



Reorganization Meeting of the Board of Education

Date	Time	Location
January 5, 2022	6:30 PM	Media Center/Library, Berlin Community School

Board of Education

Mrs. Jocelyn Lewis, President		Mrs. Kristen Simone
Mrs. Rebecca Holland, Vice-President	Mrs. Lisa Kehoe	
Mrs. Susan Embrey		Mr. Joshua Zagorski

Board Solicitor	Superintendent	Interim Business Administrator
John Moustakas, Esq.	Dr. Joseph Campisi	Mr. John Scavelli

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.

REORGANIZATION MEETING MINUTES

I. PUBLIC SESSION

- A. **Meeting Called to Order by Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary John Scavelli at 6:30 p.m.**
- 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), and Borough Hall.

- C. **Flag Salute**



D. Election Results - Three Year Term

Candidate	# of Votes	Term
Alison Moyer	929	2022-2024
Jeannine Foster	921	2022-2024
Brandy Titus	813	2022-2024
Jeffrey M. Greenberg	801	
Michael P. McGowan	798	
Michael Ann Bird	743	
Craig W. Bookwalter	639	
Write-in	16	
Ballots Cast	2,864	
Registered Voters	6,205	
Turnout (%)	46.16%	

E. Administration of Oath of Office to Newly Elected Board of Education Members by Solicitor John Moustakas - Alison Moyer, Jeannine Foster, and Brandy Titus

F. Roll Call

Board Member	Present	Absent
Susan Embrey	X	
Jeannine Foster	X	
Rebecca Holland	X	
Lisa Kehoe	X	
Jocelyn Lewis	X	
Alison Moyer	X	
Kristen Simone	X	
Brandy Titus	X	
Joshua Zagorski	X	

<p>Anyone who wishes to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting is reminded to sign in at the podium at this time.</p>



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II. Mr. Scavelli opened the floor for nominations for Board President - Rebecca Holland nominated Jocelyn Lewis and there were no other nominations.

Approve Jocelyn Lewis as President of the Berlin Borough Board of Education for 2022			
Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain
Susan Embrey	X		
Jeannine Foster			X
Rebecca Holland	X		
Lisa Kehoe	X		
Jocelyn Lewis	X		
Alison Moyer			X
Kristen Simone	X		
Brandy Titus	X		
Joshua Zagorski	X		
Result of Motion	Passed 7-0-2		

III. Mrs. Lewis assumed the Chair as President of the Berlin Borough Board of Education.

IV. Mrs. Lewis opened the floor for nominations for Board Vice President - Jocelyn Lewis nominated Rebecca Holland and there were no other nominations.

Approve Rebecca Holland as Vice President of the Berlin Borough Board of Education for 2022			
Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain
Susan Embrey	X		
Jeannine Foster			X
Rebecca Holland	X		
Lisa Kehoe	X		
Jocelyn Lewis	X		
Alison Moyer			X
Kristen Simone	X		
Brandy Titus	X		
Joshua Zagorski	X		
Result of Motion	Passed 7-0-2		

V. Mrs. Holland assumed the Chair as Vice President of the Berlin Borough Board of Education.



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VI. Mrs. Lewis appointed board committees for 2022.

Berlin Borough Board of Education Committees - 2022			
Personnel Committee	Finance & Facilities	Curriculum & Policy	BOE-BBEA Liaison
Personnel Chair: Kristen Simone	Finance Chair: Lisa Kehoe	Curriculum Chair: Joshua Zagorski	Chair: Brandy Titus
Jeannine Foster	Facilities Chair: Brandy Titus	Policy Chair: Susan Embrey	Jeannine Foster
Rebecca Holland	Rebecca Holland	Alison Moyer	Rebecca Holland
Jocelyn Lewis	Alison Moyer	Kristen Simone	Kristen Simone

NJSBA Delegate	NJSBA Alternate Delegate	NJSBA Legislative Delegate	Delegate to County School Boards Association
Jocelyn Lewis	Rebecca Holland	Jocelyn Lewis	Joshua Zagorski

Motion to open Public Participation - **The sign-in sheet for participation in the public comment portion was collected and there were none listed for the action items.**

Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
Mrs. Titus	Mrs. Kehoe	9	0	Passed

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 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.

