BERGENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES FOR THE CAUCUS MEETING

Monday January 24, 2022

7:00 PM

Front Cafeteria of the High School

1. Meeting Called to Order by the President

2. Roll Call

| Attendee Name | Organization | Title | Status | Arrived |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Joseph Amara | Bergenfield Board of Education | President | Present | |
| Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala | Bergenfield Board of Education | Vice President | Present | |
| Nelson Reynoso | Bergenfield Board of Education | Trustee | Remote | |
| Deborah Podwin | Bergenfield Board of Education | Trustee | Present | |
| Ovelis Munoz | Bergenfield Board of Education | Trustee | Remote | |

Also present: C. Tully, D. Markman, J. Khoury-Frias

Flag Salute: Waived Until the 8:00 PM Meeting

Statement of the President: Waived Until the 8:00 PM Meeting

"The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of this Board, except where specifically exempted by law, at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Board of Education has caused both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting to be published by having same advertised in The Record on <u>June 30, 2021</u>; also notice of this meeting has been mailed to the members of the Board, the Borough Clerk, all Elementary Schools, Roy W. Brown Middle School, the High School and the District Website on January 18, 2022."

The Board publishes its agenda to the extent known by approximately 4:00 p.m. on a Friday preceding a Monday Board meeting. Individuals who wish to submit written comments regarding any government or school district issue that a member of the public feels may be of concern to the residents of the school district must do so by sending an email with the written comments to ba@bergenfield.org or by written letter addressed to the Board Secretary, 225 W. Clinton Avenue, Bergenfield, NJ 07621. Comments submitted in writing or by email must include the commenter's name and address. Written comments must be received no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. Written comments will be read aloud and addressed during the meeting in a manner audible to all meeting participants and the public. When reading written comments during a meeting, the person reading the comment will stop reading after three minutes, no matter how long the comment is. The Board may summarize duplicative comments as permitted by law, and duplicative comments shall be noted for the record.

3. Verbal Comments: None

The Bergenfield Board of Education now opens the floor for our first public comment session. Public comments regarding tonight's agenda items only will be heard at this time. You will have an opportunity to make any other comments during the 2nd public comment session later in the meeting.

Those participating via Zoom shall use the "Raise Hand" feature. Participants shall be limited to a three-minute time limit and shall identify themselves before speaking. There will be a time limit of 30 minutes for each public comment period.

4. Presentation:

Fall Sports Report - Mr. Massey.

5. Discussion of Evening Agenda

6. Discussion of Committee Reports

- A. Finance Committee
- B. Policy Committee

7. Verbal Comments: None

The Bergenfield Board of Education now opens the floor for our 2nd public comment for any other comments at this time.

Those participating via Zoom shall use the "Raise Hand" feature. Participants shall be limited to a three-minute time limit and shall identify themselves before speaking. There will be a time limit of 30 minutes for each public comment period.

8. Motion to go to Private Session

- 1. Tonight's personnel.
- 2. Open Litigation.
- 3. HIB.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

9. Motion to Adjourn

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

2. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Informational Item (ID # 9074)

High School Fall Sports Highlights 2021.

BERGENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING

Monday January 24, 2022

8:00 PM

Front Cafeteria of the High School

1. Meeting called to order by the President

2. Roll Call

| Attendee Name | Organization | Title | Status | Arrived |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Joseph Amara | Bergenfield Board of Education | President | Present | |
| Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala | Bergenfield Board of Education | Vice President | Present | |
| Nelson Reynoso | Bergenfield Board of Education | Trustee | Remote | |
| Deborah Podwin | Bergenfield Board of Education | Trustee | Present | |
| Ovelis Munoz | Bergenfield Board of Education | Trustee | Remote | |

Also present: C. Tully, D. Markman, J. Khoury-Frias

Flag Salute

Statement of the President

"The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend meetings of this Board, except where specifically exempted by law, at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this act, the Board of Education has caused both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting to be published by having same advertised in The Record on June 30, 2021; also notice of this meeting has been mailed to the members of the Board, the Borough Clerk, all Elementary Schools, Roy W. Brown Middle School, the High School and the District Website on January 18, 2022."

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3. Minutes

1. Motion to accept and approve the December 2021 Minutes.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee

SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

4. Written Communication: None

5. Verbal Comments: None

The Bergenfield Board of Education now opens the floor for our first public comment session. Public comments regarding tonight's agenda items only will be heard at this time. You will have an opportunity to make any other comments during the 2nd public comment session later in the meeting.

Those participating via Zoom shall use the "Raise Hand" feature. Participants shall be limited to a three-minute time limit and shall identify themselves before speaking. There will be a time limit of 30 minutes for each public comment period.

