

**BERKELEY HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ
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APRIL 30, 2026
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GOVERNOR LIVING HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:33 P.M.
GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM 131**

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**BERKELEY HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION
BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 30, 2026
GOVERNOR LIVING HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
REGULAR SESSION 6:30 P.M.
GOVERNOR LIVING HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA
EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:33 P.M.
GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON HIGH SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM 131**

- I. **Regular Session - Call to Order - 6:30 p.m. - Governor Livingston High School Cafeteria**
- II. **Meeting Notice and Roll Call**

Adequate notice of this meeting of the Berkeley Heights Board of Education was given as required by the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., and in accordance with the updated regulations.

On January 7, 2026, notice of the Board of Education meeting schedule was posted on the Berkeley Heights Board of Education official website, posted at the Administration Building, provided to all Berkeley Heights Public Schools, PTO Presidents, and the BHEA President, filed with the Municipal Clerk and provided to the Public Library for public inspection.

Present: Mrs. Akiri (arrived at 6:50 p.m.), Ms. Bradford, Mr. Dillon (arrived at 6:38 p.m.), Dr. Foregger, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Stanley, Mrs. Terrero, Superintendent Dr. Feltre, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Marr, Business Administrator Ms. Nicholson, Assistant Business Administrator Mr. Sindha and Board Attorney Mr. Disler

ABSENT: None

- III. **Flag Salute**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President, Mrs. Terrero.

- IV. **Executive Session - 6:33 p.m. - Governor Livingston High School Conference Room 131**

On motion by Ms. Bradford and seconded by Mr. Morales, and approved by all present, the Board recessed into closed executive session at 6:33 p.m.

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Heights Board of Education seeks to adjourn to Executive Session in full compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act provides that a public body may exclude the public from that portion of the meeting at which it discusses matters related to those identified below:

- a. Matters rendered confidential by Federal Law, State Law, or Court Rule

- b. Individual privacy
- c. Collective bargaining agreements
- d. Purchase or lease of real property if public interest could be adversely affected
- e. Investment of public funds if public interest could be adversely affected
- f. Tactics or techniques utilized in protecting public safety and property
- g. Pending or anticipated litigation
- h. Attorney-client privilege
- i. Personnel – employment matters affecting specific prospective or current employees.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Berkeley Heights Board of Education adjourns to Executive Session to discuss matters related to students, legal, and personnel matters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the discussion of any of these items will be disclosed to the public when matters have been determined and confidentiality is no longer applicable.

V. **Return to Public Session**

On motion by Ms. Bradford and seconded by Mr. Morales, and approved by all present, the Board closed the executive session and returned to the public session at 7:45 p.m.

VI. **Report of the Superintendent and Student Representatives - Pippa Raaijmakers and Howard Acheson**

Howard Acheson reported that there had been limited new developments since his previous report two weeks prior. He noted that student council elections were held last Friday and congratulated all students who ran and those elected following several close races.

He highlighted the achievements of Governor Livingston High School's Highlander Robotics team, which competed at the First Tech Challenge New England Premier Event on April 17–18. The team made school history by reaching this level of competition for the first time, placing fifth in their division out of 55 teams from 17 states and ranking within the top 5% globally. He praised the team's dedication, innovation, perseverance, and strong alumni support.

Mr. Acheson also mentioned that GLHS hosted the third annual BHEA Talent Show the previous day, where students and staff showcased their talents.

Looking ahead, he noted that National College Decision Day would take place the following day, recognizing seniors as they finalize their post-graduation plans. He also reminded attendees that AP exams would begin the following week and continue through May 15, wishing all participating students success.

He concluded with a quote from Mahatma Gandhi: "The future depends on what you do today," emphasizing the importance of hard work, focus, and supporting one another during this busy time of year.

Pippa Raaijmakers apologized for her absence at the previous meeting and shared that she attended an admitted students event at Smith College, where she has committed to attend.

She provided an update on Governor Livingston High School spring athletics and student activities. GL student-athletes participated in the first UCC Sportsmanship Summit at Union Catholic High School, with the track and field team representing the school positively.

Ms. Raaijmakers highlighted several athletic accomplishments, including:

- The softball team's 10–1 victory over Hightstown in the Autism Awareness Challenge, marking Coach Lanigan's 100th career win.
- The girls lacrosse team's comeback victory over DePaul Catholic after overcoming a five-goal deficit.
- Reid Bazydlo's four-hit pitching performance and Owen Keough's strong offensive showing in the baseball team's 8–0 win over Elizabeth.
- The boys' lacrosse team's road victory over Old Bridge High School.
- Participation by the baseball team and Gloucester Catholic in another Autism Awareness Challenge event.

She also noted GL SportsZone spirit week activities, including themed dress days and a successful pep rally on April 24.

Additional recognitions included:

- The softball team's senior night win over Oak Knoll.
- The girls' lacrosse senior night, where the team demonstrated strong perseverance and sportsmanship despite a loss.
- Abbey Devanney and Lily Sandholm signed letters of commitment to continue their academic and athletic careers at Delta State University and Fairleigh Dickinson University.
- Abbey Devanney was named Valerico Heating and Cooling Highlander Athlete of the Week.
- The baseball team honored 12 seniors during an 8–1 senior night victory over Summit.
- Track and field captain Rylee Conover signed her commitment to compete at Susquehanna University.

Ms. Raaijmakers concluded by announcing upcoming spring clinics for the Highlander Color Guard and noting that GL hosted the Union County Conference Track and Field Championships, wishing participants continued success.

Dr. Feltre introduced Mr. Maresca and the Highlander Robotics team.

Mr. Maresca, the Highlanders Robotics coach and Technology and Engineering Design teacher at GLHS, along with members of the Robotics team, presented highlights from the team's season and showcased the students' skills and awards earned. The team also conducted a demonstration for the Board members and the public.

To see the full presentation, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

Dr. Feltre thanked the robotics team for their contributions and noted that the new press box is now fully operational as the district hosts the TRAC UCC Championship this week. She also announced that the

Berkeley Heights and Mountainside Boards of Education will hold a formal grand opening ceremony for the press box on May 6 at 5:00 p.m. on the GL Turf Field, inviting community members to attend and celebrate the occasion.

Dr. Feltre also provided an update on the ongoing study of future scheduling options for Columbia Middle School. Following curriculum committee discussions, a team of six teachers and Mr. Kobliska, visited four schools in November 2025 to examine successful scheduling models, including approaches to recess, music classes, and instructional time for core subjects such as ELA and math. The team returned with ideas for potential improvements to the current schedule. Dr. Feltre emphasized that schedule changes require careful evaluation and stated that the district will continue exploring viable options throughout the next school year, with additional updates to be shared as decisions are made.

VII. **Report of the Business Administrator/Board Communications**

Dr. Feltre and Ms. Nicholson presented the Final Budget Presentation. To watch the presentation in its entirety and hear the Board's discussion, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON FINAL BUDGET ADOPTION ONLY

During this portion of the meeting, District residents and staff are invited to address the Board of Education on [final budget adoption items](#) only.

The Board requests that individuals state their name and town of residence (or school of attendance) for the record. Additionally, all in-person public commenters are asked to please sign in. All comments should be directed to the Board President and depending upon the nature and complexity of the question, it may or may not be answered during the meeting by the Administration. If so, the response would occur after this public portion of the meeting has concluded. Although the Board may not respond to all items raised during the public forum, all public comments will be considered.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding personnel matters are discouraged and cannot be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public.

Please note that if any member of the public becomes disruptive during the meeting the Board President may terminate the participant's statement. Continued disruptions may result in removal from, or adjournment of, the meeting.

Each speaker's statement will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration.

Shauna Williams (Berkeley Heights Resident) Ms. Williams thanked Dr. Feltre for acknowledging the community's approval of the referendum and recognized the difficult financial decisions necessary to keep the district on track. She expressed understanding regarding the elimination of positions and the potential strain on remaining staff, as well as concerns about additional vacancies that may not be filled. Reference was also made to community discussion surrounding the athletic trainer position. Ms. Williams appreciated the administration's thoughtful approach to these matters and noted the temporary financial relief resulting from the delayed full debt service obligations. Additionally, Ms. Williams referenced the district's "Survive, Revive, Thrive" framework, stating that while the district has successfully "survived," they are interested in learning more about what the "revive" phase will look like within the constraints of

the 2% tax cap and other financial limitations. Ms. Williams expressed interest in hearing more about future plans in the coming months or by September.

Steve Grigusky (Berkeley Heights Resident) Mr. Grigusky commented on district policies and budget implications, specifically referencing Policy 5756 regarding transgender students. He expressed concern that the policy may conflict with federal Title IX requirements and suggested that the Board review or reconsider the policy, noting that potential legal challenges could impact district expenditures. He encouraged the administration to act in the best interests of all students.

Mr. Grigusky also highlighted the accomplishments of Team 8513, an all-girls robotics team affiliated with the international FIRST Robotics organization, which was founded by NASA engineers and has operated worldwide for more than 30 years. He emphasized the educational and career opportunities robotics programs provide students through experiences in engineering, programming, manufacturing, and technical design. Additional interest was expressed in expanding opportunities involving drone technology. Mr. Grigusky encouraged the district to continue supporting and building momentum for robotics and STEM-related programs and offered assistance if needed.

John Migueis (Berkeley Heights Resident via Zoom) Mr. Migueis spoke in support of the proposed budget, describing it as a positive step while emphasizing that continued financial review is needed to address underlying cost structures. He encouraged the district to identify potential savings within administrative and athletic expenditures, stating that resources should be prioritized for classroom and student-focused programs, including robotics and other STEM opportunities. Mr. Migueis also suggested that broader advocacy at the municipal level could help address funding concerns related to revenue withheld from schools. While expressing general support for the budget process and appreciation for prior comments from district representatives, he noted differing perspectives on past decisions and their impact on the current financial situation.

To hear the Comments from the Public on Final Budget Adoption Only in full, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

1) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve, the **adoption of the Final Budget**, with modifications to the Tentative Budget approved by the Interim Executive County Superintendent

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Heights Board of Education adopted a Tentative budget on April 16, 2026, and submitted it to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval, and

WHEREAS, the Tentative budget was approved by the Executive County Superintendent of Schools on April 20, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the TENTATIVE budget was advertised in the legal section of the Legal Notices section of the Berkeley Heights Public School District website on April 22, 2026, and

WHEREAS, the FINAL BUDGET was presented to the public during a public hearing held in the Governor Livingston High School Cafeteria, 175 Watchung Blvd., Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 on April 30, 2026.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has now determined to make modifications to the Tentative Budget as follows:

<u>Budget Line</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Tentative Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Explanation</u>
Rev 10-1210	Local Tax Levy	\$48,652,092	\$49,121,093	\$469,001	This includes the additional waiver and banked cap
Apr 11-000-29 1-270	Health Benefits	\$9,236,598	\$9,754,000	\$517,402	Reflects updated medical cost projections received April 17, 2026
Apr 11-000-26 1-420	Labor & Repair Services	\$413,847	\$365,446	-\$48,401	Reflects decrease in Repair Services- Maint Dept
Total Fund 10	Total	\$60,844,595	\$61,313,596		

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in consideration of the above, the Board of Education hereby adopts the following FINAL Budget for SY2026-2027:

	Budget	Tax Levy
General Fund	\$61,313,596	\$49,121,093
Special Revenue	\$495,961	\$0
Debt Service	\$489,609	\$489,609
Total Budget	\$62,299,166	\$49,610,702

2) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve in the proposed budget a **Health Care Costs adjustment** as calculated in the budget software and pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-38 subsection (d) in the amount of \$228,111. The additional funds will be used to pay for the additional increases in health care premiums.

3) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve in the proposed budget the **adjustment for banked cap** in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-10.1(b). The district has fully exhausted all eligible statutory spending authority and must increase the base budget in the amount of \$240,890 for the purpose of funding additional health benefits. The district intends to complete said purposes by June 2027.

4) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve that as per N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-14.2(d) the general fund appropriations include a \$450,000 withdrawal from the **Maintenance**

Reserve Account for use on required maintenance activities for a school facility as reported in the comprehensive maintenance plan pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:26-20.5.

On motion by Mrs. Akiri seconded by Dr. Foregger, a motion was made to amend Resolution 1 to reduce the general fund budget and tax levy by \$175,000. The motion failed.

“Ayes” - Mrs. Akiri, Dr. Foregger and Mr. Morales
“Noes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Dillon and Mrs. Terrero
“Abstain” - None
“Absent”- None

On motion by Mrs. Joly seconded by Ms. Bradford Report of the Business Administrator/Board Communications Resolutions 1-4: All Board members were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Joly, Dr. Foregger (Resolution #4 Only) and Mrs. Terrero
“Noes” - Mr. Dillon, Mrs. Akiri and Dr. Foregger (Resolutions #1-3 Only)
“Abstain” - None
“Absent”- None

To hear the Board’s full discussion during the Report of the Business Administrator/Board Communications, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

VIII. Comments from the Public on Agenda Items

During this portion of the meeting, District residents and staff are invited to address the Board of Education on agenda action items only.

The Board requests that individuals state their name and town of residence (or school of attendance) for the record. Additionally, all in-person public commenters are asked to please sign in. All comments should be directed to the Board President and depending upon the nature and complexity of the question, it may or may not be answered during the meeting by the Administration. If so, the response would occur after this public portion of the meeting has concluded. Although the Board may not respond to all items raised during the public forum, all public comments will be considered.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding personnel matters are discouraged and cannot be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public.

Please note that if any member of the public becomes disruptive during the meeting the Board President may terminate the participant’s statement. Continued disruptions may result in removal from, or adjournment of, the meeting.

Each speaker’s statement will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration.

Time In: 9:29 p.m.

There were no online public comments.

Shauna Williams (Berkeley Heights Resident) Ms. Williams commented on the proposed abolishment of a position discussed during the budget conversation. The speaker acknowledged hearing positive feedback about Dr. Cordero and recognized that the decision was difficult, but encouraged the Board to support the recommendation and vote to approve abolishing the position despite the regret associated with the action.

Time Out: 9:31 p.m.

IX. Approval of Minutes

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the following meeting minutes:
 - April 16, 2026 - Executive Meeting Minutes
 - April 16, 2026 - Regular Meeting Minutes

On motion by Ms. Bradford seconded by Mrs. Joly the foregoing were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Dillon, Dr. Foregger and Mrs. Terrero
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - Mr. Morales and Mrs. Akiri
- “Absent”- None

X. Finance

BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **Payroll and Bills List** as follows:

Payroll		
	3/27/2026	\$1,864,410.65
	4/15/2026	\$2,634,560.95
Accounts Payable		
	4/13/2026	\$6,879.00
	4/30/2026	\$1,598,175.84
Total		\$6,104,026.44

- 2) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **March 2026 Board Secretary’s Report**.

- 3) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **March 2026 line item transfers** in the 2025–2026 school budget, as listed on file in the Board Office.

March 2026 line item transfers in the 2025–2026 school budget, as listed on file in the Board Office.

5) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the following **field trip destinations** for the 2025-2026 school year:

Group	Destination	Date(s)
GL Band	Mary Kay McMillin ECC 651 Mountain Avenue, Berkeley Heights, NJ	5/15/26

6) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve **Professional Development Days/Travel Reimbursement** as follows:

Name:	Event:	Dates:	Cost:
Nicole Baker	The Boggs Center - PCAST: Annual Innovation Swap Meet	05/21/26	\$0.00
Margaret Berry	New Jersey Principal and Supervisors Association - NJPSA Women in Leadership Committee In-Person Meeting	04/24/26	\$0.00
Kimberly Fleming	NJEA - Leadership Development Training for Local Presidents Session I with Dave Ciliberto	5/8/26	\$0.00
Marissa Gold	Heights NJ - Outreach 2 - Working Dogs	4/22/26	\$0.00
Marissa Gold	Commission for the Blind	5/18/26	\$0.00
Ashley Janosko	Berkeley Heights Public Schools - LAUNCH Counselor Event: Philadelphia, PA	5/18/26	\$0.00
Qinghong Lu	Governor Livingston High School - Challenge Day	04/08/26 04/08/26	\$0.00
Cynthia Manto	Governor Livingston High School - Field Trip Chaperone Request	04/10/26 04/10/26	\$0.00
Michelle Morin	Common App - updates from Common App	05/21/26	\$0.00
Hannah Murphy	EventBrite - Languages are FUNDamental: Re- Engaging Gen Z in Language Learning	04/16/26	\$0.00
Jay Pimentel	Temple University - Counselor Information	4/3/26	\$0.00

Jay Pimentel	The College of New Jersey - TCNJ - Counselor Visit and Tour	04/02/26	\$0.00
Heather Saunders	Hibster - Master Class Level I Comprehensive HIB Investigation Training	5/29/26	\$350.00
Staci Toporek	Garden State Scholastic Press Association - Garden State Scholastic Press Association Spring Advisers Conference	05/01/26	\$100.00
Melinda Willson	Hallie Bulkin, MA, CCC-SLP, CMT®, CPFTTM - Screen the Peds to Feed the Peds	05/04/26	\$0.00

7) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby accept a donation in the amount of \$1,213.00 from the **Highlander Booster Club** for the purchase of a new Record Board for the weight room at Governor Livingston High School.

8) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve participation in **Omnia Cooperative Pricing System Vendors** for the 2025-2026 School Year.

9) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve **contracted services**, as follows:

Provider	Time Period	Explanation	Amount
Paul Grant	Remainder of the 2025-2026 school year	Assist CST with completing student evaluations at the preschool and elementary levels on an as-needed basis due to potential increases in referrals.	\$450.00/assessment & \$50/hour for attendance at meetings

10) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the following **field trip destinations** for the 2025-2026 school year:

Group	Destination	Date(s)
Columbia Middle School Grade 7 Students	Mountain Park and Thomas P. Hughes Schools Berkeley Heights, NJ	6/5/26

Finance and Facilities Committee Report:

Mrs. Joly, Chair of the Finance and Facilities Committee, reported that the committee met on Monday, April 27, 2026. A significant portion of the meeting focused on the budget, banked cap, and healthcare waiver discussions, which had already been addressed during the Board meeting. The committee also met with Mr. David Ruitenbergh, an attorney specializing in construction and public contracting, to discuss potential legal services related to upcoming referendum projects and their associated complexities. Mrs. Joly explained that Mr. Ruitenbergh's expertise would help protect the district by reviewing bid documents,

evaluating construction agreements, reviewing submitted bids, and examining finalized contracts. The proposed services would not exceed the bid threshold amount of \$53,000, with an hourly rate of \$185, and would also help alleviate demands on the Board attorney. Mrs. Joly further reported that the Board Secretary's Report is now current through March 31 following prior software-related delays. The committee also acknowledged and thanked the Booster Club for its generous donation to purchase a new record board for the GL weight room. Additional discussion included participation in the Omnia Co-op to facilitate the purchase of Gaggle technology licenses, as well as salary discussions for two positions for the 2026–2027 school year.

Athletics/Co-Curricular Committee Report:

No report given.

Technology and Communications Committee Report:

Dr. Foregger, Chair of the Technology and Communications Committee, reported that the committee met on April 14, 2026 to discuss technology integration within the elementary schools. He explained that students in grades K–5 have access to touchscreen Chromebooks housed in classroom charging carts. These devices are recycled from the district's secondary schools, providing a sustainable and cost-effective approach to maintaining one-to-one or near one-to-one student access. Because the devices remain in classrooms, students do not transport them between home and school. Dr. Foregger noted that Chromebook usage varies by grade level and teacher preference, with younger students participating in shorter, more structured activities and older students engaging in longer or more independent digital tasks. He emphasized that students are not on computers for the entire school day, and that technology is intentionally integrated to support instruction. The committee reviewed several digital tools and curriculum platforms used throughout the district, including BrainPop, Big Ideas Math, iReady, TCI, Newsela, and the 95 Literacy Platform. Dr. Foregger also explained that Clever serves as the district's rostering and single sign-on system, automatically connecting students to the appropriate digital tools and classroom resources through PowerSchool integration. Overall, he stated that the K–5 technology environment is developmentally appropriate and designed to enhance instruction through purposeful use of digital resources.