All public participation is governed by [District Bylaw 0167](#).



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Motion to close Public Participation				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
Mrs. Titus	Mrs. Embrey	9	0	Passed

VIII. ANNUAL REORGANIZATION MOTIONS AND DESIGNATIONS

A. Motion to approve items #1 - 6 in accordance with Bylaw 0154:

1. Designate the following depositories for school funds:
 - TD Bank North
 - New Jersey ARM
 - New Jersey Cash Management

2. Designate those persons authorized to sign school warrants:
 - Board President
 - Superintendent
 - Business Administrator/Board Secretary

3. Designate the official newspaper to be used for the advertisement of meetings and legal ads and all other necessary public notifications:
 - The Courier Post (primary)
 - The Central Record (secondary)
 - The Newark Star Ledger (for participation in the ESCNJ Cooperative Purchasing System)

4. Designation of regular meeting dates as the fourth Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted:
 - January 26, 2022
 - February 23, 2022
 - March 23, 2022
 - April 27, 2022 (includes budget hearing at 6:30 p.m.)
 - May 25, 2022
 - June 22, 2022
 - July 20, 2022 (third Wednesday)
 - August 24, 2022
 - September 28, 2022
 - October 26, 2022
 - November 16, 2022 (third Wednesday)
 - December 21, 2022 (third Wednesday)
 - January 4, 2023 (reorganization, first Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.)

All meetings will be held in the Berlin Community School, 215 S. Franklin Ave., Berlin, NJ 08009, in either the Media Center or the Cafeteria and will begin at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

5. Approve the curriculum for all grades: 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 presently in use.

6. Readopt existing bylaws, policies, and regulations for the Board's operation and the operation of the school system.



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Motion to approve the Annual Reorganization Items #1-6					
Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Susan Embrey		X	X		
Jeannine Foster					X
Lisa Kehoe	X		X		
Alison Moyer			X		
Kristen Simone			X		
Brandy Titus			X		
Joshua Zagorski			X		
Rebecca Holland			X		
Jocelyn Lewis			X		
Result of Motion			Passed 8-0-1		

IX. PERSONNEL

Action Items						
Professional Development						
#	Staff Member	Program	Date	Time	Location	Cost (Not to Exceed)
1.	Leslie Banister	Helping Your Struggling Readers Become More Successful: Targeted Interventions that Work!	1/11/2022	8:30 am - 3:15 pm	The Westin Mt. Laurel	\$279
2.	Sonia Francisco	Helping Your Struggling Readers Become More Successful: Targeted Interventions that Work!	1/11/2022	8:30 am - 3:15 pm	The Westin Mt. Laurel	\$279

Motion to approve Personnel Action Items #1-2 as recommended by the Superintendent					
Board Member	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Susan Embrey			X		
Jeannine Foster			X		
Lisa Kehoe		X	X		
Alison Moyer			X		
Kristen Simone			X		
Brandy Titus	X		X		
Joshua Zagorski			X		
Rebecca Holland			X		



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Jocelyn Lewis			X		
Result of Motion			Passed 9-0		

X. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION

Title	Presenter
School Ethics Training	Jesse Adams, Field Representative, New Jersey School Boards Association
<p>Code of Ethics (All Board Members must sign a copy of the Code of Ethics and return to the Board Secretary)</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, ensure 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. 	

Motion to open Public Participation				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
Mrs. Titus	Mrs. Embrey	9	0	Passed



XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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Mr. and Mrs. Greenberg provided comments to the Board with regard to COVID and for the district to provide a short-term remote learning opportunity for students. Dr. Campisi provided a statement regarding the district remaining open for in-person instruction.

Motion to close Public Participation				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
Mrs. Embrey	Mrs. Titus	9	0	Passed

XII. MEETING ADJOURNED at 8:19 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting				
Motion	Second	All in Favor	All Opposed	Result of Motion
Mrs. Titus	Mrs. Embrey	9	0	Passed

BERLIN BOROUGH BOARD OF EDUCATION

John Scavelli

John Scavelli, Board Secretary

The next Board of Education Meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2022