Superintendent Dr. Tully, Thanked the all the Staff for what they have done during the Pandemic and noted the there is a decrease in cases.

6. Report and Recommendations of Superintendent of Schools

A. General Recommendations

1. Motion to accept and approve the attached Personnel Recommendations.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

2. Motion to accept and approve the January 5, 2022, Special Education Monthly Report as per the attached.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee **SECONDER:** Deborah Podwin, Trustee

3. Motion to accept and approve the purchase of ELL Edition Licenses from Learning A-Z, in the amount not exceeding \$303.31, payable through Title III Funds.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

4. Motion to accept and approve Phonics First Coaching (in-Person) provided by Brainspring, on April 26, 27, 28, and 29, 2022, at a cost not exceeding \$9,000.00, payable through Title IIA Funds, contract on file in the Business Office.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee **SECONDER:** Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

5. Motion to accept and approve the continuation of student suspensions for students whose names are annexed in the Superintendent's Office.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee **SECONDER:** Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

6. Motion to accept and approve the Safe Return Plan Update and the submission to the New Jersey Department of Education.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

7. Motion to accept and approve the submission of the HIB Grades Report for the 2020/2021 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee **SECONDER:** Deborah Podwin, Trustee

8. Motion to accept and approve the attached HIB Report.

RESULT: APPROV

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

9. Motion to accept and approve Professional Development on "Perception is Everything" & "Routines and Relationships Rule" and "Build It and They Will Come: Recruiting and Retaining Students" provided by Lori Schwartz Reichl on January 17, 2022, in the amount not exceeding \$1,500, payable through Title IIA Funds.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

10. Motion to accept and approve the REVISED proposal for Understanding and Using Grammar 5th Edition Textbooks from Pearson at a cost of \$1,794.87, PAYABLE THROUGH TITLE III. Textbooks are proprietary and exempt from public bidding.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

SECONDER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

11. Motion to accept and approve the ESEA Amendment for Title I, Title IIA, Title III, and Title IV based on redistribution of carryover funds.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

SECONDER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

12. Motion to accept and approve the purchase of three (3) TryDrones Division 1 kits and associated curriculum from LocoRobo Innovations Inc., for Roy W. Brown Middle School in the total amount not to exceed \$3,650.00, payable through ESSER II Funds.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

SECONDER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

13. Motion to accept and approve the purchase of three (3) TryDrones Division 1 kits and associated curriculum from LocoRobo Innovations Inc., for Bergenfield Alternative High School in the total amount not to exceed \$3,650.00, payable through Title IA Funds.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz **AYES:**

14. Motion to accept and approve the revised reimbursements of salaries and benefits from PEA Grant as follows:

| FY 2022 - Revised reimbursements of salaries and benefits applied from PEA Grant | | | | |
|--|----------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------|
| Name | Location | Account | Approximate % of | Amount |
| | | | salary and benefits | |
| S. Leon | Central | 20-218-200-105-10-000 | 20% | \$9,812 |
| | Office | Salary | | |
| L. Kristoff | Central | 20-218-200-105-10-000 | 20% | \$9,718 |
| | Office | | | |

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee **SECONDER:**

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz **AYES:**

15. Motion to accept and approve the revised reimbursements of salaries and benefits from ESEA Grant to LEA as follows:

| FY 2022 - Revised reimbursements of salaries and benefits applied from Title I to LEA | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| <u>Name</u> | Location | Account | Approximate % of salary and benefits | Amount |
| I. Sulich | Central Office | 20-232-200-100-08-270 Salary | 20% | \$13,452 |
| S. Leon | Central Office | 20-232-200-100-08-270 Salary | 30% | \$14,718 |

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee Deborah Podwin, Trustee SECONDER:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz **AYES:**

16. Motion to accept and approve Mindfulness Skill Development for Bergenfield Alternative High School students provided by Pandora Healing LLC, two times a week for 30 minutes to begin January 2022, with a total amount not to exceed \$6,000, payable through Title IA Funds.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee **SECONDER:** Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

