

BERGENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES FOR THE CAUCUS MEETING

Monday September 21, 2020

7:00 PM

District Conference Room

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	
Eileen Ryder	Bergenfield Board of Education	Vice-President	Absent	
Nelson Reynoso	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	
Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	
Deborah Podwin	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	

Also present: C.Tully, D. Markman

Flag Salute: Waived until the 8:00 PM Meeting

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 notice of this meeting to be published by having same advertised in The Record on June 30, 2020; also notice of this virtual 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 September 16, 2020."

3. Verbal Comments

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.

Laurie Shaw - Are Hybrid classes being spoken about tonight?

Jessenia Paoli - Are we on track for starting Hybrid classes on 10/19/2020?

When would parents be informed if classes will go Hybrid?

4. Discussion of Evening Agenda

5. Discussion of Committee Reports

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

6. Verbal Comments

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

Jessenia Paoli - Has the Transfiguration Academy at St. John's affected the school district's enrollment and will it affect going to Hybrid?

Robin Kovacs - During the August meeting it was said that the re-opening would be discussed at the September meeting.

7. Motion to go to Private Session

Personnel for the 9/21/2020 meeting was discussed.

Also discussed:

- 1. Open Litigation.
- 2. HIB.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
SECONDER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

8. Motion to Adjourn

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
SECONDER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

- 1. Posting for 9/21/2020 Regular Meeting.

BERGENFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION
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MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING

Monday September 21, 2020

8:00 PM

District Conference Room

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	
Eileen Ryder	Bergenfield Board of Education	Vice-President	Absent	
Nelson Reynoso	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	
Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	
Deborah Podwin	Bergenfield Board of Education	Trustee	Present	

Also present: C. Tully, D. Markman

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 notice of this meeting to be published by having same advertised in The Record on June 30, 2020; also notice of this virtual 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 September 16, 2020."

3. Minutes

1. Motion to accept and approve the Minutes for August 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

4. Written Communication: None

5. Verbal Comments:

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.

Devie Fernandez - Had a question about Special Ed contracts for tuition.

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, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

2. Motion to accept and approve the Final 2019/2020 school year Special Education Monthly Report, dated 7/22/2020, as per the attached.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

3. Motion to accept and approve the September 15, 2020, Special Education Monthly Report as per the attached.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

4. Motion to accept and approve the 2020/2021 Independent Consultant list as per the attached.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

5. Motion to accept and approve the 2020-2021 Mentoring Plan.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

6. Motion to accept and approve the 2019/2020 IDEA Final Report and Carry-Over as indicated below.

	Allocation	Final Expenditure	Carry-Over Amount
BASIC	\$ 875,709	\$ 888,627	\$ 7,035.81
PSD	\$ 35,005	\$ 35,005	\$ - 0 -

No Non-Public Carry-Over, Transfiguration Academy closed permanently August 2020.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

7. Motion to accept and approve the 2020/2021 IDEA Amendment for Non-Public Fund use as indicated below.

In August of 2020 Transfiguration Academy, Bergenfield, New Jersey, closed permanently. The \$44,805 in IDEA Funds allocated for Non-Public use will be transferred to the tuition line for Special Education students in Out-of-District schools.

	Allocation	Public	Non-Public
BASIC	\$ 933,432	\$ 933,432	\$ - 0 -
PSD	\$ 35,240	\$ 35,240	\$ - 0 -

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

8. Motion to accept and approve the renewal quote from Gale Cengage Learning for the 2020/2021 school year in the amount of \$15,133.03 for the Business Office Course at Bergenfield High School.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

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

FY 2021 - Reimbursements of salaries and benefits applied from Title I to LEA				
<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Approximate % of salary and benefits</u>	<u>Amount</u>
L. Titus	Hoover	20-232-100-100-03-270 Salary	25%	\$26,036
D. Kessler	Washington	20-232-100-100-06-270 Salary	25%	\$20,868
D. Ferrari	R.W.B.	20-232-100-100-07-270 Salary	12.5%	\$ 8,809
J. Marsich	R.W.B.	20-232-100-100-07-270 Salary	12.5%	\$ 8,571
E. Rodriguez	R.W.B.	20-232-100-100-07-270 Salary	12.5%	\$10,136
A.M. Wilson	R.W.B.	20-232-100-100-07-270 Salary	12.5%	\$10,386
H. Arabito	R.W.B.	20-232-100-100-07-270 Salary	12.5%	\$ 9,284
D. Johanneson	R.W.B.	20-232-100-100-07-270 Salary	12.5%	\$10,136
K. Berkheiser	B.H.S	20-232-100-100-08-270 Salary	25%	\$16,668
H. Conklin	B.H.S	20-232-100-100-08-270 Salary	12.5%	\$11,990

G. Garcia	B.H.S	20-232-100-100-08-270 Salary	25%	\$16,668
B. Grande	B.H.S	20-232-100-100-08-270 Salary	38%	\$21,456
J. Froelich	B.H.S.	20-232-100-100-08-270 Salary	12.5%	\$10,886
S. Samuel	B.H.S.	20-232-100-100-08-270 Salary	12.5%	\$ 9,784
M. Denicola	Hoover	20-232-100-100-03-270 Salary	51%	\$21,600
		20-231-200-200-15-270 Approximate benefits for staff indicated above		\$76,519
I. Sulich	Central Office	20-232-200-100-08-270 Salary	50%	\$32,701
D. Markman	Central Office	20-232-200-100-08-270 Salary	15%	\$23,530

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

10. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy # 2464 - Gifted and Talented Pupils.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

11. Motion to accept and approve the Second Reading of Policy # 1648.03 - Restart and Recovery Plan-Full-Time Remote Instruction.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

12. Motion to accept and approve the 2019-2020 Final Expenditure Report and Notification of Intent to Carry-over ESEA Funds.

<u>2019-2020 ESEA Grant</u>	<u>Allocation</u>	<u>Final Expenditures</u>	<u>Carry-Over Amount</u>
Title I, Part A	\$501,165	\$420,208	\$80,957
Title IIA	\$99,032	\$76,664	\$22,368
Title III	\$49,398	\$39,043	\$10,355
Title III Immigrant	\$14,036	\$2,690	\$11,346
Title IV	\$29,975	\$26,558	\$ 3,417

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

13. Motion to accept and approve the School Nursing Service Plan for 2020/2021 as per the attached.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

14. 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: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

15. Motion to accept and approve the agreement between the Bergenfield Board of Education and the parents of a student whose name is annexed in the Superintendent's Office.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

16. Motion to accept and approve Phonics First Livestream Professional Development provided by Brainspring, Phonics First Level 1, on September 25 & 29, October 1 & 2, 2020, Days 4 & 5 TBD, at a cost not exceeding \$14,880.00, payable through Title IIA Funds, contract on file in the Business Office.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

17. Motion to accept and approve payment for one hour of training on September 17, 2020 for elementary staff participants, Freckle.com training provided by Renaissance Learning, payable through Title IIA Funds.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
SECONDER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

7. Old Business: None

8. New Business

A. Motion to accept and approve the attached contracts with Bergen County Special Services for the 2020/2021 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

B. Motion to accept and approve the attached Tuition Contracts for Received Students for the 2020/2021 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

C. Motion to accept and approve the attached Tuition Contracts for Sent Students for the 2020/2021 School Year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

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

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

E. Motion to accept and approve the quote from Albert for licenses for the 2020/2021 School Year in the amount of \$6,000.00.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

F. Motion to accept and approve the following donation(s):

Ms. Judy Hurwitz made a \$100.00 donation to the Dr. Arthur Freiman Scholarship Fund.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

G. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Custom Computers to add the Campus Learning feature to Infinite Campus at a total cost of \$8,476. This software is proprietary and is exempt from public bidding.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

H. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Staples for 50 Chromebooks at a cost of \$12,160.50 on Ed-Data cooperative bid #9837.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

I. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from CDWG for the annual renewal of Smart Learning Suite for SmartBoards at a cost of \$9,058.50 on cooperative bid # ESCNJ18/19-03.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

J. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from GPS for 38 contactless flushometers at a cost of \$6,723.08.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

K. Motion to accept and approve the proposal from Bioshine for 110 touchless hand sanitizer dispensers with sanitizer and batteries at a cost of \$13,341.10 on cooperative bid 34HUNCCP CAT-SER-19-02.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

L. Motion to accept and approve the Fixed Asset Inventory as of June 30, 2020.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

M. Motion to accept and approve the change in petty cash for the Bear Den Program from \$1,000 to \$250 for the 2020/2021 school year.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

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

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER: Deborah Podwin, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

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 August 31, 2020 reflecting a balance of \$12,948,536.99 and The Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances as of August 31, 2020 reflecting a balance of \$12,948,536.99.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

- B. Final Vouchers for payment in the month of August 2020 in the total amount of \$2,500,945.19.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

- C. Partial Vouchers for payment in the month of September 2020 in the total amount of \$5,069,851.93.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
SECONDER: Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
AYES: Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT: Ryder

- 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 August 31, 2020 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 August 31, 2020, 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, Trustee
SECONDER:	Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder

10. Verbal Comments

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

Ydianna Hidalgo - Are there plans and training for counselors during this stressful time of diversity? Any plans for staff members of color?

Krystle DiLello - Are there accommodations and protocol in place for virtual testing of students with IEP's and 504's?

Jessenia Paoli - Screening for all staff & students when returning to school.

How will you know if a person has filled out the questionnaire in order to go to school?

Will parents be notified if a student or staff member is not wearing a mask due to health restrictions?

Any update on testing?

Any word on a SACC or YMCA aftercare program for student care?

Alex Henderson - Education reform, classes or workshops for race, class & gender.

Yolanda Morris - Will hybrid learning begin on 10/19/2020?

Devie Fernandez - IEP's are not being met. Are there any plans to teach or train parents to assist in virtual learning?

Laurie Shaw - Very pleased with Washington School. When beginning Hybrid Learning; if a teacher is not in the classroom and a substitute has been placed there, can you change your mind and have your child continue remotely?

11. Adjourment

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Nelson Reynoso, Trustee
SECONDER:	Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Trustee
AYES:	Amara, Reynoso, Ruiz-Catala, Podwin
ABSENT:	Ryder