

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN**

Regular Meeting

February 15, 2022

Motion to reopen work session

Introduced by _____, second by _____

All in favor _____

Time _____

Motion to adjourn work session and open regular meeting

Introduced by _____, second by _____

All in favor _____

Time _____

Call to Order the Regular Meeting of the Bergen County Special Services Board of Education

Roll Call:

	Present	Absent
Mr. Barnaskas		
Mr. DeLisio		
Mr. Golabek		
Ms. Heluk		
Dr. Lancellotti		
Mr. Lentini		
Mr. McCarthy		

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Open Public Meetings Act Statement

The following statement was read as required by the Open Public Meeting Law:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with provision of this law, the Bergen County Special Services School District has caused the notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time and place thereof posted on a bulletin board prominently displayed in lobby of the Board offices, and by The Record and Herald News

3. May I have a motion to approve the Minutes of:

Work Session Meeting: January 18, 2022

Regular Meeting: January 18, 2022

Executive Session January 18, 2022

Introduced by _____, second by _____

Roll Call to approve the minutes

Yes No Abstain Absent

- Mr. Barnaskas
- Mr. DeLisio
- Mr. Golabek
- Ms. Heluk
- Dr. Lancellotti
- Mr. Lentini
- Mr. McCarthy

- 4. Board Secretary Report
- 5. Superintendent's Report
- 6. May I have a motion to introduce the consent agenda:

Administration	22-A-68S	through	22-A-75S
Personnel	22-P-135S	through	22-P-156S
Finance	22-F-69S	through	22-F-77S

Introduced by _____, second by _____

- 7. Are there any Comments/ discussions—regarding any item on Consent Agenda—Board only
- 8. Open the floor to public comment on Consent Agenda only. Speaker to please state name and town (5–minute maximum per speaker)
- 9. Close Public Participation

Roll Call Consent Agenda

Yes No Abstain Absent

- Mr. Barnaskas
- Mr. DeLisio
- Mr. Golabek
- Ms. Heluk
- Dr. Lancellotti
- Mr. Lentini
- Mr. McCarthy

Off-Consent Agenda

- 10. May I have a motion to introduce the off-consent agenda
Introduced by _____, second by _____
- 11. Is there any discussion on the off-consent agenda – Board Only
- 12. Open the floor to public comment on off-consent agenda items only.
- 13. Close Public Participation

Roll Call Off-Consent Agenda

Yes No Abstain Absent

Mr. Barnaskas
Mr. DeLisio
Mr. Golabek
Ms. Heluk
Dr. Lancellotti
Mr. Lentini
Mr. McCarthy

14. Open the floor to public comments on any issue. Speaker to please state name and town (5-minute maximum per speaker)
15. Close public participation.
16. Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Introduced by _____, second by _____

All in favor _____

Time _____

Regular Agenda Item

Work Session Meeting: January 18, 2022

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Work Session Minutes

File Name

Work_Session_January_18__2022.pdf

Upload Date

2/14/2022

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN**

MINUTES

**Work Session
January 18, 2022**

The Board of Education of the Special Services School District in the County of Bergen held its Public Work Session meeting on Tuesday January 18, 2022 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, NJ. Mr. Gary Lentini, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call:

Mr. William Barnaskas

Mr. Louis DeLisio, *Interim Executive Bergen County Superintendent of Schools*

Mr. Daniel Golabek

Dr. Beth Lancellotti, *Vice President*

Mr. Gary Lentini, *President*

Absent at roll call:

Ms. Marisa Heluk

Mr. Michael McCarthy

Also present:

Dr. Howard Lerner, Ed.D., *Superintendent of Schools*

John Susino, *Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

Mitchell Badiner, *Director of Instruction*

Tara Bohan, *Director of Instruction*

Gary Hall, *Director Human Resources*

William Soukas, Esq., *Board Attorney*

Ava Miller, *Assistant Board Secretary*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present pledged allegiance to the United States of America.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

John Susino, Board Secretary, read the following statement as required by the Open Public Meeting Law:

The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of the public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

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PRESENTATIONS

❖ **NJDOE Self-Assessment for Determining Grades Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act**

Bridget Sorem, the District's Safety and Security Coordinator, presented to the Board the results of the NJDOE Self-Assessment for Determining Grades Under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act. A copy of the report is on file in the Superintendent's office.

❖ **Start Strong Assessment Results – Tara Bohan**

Tara Bohan, Director of Instruction, presented to the Board the results of the 2021-2022 Start Strong Assessment Overview. A copy of the report is on file in the Superintendent's office.

Board Member Barnaskas asked Mrs. Bohan how this assessment compares to other assessment tools. Mrs. Bohan replied that it helpful in that it enables staff to identify gaps in student learning.

REVIEW OF RESOLUTIONS

The Board reviewed the following Resolutions:

Administration	22-A-60S	Through	22-A-67S
Personnel	22-P-109S	Through	22-P-134S
Finance	22-F-62S	Through	22-F-68S

BOARD COMMENT ON RESOLUTIONS

There was no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

There was no public comment on the agenda resolutions.

BOARD COMMENT ON ANY ISSUE

There was no comment from the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ISSUE

There was no public comments.

EXECUTIVE/PRIVATE BOARD SESSION

At 5:15 p.m., a motion to move the meeting into Private Executive Session was introduced by Dr. Lancellotti and seconded by Mr. Lentini. All members present voted in the affirmative.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey permits the public to be excluded from certain matters to be discussed by the Board; and

WHEREAS the Board intends to convene in private session from which the public shall be excluded to discuss matters which permit the exclusion of the public, during which minutes shall be taken; and

WHEREAS the matters to be discussed fall under the exclusion of confidentiality required by Federal or State Law; impair a right to receive Federal government funds; unwarranted invasion of individual privacy; collective bargaining agreement negotiations; purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds; tactics and techniques to protect safety of property of public, or investigations of violations or potential violations of law; pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiations, or matters falling within the attorney-client privilege; personnel/employment matters unless individual requests that matter be discussed in public; deliberations after public hearing that may result in imposition of penalty;

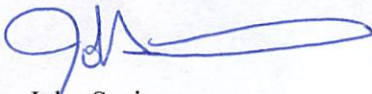
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the public portion of the meeting shall now be recessed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a summary of the closed session minutes shall be made available to the public by the next public meeting of the Board of Education, or upon approval of the minutes, and once the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

At 5:30 p.m. a motion was introduced by Mr. Barnaskas, seconded by Mr. Lentini, to reopen the Work Session meeting. All members present voted in the affirmative. None opposed.

At 5:30 p.m. a motion was introduced by Mr. DeLisio, seconded by Mr. Lentini, to adjourn the Work Session and move to the Board's Public Session meeting. All members present voted in the affirmative. None opposed.

Respectfully submitted,



John Susino
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

Approved by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of _____

Regular Agenda Item

Regular Meeting: January 18, 2022

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Regular Meeting Minutes

File Name

Upload Date

Regular_Meeting_January_18__2022.pdf 2/14/2022

**BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES SCHOOL DISTRICT
IN THE COUNTY OF BERGEN**

MINUTES

**Regular Meeting
January 18, 2022**

The Board of Education of the Special Services School District in the County of Bergen held its Regular Public Meeting on Tuesday January 18, 2022 in the Board of Education Auditorium, 540 Farview Avenue, Paramus, NJ. The public meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mr. Gary Lentini, President of the Board.

ROLL CALL

Present at roll call:

Mr. William Barnaskas
Mr. Louis DeLisio, *Interim Executive Bergen County Superintendent of Schools*
Mr. Daniel Golabek
Dr. Beth Lancellotti, *Vice President*
Mr. Gary Lentini, *President*

Absent at roll call:

Ms. Marisa Heluk
Mr. Michael McCarthy

Also present:

Dr. Howard Lerner, Ed.D., *Superintendent of Schools*
John Susino, *Business Administrator/Board Secretary*
Mitchell Badiner, *Director of Instruction*
Tara Bohan, *Director of Instruction*
Gary Hall, *Director Human Resources*
William Soukas, Esq., *Board Attorney*
Ava Miller, *Assistant Board Secretary*

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present pledged allegiance to the United States of America.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT

John Susino, Board Secretary, read the following statement as required by the Open Public Meeting Law:

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MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

A motion was made by Dr. Lancellotti, seconded by Mr. Lentini, to approve the following minutes:

Work Session: December 14, 2021
Regular Public Meeting: December 14, 2021
Executive Session: December 14, 2021

A roll call vote was taken to approve the minutes:

Mr. Barnaskas	Yes
Mr. DeLisio	Yes
Mr. Golabek	Yes
Ms. Heluk	Absent
Dr. Lancellotti	Yes
Mr. Lentini	Yes
Mr. McCarthy	Absent

BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

Board Secretary John Susino informed the Board that the School Ethics Commission requires all board members and administrative staff members that make personnel and purchasing decisions to complete *Personal and Financial Disclosure Forms*. In the month of February, these individuals will receive an email with instructions on how to complete the disclosure statements. Although the deadline to complete the statements is April 30, 2022, Mr. Susino requested that forms be completed well in advance of the deadline as they need to be reviewed by not only his office, but that of the County Superintendent’s office as well.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

▪ **Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying (HIB) Report**

- The District is required to report specific incidents of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying to the Board of Education. This past month we did not have any HIB investigations.

▪ **District Information, Accolades and Other Important Communications**

- **COVID Update**
 - As you are well aware New Jersey has been experiencing a significant uptick in COVID cases due to the Omicron variant. Our school district has experienced higher number of positive cases over the past two weeks; however I am pleased to report that we have not had to switch to remote learning for our schools.
 - We continue to diligently enforce all of our mitigation and contact tracing protocols; therefore we are able to implement targeted quarantines which result in fewer students needing to revert to remote learning.
 - We are fortunate in that we have the level of staffing needed on site each day so that in-person learning has been able to continue
 - Last week we put out new guidance to staff & families regarding reduced quarantine time based on NJ & Bergen County DOH recommendations.

- It is our hope that this will enable us to have as many students and staff in person as possible.
 - Our educational staff across the district continues to do a phenomenal job teaching and supporting our students whether they are in school or at home due to quarantine
 - Our administrators have worked to ensure that all safety protocols and procedures are in place
 - And again, I must commend our custodial and maintenance staff and supervisors who continue to work tirelessly to keep our buildings clean and safe.
- **District Enrollment**
 - On a positive note, despite COVID and other difficulties school districts are experiencing, our district enrollment continues to steadily increase.
 - Central administration tracks enrollment on a weekly basis.
 - At the end of September we had 642 students enrolled
 - This past week it had increased to 659.
 - I attribute this to the quality of the educational services that are schools provide due to the outstanding efforts of our administration and staff.
 - **Superintendent's Goal (TECHNOLOGY) – Progress Report**
 - **2021-2022 Superintendent's Technology Goal - Social Media:** By June 2022, the Superintendent will develop and implement a social media program to increase awareness of the many great student accomplishments and school programs in the Bergen County Services School District.

Evidence of Completion: A summary report on the superintendent's social media program.

Mid-Year Update: A social media point person has been established for each campus. Each social media point person has been given access to their respective social media platforms and trained on how to use the social media platforms. Each program is expected to create social media posts at least twice a week. Facebook Business suite is currently being used to track posts and monitor activity.

The main tasks that still need to be completed are to consolidate inactive social media accounts in BCSS, to implement Instagram across all the programs and to start collaborations between the campuses to create joint media campaigns during holidays and school events.

- **2021-2022 Superintendent's Technology Goal - Technology Audit:** By June 2022, the Superintendent will ensure a full technology audit is conducted in which 100% of all hardware, software, and infrastructure in the district will be identified, evaluated and cataloged. This audit will identify strengths and weaknesses to allow the superintendent to make certain that the district is fully prepared for the future technology demands of the special services district and ensure that students and staff have uninterrupted access to technology at all times during the school year.

Evidence of Completion: A summary report of the comprehensive audit will be provided to the Board of Education.

Mid-Year Update: Currently the Technology Department is on schedule for completing a full technology audit by June 2022. Working with Dellicker Strategies the Technology Department has successfully built a team with established roles and responsibilities. The team developed the goals and process for collecting the necessary data for a complete inventory. All hardware, software, and infrastructure will be identified, evaluated and cataloged. As each location is completed, a review is conducted of the errors, omissions and the inventory is

updated. The three main tasks that still need to be completed are data collection from all BCSS sites, preliminary data analysis and evaluation, and the development of policies and procedures to ensure we are prepared for future technology demands. The team expects to complete these three tasks in the coming months.

BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTIONS:

On the motion of Mr. Barnaskas, seconded by Mr. Golabek, the following resolutions were presented for Board action.

Administration	22-A-60S	Through	22-A-67S
Personnel	22-P-109S	Through	22-P-134S
Finance	22-F-62S	Through	22-F-68S

BOARD DISCUSSION – CONSENT AGENDA ONLY

There was no discussion.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – CONSENT AGENDA ONLY

There was no participation from the public.

A ROLL CALL VOTE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA WAS TAKEN:

	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ms. Barnaskas	X			
Mr. DeLisio	X		22-A-62S; 22-A-66S; 22-P-117S; 22-P-119S; 22-F-62S; 22-F-66S	
Mr. Golabek	X			
Ms. Heluk				X
Dr. Lancellotti	X			
Mr. Lentini	X			
Mr. McCarthy				X

OFF CONSENT AGENDA

There were no off consent agenda items

BOARD DISCUSSION– ANY ISSUE

There was no discussion.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – ANY ISSUE

There was no participation.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Lancellotti, seconded by Mr. Lentini. All members present voted in the affirmative. None opposed. Mr. Lentini adjourned the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



John Susino
Board Secretary/School Business Administrator

Approved by the Board of Education at its regular meeting of _____

Regular Agenda Item

Executive Session January 18, 2022

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

File Name

Upload Date

Regular Agenda Item

Agenda Review

Administration	22-A-68S	through	22-A-75S
Personnel	22-P-135S	through	22-P-156S
Finance	22-F-69S	through	22-F-77S