17. Motion to accept and approve the following Conferences Over \$150 payable through ESEA Funds.

| Name | Position | Conference Name | Cost | Account Number | Source of Funds |
|------------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| C Timed | Wand | | \$245.00 | 20-273-200-500-08-270 | Title IIA |
| S. Liguori | World | 68th Annual | \$243.00 | 20-273-200 - 300-08-270 | I III IIA |
| | Language | Northeast | | | - |
| | Teacher | Conference on | | | |
| | | teaching Foreign | | | |
| | | Language, NY | | | |
| | | Hilton Midtown, | | | |
| | | New York, NY, | | | |
| | | February 11-12, | | | |
| | | 2022. | | | |
| M. | English | Helping Catch Up | \$279.00 | 20-273-200-500-08-270 | Title IIA |
| Basumatary | Teacher | Your Struggling | | | |
| | | English | | | |
| | | /Language Arts | | | |
| | | Students: | | | |
| | | Practical, | | | |
| | | Successful | ŀ | | |
| | | Strategies | | | |
| | | (Grades 6-12), | | | |
| | | Live Online | | | |
| | | Event, March 22, | | | |
| | | 2022 | | | |

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee **SECONDER:** Deborah Podwin, Trustee

18. Motion to accept and approve the purchase of supplies for the Introduction to Crochet Professional Development Workshop scheduled to be held on January 17, 2022, for the total amount of \$93.33, payable through Title IIA.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

SECONDER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business

A. Motion to accept and approve the Tuition Contracts for Received Students for the 2021/2022 School Year.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

B. Motion to accept and approve the attached Tuition Contract for a sent student for the 2021/2022 School Year.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

C. Motion to accept and approve the attached Transportation Contract as the Joiner District for the 2021/2022 School Year.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

D. Motion to accept and approve the attached Transportation Contract as Host District for the 2021/2022 School Year.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES:

E. Motion to accept and approve the attached Use of Facilities.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee **SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

F. Motion to accept and approve Educational Data Services for the annual bidding services at a cost of \$15,195.00 for the 2022/2023 school year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

G. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Dell for five (5) Optiplex computers for Bergenfield High School at a total cost of \$6,733.05 on State Contract # M0483/19TELE00656.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee **SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

H. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Denver Equipment Co. for the purchase of convection ovens for the elementary school satellite cafeterias for a total cost of \$26,922.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

I. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Eastern Datacomm to install a wireless Bogen Classroom Clock System at Roy W. Brown Middle School at a cost of \$26,008.00 on ESCNJ Cooperative Bid #18/19-16.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

J. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Eastern Datacomm to convert the public address system at Roy W. Brown Middle School to a LENS System which will be connected to the phone system at a cost of \$13,469.25 on ESCNJ Cooperative Bid # 18/19-16.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

K. Motion to accept and the proposal from Generations Technologies for eighteen (18) LED light fixtures for the gym at Hoover School at a cost of \$4,500 on Hunterdon County Cooperative Bid #HCESC-Cat-19-07.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

L. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Generations Services for the installation of eighteen (18) LED light fixtures in the gym at Hoover School at a cost of \$5,750 on Hunterdon County Cooperative Bid # SER12B.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Nelson Revnoso, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

M. Motion to accept and approve the sale of 104 Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) to Flett Exchange at a total cost of \$23,920.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:Deborah Podwin, TrusteeSECONDER:Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

- N. Motion to accept and approve the participation in the following Cooperatives for the 2021/2022 School Year:
 - Amazon
 - Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission
 - PEPPM
 - Sourcewell National Cooperative Purchasing
 - The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS)

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

O. Motion to accept and approve the General Fund and Fund 20 Inter-Account Transfers as per the attached list.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

SECONDER:

Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

9. Report and Recommendations of Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Motion to accept and approve the following as presented:

A. The Secretary's Report of Cash Balances as of December 31, 2021 reflecting a balance of \$16,987,407.48 and The Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances as of December 31, 2021 reflecting a balance of \$16,987,407.48.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

SECONDER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

B. Final Vouchers for payment in the month of December 2021 in the total amount of \$9,887,161.58.

RESULT:

APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER:

Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

SECONDER:

Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES:

C. Partial Vouchers for payment in the month of January 2022 in the total amount of \$6,317,613.02.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

D. Motion to accept and approve the following:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)3, the Board of Education Secretary certifies that as of December 31, 2021 that no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4, the Board of Education Secretary certifies that as of December 31, 2021, after review of the District's monthly financial reports, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee

AYES: Amara, Ruiz-Catala, Reynoso, Podwin, Munoz

10. Verbal Comments

The Bergenfield Board of Education now opens the floor for our 2nd public comment for any other comments at this time.

Those participating via Zoom shall use the "Raise Hand" feature. Participants shall be limited to a three-minute time limit and shall identify themselves before speaking. There will be a time limit of 30 minutes for each public comment period.

Belinda Burns - Parent CoVid protocol.

Jennifer Cerezo - Parent
Student placement in District

President Amara thanked the staff for their service during the pandemic the past 2 years.

11. Adjournment

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee