



Re-Organization Meeting of the Board of Education

Date	Time	Location
January 2, 2020	6:30 PM	Media Center, Berlin Community School
Board of Education		
Mrs. Jocelyn Lewis	Mrs. Jenine Del Palazzo	
Mrs. Rebecca Holland	Mr. Jeffrey Greenberg	Mrs. Brandy Titus
Mrs. Lisa Asare	Mrs. Lisa Kehoe	Mrs. Francine Viscome
Board Solicitor		
Dan Long, Esq		
Superintendent		
	Dr. Joseph Campisi	
Business Administrator		
		Patricia Palmieri

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 learning while achieving proficiency in the New Jersey Student Learning Standards and meet the challenges of an evolving global society.

MINUTES

I. PUBLIC SESSION

A. Meeting Called to Order: Ms. Patricia Palmieri, Business Administrator/Board Secretary at 6:30 pm. Solicitor Long proceeded with the meeting

B. Statement of Open Meeting Compliance

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to insure 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.

C. Flag Salute



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



D. Election Results

Kristen Simone	1075	33.29%
Rebecca Holland	1064	32.95%
Lisa A. Kehoe	1052	32.57%
Write-in	38	1.18%
Total	3229	100%

E. Solicitor Long Administered Oath of Office to Newly Elected Board of Education Members

F. Roll Call

Lisa Asare	Absent	Jocelyn Lewis	Present
Jenine Del Palazzo	Present	Kristen Simone	Present
Jeffrey Greenberg	Present	Brandy Titus	Present
Rebecca Holland	Present	Francine Viscome	Present
Lisa Kehoe	Present		

Anyone who wishes to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting is reminded to sign in at the podium at this time. The sign in sheet will be collected at the end of the Appointments of Board Committees portion of the meeting.

II. Nominations for Board President

Motion	F. Viscome nominated J. Lewis	Second	B Titus
Lisa Asare	Absent	Jocelyn Lewis	Yes
Jenine Del Palazzo	Yes	Kristen Simone	Yes
Jeffrey Greenberg	Yes	Brandy Titus	Yes
Rebecca Holland	Yes	Francine Viscome	Yes
Lisa Kehoe	Yes		

III. President Assumes the Chair

IV. Nominations for Board Vice President

Motion	F. Viscome nominated R. Holland	Second	L. Kehoe
Lisa Asare	Absent	Jocelyn Lewis	Yes
Jenine Del Palazzo	Yes	Kristen Simone	Yes
Jeffrey Greenberg	Yes	Brandy Titus	Yes
Rebecca Holland	Yes	Francine Viscome	Yes
Lisa Kehoe	Yes		

V. Vice President Assumes the Chair



VI.	Appointment of Board Committees by Board President
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Committees			
Personnel Committee	Finance & Facilities	Curriculum & Policy	BOE-BBEA Liaison
Personnel Chair: Francine Viscome	Finance Chair: Lisa Kehoe	Curriculum Chair: Lisa Asare	Chair: Brandy Titus
Jocelyn Lewis	Facilities Chair: Brandy Titus	Policy Chair: Jeff Greenberg	Jenine Del Palazzo
Jenine Del Palazzo	Rebecca Holland	Kristen Simone	Francine Viscome
Jeff Greenberg	Jenine Del Palazzo	Jocelyn Lewis	Rebecca Holland

NJSBA Delegate	NJSBA Alternate Delegate	NJSBA Legislative Delegate	Delegate to County School Boards Association
Lisa Asare	Jocelyn Lewis	Lisa Asare	Kristen Simone/Rebecca Holland

The Sign-In sheet for participation in the public comment portion of the meeting will be collected at this time.

VII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Action Items Only)

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.

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 finance 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.



Open Public Session	6:46 pm
Motion	Second
J. Greenberg	L. Kehoe

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Close Public Session	6:46 pm
Motion	Second
F. Viscome	J. Greenberg

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

VIII. APPROVALS/ADOPTIONS/RE-ADOPTIONS

A. Motion to approve/adopt/re-adopt items 1 - 13:

1. Approval of Parliamentary Procedure for the 2020 Reorganization year.
2. Existing Board Policy Manual, Bylaws and Regulations
3. Art, Computer, Family Life, Life Skills, Physical Education, Language Arts, Library, Mathematics, Music, Science, Social Studies, Health, Guidance Services, Child Study Team Services, and all other programs and curriculum now presently in use.
4. All textbook (in electronic format and via license) series currently in use.
5. Previously approved library books.
6. Designate Patricia Palmieri as the Public Agency Compliance Officer
7. Appoint Dr. Julian Maressa as the school physician for the 2019-2020 school year at a cost of \$2,500.

8. Authorization to Sign Warrants (Checks) for the 2019-2020 school year:
 - a. President of the Board of Education
 - b. Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 - c. Superintendent of Schools
 - d. ~~Elementary School Principal~~
 - e. ~~Middle School Principal~~
 - f. ~~PALS/CER Director~~



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9. Authorization of Payment of Bills between BOE Meetings for the 2019-2020 school year.
10. Authorization to Award Contracts for the 2019-2020 school year:
 - a. authorize the business administrator as the certified purchasing agent to award contracts up to in accordance with N.J. Statutes for the 2019-2020 school year, to set the quote threshold at 15% of the bid threshold, and to approve procurement of goods and services through state agencies (state contract) and cooperative purchasing agreements.
11. Travel Limitations for the 2019-2020 school year:
 - a. establish travel limitations as set forth in district policy and with P.L. 2007 c. 53 for the 2019-2020 school year, not to exceed \$20,000.00.
12. Code of Ethics (All Board Members sign a copy of the Code of Ethics and return to the Board Secretary)

