## BERGENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

#### MINUTES FOR THE CAUCUS MEETING

Monday March 28, 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	Present	
Deborah Podwin	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Remote	
Ovelis Munoz	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	

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 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 March 24, 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 <a href="mailto:ba@bergenfield.org">ba@bergenfield.org</a> 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. Discussion of Evening Agenda

## 5. Discussion of Committee Reports

- A. Finance Committee
- **B.** Policy Committee

#### 6. Presentation:

Bergenfield High School Book Club - The Little Library Project

#### 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: Joseph Amara, Nelson Reynoso

**SECONDER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

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

# 2. INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S):

1. Informational Item (ID # 9188)

Posting for 3/28/2022 Meetings.

Attachments:

Posting for 3-28-22 Regular Meeting (PDF)

## BERGENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

#### MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING

Monday March 28, 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	Present	
Deborah Podwin	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Remote	
Ovelis Munoz	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	

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 <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 March 24, 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 <a href="mailto:ba@bergenfield.org">ba@bergenfield.org</a> 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. Minutes

1. Motion to accept and approve the Minutes for February 2022.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

#### 4. Written Communication

A. Motion to accept and approve the following correspondence:

Thank you from the Leopold Family.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

**SECONDER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

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

## 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.

# 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: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

**SECONDER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

2. Motion to accept and approve the March 14, 2022, Special Education Monthly Report as per the attached.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

3. Motion to accept and approve the Bergenfield Public School District 2022 Summer Enrichment and Academic Programs. All registrations will be paperless and processed through CommunityPass.com.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

4. Motion to accept and approve the Atlas Lesson Planner Training for district employees, payable through LEA Funds.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

5. Motion to accept and approve, and affirm all the attached Conferences Under \$150, payable through ESEA Funds.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

6. Motion to accept and approve the following Out-of-State Field Trip:

Bergenfield High School AP Art History students to The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, NY on Tuesday, May 16, 2022. Total of 13 students and 3 chaperones.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

Name	Position	Conference	Cost	Account Number	Source of
					<u>Funds</u>
M. Saunders	Supervisor	Virtual PLC	\$ 299.00	20-273-200-500-15-270	Title IIA
	Early	+ Activators			
	Childhood	Guide			
	Education,	Institute			
	Gifted and	Virtual			-
	Talented	Workshop,			
		May 9, 2022.			

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

8. Motion to accept and approve Second Reading of Policy #2415.05 - Student Surveys, Analysis, Evaluations, Examinations, Testing, or Treatment.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

9. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy #2431.4 - Prevention & Treatment of Sports Related Concussions and Head Injuries.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

10. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy #2622 - Student Assessment.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

11. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy #5541 - Anti-Hazing.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

12. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy #5460 - High School Graduation.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

13. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy #8465 - Bias Crimes and Bias Related Acts.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

14. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy #9560 - Administration of School Surveys.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

15. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Regulation #R2460.30 - Additional/Compensatory Special Education and Related Services.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

16. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Regulation #R2431.4 - Prevention & Treatment of Sports Related Concussions and Head Injuries.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

17. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Regulation #R2622 - Student Assessment.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

18. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Regulation #R8465 - Bias Crimes and Bias-Related Acts.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

19. 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:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

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

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

21. Motion to accept and approve the purchase of Instructional Supplies for Franklin Elementary School from Amazon.com LLC, amount not exceeding \$198.19, payable through Title III funds.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

22. Motion to accept and approve the purchase of Instructional Supplies for Hoover Elementary School, from Treasure Bay Books, amount not exceeding \$2,615.57, payable through Title I.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

23. Motion to accept and approve the purchase of Instructional Supplies for Hoover Elementary School, from Dog on a Log Books, amount not exceeding \$1,481.34, payable through Title I.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

24. Motion to accept and approve the Comprehensive Equity Plan Statement of Assurance for the 2022-2023 school year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

7. Old Business: None

#### 8. New Business

A. Motion to accept and approve the attached Tuition Contract with Bergen County Special Services for the 2021/2022 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

B. Motion to accept and approve the attached Specialty Contracts for the 2021/2022 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

C. Motion to accept and approve the attached Tuition Contracts for the 2022/2023 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

D. Motion to accept and approve the attached Specialty Contract for the 2022/2023 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

E. Motion to accept and approve the attached Transportation Contract between the Gloucester County Special Services School District and the Bergenfield Board of Education for the 2022/2023 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

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

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

H. Motion to accept and approve the attached agreement for services from Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

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

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**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 February 28, 2022 reflecting a balance of \$16,336,943.99 and The Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances as of February 28, 2022 reflecting a balance of \$16,336,943.99.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

B. Final Vouchers for payment in the month of February 2022 in the total amount of \$8,143,467.11.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

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

C. Partial Vouchers for payment in the month of March 2022 in the total amount of \$6,011,468.07.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President

**SECONDER:** Nelson Reynoso, 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 February 28, 2022 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 February 28, 2022, 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:** Nelson Reynoso, 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.

Joby Philip - Parent

Street safety comment by Hoover School.

Dr. Amara announced to the public that this will be the last meeting via ZOOM. All future meetings will be fully in person.

# 11. Adjournment

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee

**SECONDER:** Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice President