Plan Sub Committees - develop goals and objective **May 3**
 - ii. Strategic Plan Committee - review and finalize goals and objectives **May 5**
 - iii. Presentation of the strategic plan to BOE/Public **June 23**

F. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Motion to open Public Participation - There were no public comments to be heard				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
N/A	N/A			

This meeting will now be open to the public. If your questions or comments pertain to litigation, students, personnel, or negotiations, we would ask that you establish a time to meet with the Superintendent after the meeting since the board will not discuss these items in public.



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Complaints stated or actions requested by the public will be taken under advisement by the Board and referred to the Superintendent for investigation, discussion, action, or disposition at a later date or time. Please keep in mind that the public comment session is an opportunity for you to share your opinions and remarks with the Board, and it is not a question and answer session.

Please be aware that all district employees retain the right of privacy. Please also be reminded that any individuals who may be the subject of public comments, including district employees, shall retain all rights against defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board will not be held liable for comments made by members of the public.

Any person wishing to participate in the public Board meeting must register prior to the conclusion of the presentations section of the meeting and will be recognized by the presiding officer when it is their time to speak. Please state your name and address for the record. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes per person. All statements shall be directed to the presiding officer; no participant may address or question Board members individually. If personal or discourteous statements are made, the presiding officer may require the speaker to stop; the presiding officer reserves the right to request a recess. The total comment period will be 30 minutes unless extended by a vote of the majority of the Board members present at the meeting.

Motion to close Public Participation - There were no public comments to be heard				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
N/A	N/A			

G. NEW BUSINESS - None

H. OLD BUSINESS - None

I. NON-PUBLIC EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter Non-Public Executive Session - NO MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
N/A	N/A			

In accordance with the NJ Open Public Meetings Act, the Berlin Borough School District desires to discuss certain matters in closed session described in the aforementioned law, pertaining to student matters. The Berlin Borough School District Board of Education will disclose the discussion topic of the closed session at a public meeting as soon as possible. The Berlin Borough School District shall now enter a closed session for approximately 75 minutes.

WHEREAS; Matters pertaining to sensitive personnel issues, negotiations, student discipline issues and litigation are proper topics for closed sessions under the Public Meetings Act, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: to hold a Closed Meeting of the Berlin Borough Board of Education for said purposes pertaining to:

- | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Negotiations | Personnel | Legal | Individual Privacy |
| Security | Student Matters | Litigation | Investment/Property Acquisition |



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED; to make available the results of the Closed Meeting in the minutes of this meeting or in subsequent actions of the Board. No action will be taken following the executive session.

Motion to close Non-Public Executive Session and return to Open Session				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
N/A	N/A			

J. MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
Lisa Kehoe	Kristen Simone	8	0	Passed 8-0

BERLIN BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

Robert O'Brien

Robert O'Brien, Board Secretary

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2021 at 7:00pm in the Berlin Community School cafeteria. Prior to the regular meeting, there will be a Public Budget Hearing at 6:30pm in the cafeteria.