In accordance with N.J.S.A 18A:12-24.1 every Board member will abide by the following Code of Ethics. The Board member will:

- Uphold and enforce all laws, rules and regulations of the State Board of Education and court orders pertaining to schools. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- Make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children and seek to develop and maintain public schools that meet the individual needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.
- Confine his/her Board action to policy making, planning and appraisal, and help to frame policies and plans only after the Board has consulted those who will be affected by them.
- Carry out his/her responsibility not to administer the schools, but together with fellow Board members, insure they are well run.
- Recognize that authority rests with the Board of Education and make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the Board.
- Refuse to surrender his/her independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups or to use the schools for personal gain or for the gain of friends.
- Hold confidential all matters pertaining to the schools, which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals, or the schools. In all other matters, he/she will provide accurate information and, in concert with fellow Board members, interpret to the staff the aspirations of the community for its school.
- Vote to appoint the best-qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the chief administrative officer.
- Support and protect school personnel in proper performance of their duties.
- Refer all complaints to the chief administrative officer and act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution.



13. Board of Education Goals:

BERLIN BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS (2019-2020)	
Goal 1:	To improve school and district performance by setting and meeting high expectations for academic achievement for all students in order to prepare them for continued success.
Objective 1:	All BCS students will demonstrate "meeting expectations" in reading, writing and mathematics.
Objective 2:	All BCS students will and have access to and will complete a rigorous curriculum in the core areas of language arts, science, social studies, mathematics, foreign language, health and physical education and technology.
Objective 3:	The Berlin Boro BOE will develop and adopt a uniform curriculum that is reviewed and updated by the Curriculum Committee.
Goal 2:	To increase educator preparedness to meet the needs of every student by setting high standards for the performance of teachers and administrators as evidenced by improved student learning.
Objective 1:	There will be ongoing and systematic assessment and improvement of teachers and administrators and professional development practices that are related to the educational goals for BCS students.
Objective 2:	All BCS educators will have access to appropriate professional development activities that promote the continuous improvement and modification of instruction to facilitate the success of our students.
Goal 3:	To eliminate opportunity gaps by providing a teaching and learning climate and environment where racial, ethnic and economic isolation is reduced and the diversity of our student population is embraced.
Objective 1:	Provide a curriculum that strives to embrace and recognize the diversity of each individual.

Motion	B. Titus	Second	F. Viscome
Lisa Asare	Absent	Jocelyn Lewis	Yes
Jenine Del Palazzo	Yes	Kristen Simone	Yes
Jeffrey Greenberg	Yes	Brandy Titus	Yes
Rebecca Holland	Yes	Francine Viscome	Yes
Lisa Kehoe	Yes		

Motion made by J. Del Palazzo to amend Item 8 and remove d., e., and f. Second by K. Simone. Passed by unanimous voice vote.



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IX.

RESOLUTION 1-2-2020-1

WHEREAS, the “Open Public Meetings Act” requires that advance written notice of all meetings of the Board of Education be posted in one public place designated by the Board and mailed, telephoned, faxed or hand delivered to one local newspaper designated by resolution, and mailed to all persons requesting a copy of the same upon payment of an established fee.

NOW THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Board of Education of the Borough of Berlin Borough as follows:

All advance written notices of Board meetings shall be posted by the Board Secretary: on the bulletin board located in the Berlin Borough School Elementary and Middle School Offices, on the school website, and on the bulletin board located in the Berlin Borough Administration Building.

All advance written notices of Board meetings shall be given to at least one of the following newspapers:

The Courier Post Newspaper (primary)

The Central Record (secondary)

The Berlin Sun (online)

All advance written notices of Board meetings and any change throughout the year shall be mailed to all persons requesting a copy of same after payment by such persons of a fee of \$15.00. News media shall be exempt from such fees.

Motion	B. Titus	Second	R. Holland
Lisa Asare	Absent	Jocelyn Lewis	Yes
Jenine Del Palazzo	Yes	Kristen Simone	Yes
Jeffrey Greenberg	Yes	Brandy Titus	Yes
Rebecca Holland	Yes	Francine Viscome	Yes
Lisa Kehoe	Yes		



X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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Open Public Session	7:12 pm
Motion	Second
L. Kehoe	F. Viscome

Passed by unanimous voice vote.

Eli Kelly, Student Council Vice President made the following report of events:

- Interact Club held a dance in December
- Meet with Dr. Campisi
- Broadcast the daily announcements
- Student government officers bios and pictures are on the bulletin board in the Board office
- The Band Concert was held on 12/17 and the Choir Concert was held on 12/18
- Winter sports are underway

Jim Pierce of 114 Clementon Road stated that the Borough reorganization meeting will take place on Friday, December 3. Mr. Pierce thanked the board for their service and dedication.

Close Public Session	7:16pm
Motion	Second
F. Viscome	J. Del Palazzo

Passed by unanimous voice vote.



XI. OLD BUSINESS

None

XII. NEW BUSINESS

- Mrs. De Palazzo pointed out the Eastern graduation date of June 17, 2020 which is also the date of the Berlin Borough Board meeting. The reschedule of the Board meeting to June 10, 2020 will be discussed in April once the possibility of snow days has ended.
- Mrs. Lewis will contact Jesse Adams from NJSBA to attend the Feb 19th meeting for an ethics refresher.
- Mrs. Lewis gave an update on the BOE/BBEA meeting
- The HSA has reached out for the BOE to support the Comedy Night.

XIII. MEETING ADJOURNED

Adjourn Meeting	7:30pm
Motion	Second
F. Viscome	L. Kehoe

Motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

BERLIN BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

Board Secretary

Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Date	Time	Location
January 15, 2020	7:00 PM	Media Center, Berlin Community School