On motion by Mr. Dillon seconded by Mr. Morales Resolutions 1-8: All Board members. Resolutions 9-10: Berkeley Heights Only, were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” -	Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Dillon (Resolutions #1-8 Only), Mrs. Akiri (Resolution #1, Resolution #5-10 Only), Dr. Foregger and Mrs. Terrero
“Noes” -	Mrs. Akiri (Resolutions #2-4 Only)
“Abstain” -	None
“Absent”-	None

To hear the Board's full discussion on Finance Resolutions #1-8: All Board members and Resolutions #9-10: Berkeley Heights only, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

XI. Personnel

- 1) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **re-employment and salaries of non-tenured certificated district wide administrative staff** for the 2026-2027 fiscal year as listed below:

Name	Position	Base Salary	Doctoral Stipend	2026-2027 Total Compensation
Margaret Berry	Principal	\$156,560	–	\$156,560
Millenni Basumatary	Supervisor	\$103,000	\$2,000	\$105,000
Michael Santoro	Supervisor	\$102,846	–	\$102,846
Chris Derflinger	Principal	\$128,750	–	\$128,750
Carlos Hendricks	Director	\$153,831	–	\$153,831
Kelly Curtiss	Director	\$162,816	\$2,000	\$164,816
Dennis Dagounis	Assistant Principal	\$128,942	–	\$128,942
Alyssa Rush	Supervisor	\$131,127	–	\$131,127

- 2) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **re-employment and salaries of the non-tenured certificated staff members in Grades 9-12/District Wide** for the 2026-2027 school year as listed below:

Name	2026-2027 Guide Step	2026-2027 Salary
Nicole Baker	18 MA+60	\$97,772
Sylvia Ferreira	1 MA	\$64,803
Matthew Gervasio	5 MA	\$66,427
Christian Kneafsey	3 BA	\$58,685
Alexander Kuziola	21 MA+60	\$117,777
Raymond Mckenna	8 MA	\$69,384
Alyssa Mei	1 MA	\$64,803
Danielle Petryk	4 MA	\$65,718
Jesse Rice	17 MA	\$86,395
Scott Brelinsky	19 MA+60	\$102,490
Daniela Kissell	9 MA	\$71,538
Suzanne Kruep	16 MA 0.5 FTE	\$40,934
Alexandra Laird	2 BA	\$58,585
Gabriel Peraza	10 MA	\$71,538
Erik Anderson	12 BA	\$66,560
Leanne Cunetta	7 MA	\$68,353
Zainab Khan	6 MA	\$67,082
Timothy Walters	9 BA	\$64,858

Interpreter Nina Forbes	1	\$66,074
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Note: The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

- 3) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **re-employment and salaries of non-tenured certificated staff members in Grades 9-12/District Wide who will attain tenure** during the 2026-2027 school year as listed below:

Name	2026-2027 Guide Step	2026-2027 Salary
Emily Adriaanse	5 MA	\$66,427
Qinghong Lu #	8 MA+60	\$78,542
Emily Montgomery	5 MA	\$66,427
Julianne Rehai	12 MA+30	\$81,479
Gabrielle Titone	5 BA	\$59,441
Brianna Titus #	4 MA	\$65,718
Luke Wroblewski	4 BA	\$58,896

will attain tenure during the course of the 2026-2027 school year, not at the beginning of the school year.

Note: The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

- 4) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **re-employment and salaries of the non-tenured administrative assistants in Grades 9-12/District Wide** for the 2026-2027 school year as listed below:

Name	2026-2027 Guide Step	2026-2027 Salary
Maureen Hartnett	3	\$56,768
Judith Ramalho (10 months)	4	\$45,008

Note: The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

- 5) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **staff reduction in force** of employee ID #4841 and employee ID #4844 for the 2026-2027 school/fiscal year.
- 6) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the hiring of the following certificated staff member for the 2026–2027 school year, pending employment authorization. The Board

approved the appointment of **Albana Pango** as a full-time Teacher of Italian at Governor Livingston High School and Columbia Middle School, effective August 27, 2026 through June 30, 2027. Ms. Pango was hired as a replacement for a resignation/retirement vacancy and will be placed at BA+60, Step 7, with an annual salary of \$73,429, based upon the 2025–2026 salary guide. The 2026–2027 guide step and salary figures remain subject to approval upon successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association. Ms. Pango holds provisional certification with a Certificate of Eligibility.

7) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education approves **withholding payment** for the following unpaid day request(s):

Employee ID:	Unpaid Days:
5043	4/10/26, 4/17/26
5077	4/22/26
4787	4/13/26, 4/15/26, 4/16/26

8) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve, with regret, the resignations of the following staff members: **Carina Gonzalez**, Media Specialist at Governor Livingston High School, effective June 30, 2026; and **Casey Nebus**, Student Assistance Counselor at Governor Livingston High School, effective June 30, 2026.

9) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the rescission of an extra teaching period assignment beyond the normal teaching schedule for the 2025–2026 school year. The Board rescinded the assignment for **Ashlee Combe**, French teacher at Governor Livingston High School, effective May 4, 2026 through June 27, 2026, which had provided compensation in addition to her regular salary in the prorated amount of \$10,500.

10) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the temporary transfer of personnel for **Daniela Kissell** from her current assignment as a Special Education Teacher at Governor Livingston High School to a Special Education Teacher assignment serving both Governor Livingston High School and Columbia Middle School, effective April 22, 2026 through June 17, 2026.

11) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **2026 summer employment** for the following staff:

Name	Employment	Pay Rate	Maximum Hours/Days
Michelle Morin	Coordinator College JumpStart Program	\$75/hr. plus \$960 additional payment per JumpStart agreement	38 hrs.
Jay Pimental	Coordinator College JumpStart Program	\$75/hr. plus \$960 additional payment per JumpStart agreement	25 hrs.
Hayley Molinaro	Instructional Technology Coach	Per-diem rate of	20 days

Judith Ramalho	Administrative Assistant - GL	2026-2027 annual salary @ Per-diem rate of 2026-2027 annual salary @	6/18/26-8/26/26 3 days/wk. (25 days max.)
Jamie Salmon	Administrative Assistant Supervisor's Office	Hourly rate of 2026-2027 annual salary @	6/18/26-8/26/26 1 day/wk. (40 hours max.)

@ The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

12) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education, does hereby approve the following **GLHS School Counselors for summer 2026** employment to work on school counseling related tasks including by not limited to scheduling, new student registration, college and career preparation for the Fall, College Fair and college admission visitation confirmations, I&RS and 504 documentation, transcripts, and other counseling related functions. School Counselors are paid the hourly rate of their 2026-2027 annual salary.

Name	Pay Rate	Total Hours/Days
Emily Adriaanse	Hourly rate of 2026-2027 annual salary @	48 hours
Marissa Gold	Hourly rate of 2026-2027 annual salary @	48 hours
Michelle Morin	Hourly rate of 2026-2027 annual salary @	48 hours
Jay Pimental	Hourly rate of 2026-2027 annual salary @	48 hours
Carolyn Quigley	Hourly rate of 2026-2027 annual salary @	48 hours

@ The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

13) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of the following individuals as **seasonal Technology Assistants** in the Berkeley Heights Public Schools, pending employment authorization (#):

Name	Effective Date	Hourly Pay Rate
Hayley Molinaro	6/18/26 - 6/30/26 & 2026 - 2027 fiscal year	\$17.00
Ashley Reedy	6/18/26 - 6/30/26 & 2026 - 2027 fiscal year	\$17.00
Grace Pitingolo	6/18/26 - 6/30/26 & 2026 - 2027 fiscal year	\$17.00
Ryan Gasson	6/8/26 - 6/30/26 & 2026-2027 fiscal year #	\$17.00
Nicholas Angelos	6/8/26 - 6/30/26 & 2026-2027 fiscal year #	\$17.00

14) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve, the **abolishment of the position of Director of Elementary Education and Intervention** for the Berkeley Heights School District, effective July 1, 2026. The position was a full-time, 1.0 FTE district-level assignment.

15) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **re-employment and salaries of the non-tenured certificated staff members in Grades PK-8** for the 2026-2027 school year as listed below:

Name	2026-2027 Guide Step	2026-2027 Salary
Elisha Abdelaal	16 MA +30	\$90,778
Lauren Arace	3 BA	\$58,685
Briana Barillari	3 MA	\$65,049
Carolyn Bowen	7 MA	\$68,353
Erin Devine	2 MA	\$64,903
Jodi Englert	9 MA	\$71,538
Nicole Farrell	17 BA	\$81,540
Kristine Fickling	21 MA+30	\$116,677
Lauren Fogle	1 BA	\$58,485
Zinamaria Forlini	7 BA+60	\$73,429
Nicolette Hourihan	3 BA	\$58,685
Sul Hee Huang	20 BA	\$97,530
Olivia Kamer	7 BA	\$60,953
Kiersten Krog	8 MA	\$69,384
Shuxian Lim	14 BA	\$69,969
Gabriella Lippel	2 BA	\$58,585
Amanda Marconi	2 BA	\$58,585
Jill Marino	9 MA	\$71,538
Lauren Mcsweeney	15 MA	\$79,327
Nataliya Melnyk	10 MA+60	\$80,992
Sophia Miskulin	2 MA	\$64,903
Christine Nisch	10 BA	\$64,858
Jason Procaccini	2 BA	\$35,151
Alida Solfaro	2 MA	\$64,903
Julie Suczewski	18 BA+30	\$87,426
Alison Szpyhulsky	20 MA+60	\$108,315
Reilly Thompson	3 MA	\$65,049
Delaney Trotter	4 MA	\$65,718
Andre Weinberger	1 BA	\$58,485

Note: The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

- 16) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the 2026-2027 school year **re-employment and salaries of the non-tenured certificated staff members in Grades PK-8** who will attain tenure during the 2026-2027 school year as listed below:

Name	2026-2027 Guide Step	2026-2027 Salary
Jenna Cesario	14 MA+30	\$85,318
Katherine Ganger #	4 MA	\$65,718
Melissa Reedy	11 MA	\$71,538
Catherine Acito	5 MA	\$66,427
Caitlin Muller #	4 MA	\$65,718
Mariann Magliaro	4 BA	\$58,896
Jennifer Ruiz	11 MA	\$71,538
Vanessa Corbett	9 MA	\$71,538
Jennifer Fay #	11 MA	\$71,538

will attain tenure during the course of the 2026-2027 school year, not at the beginning of the school year.

Note: The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

- 17) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **re-employment and salaries of non-tenured administrative assistants in PK-8** schools for the 2026-2027 fiscal year as listed below:

Name	2026-2027 Guide Step	2026-2027 Salary
Margaret Gleeson	3	\$56,768

Note: The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

- 18) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the **re-employment and salary of non-tenured administrative assistants in PK-8** schools who will attain tenure during the 2026-2027 fiscal year as listed below:

Name	2026-2027 Guide Step	2026-2027 Salary
Julie Carles #	6	\$59,759

will attain tenure during the course of the 2026-2027 school year, not at the beginning of the school year.

Note: The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

19) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of **Abigail Gonzalez** as a paraprofessional at William Woodruff School for the 2025–2026 school year, pending employment authorization. Ms. Gonzalez was appointed as a replacement for a resignation/retirement vacancy, effective on a date to be determined through June 30, 2026. She will be placed at Step 7, working 6.75 hours per day, with an annual salary of \$26,817.28.

20) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby accept with regret, the resignations of the following staff members: **Ryanne Elsherif**, Special Education Teacher at Columbia Middle School, effective June 30, 2026; **Megan Mongno**, LDTC at Mary Kay McMillin School, effective June 30, 2026; and **Austin Wang**, Teacher of Mathematics at Columbia Middle School, effective June 30, 2026.

21) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the employment of Columbia Middle School counselors for summer 2026 work. The approved counselors, **Gina DeLauro, Ashley Morris, and Heather Saunders**, will perform school counseling-related duties including scheduling, new student orientation, locker day supervision, I&RS and 504 documentation, and preparation for opening day activities, as well as other related responsibilities. Each counselor will be compensated at the hourly rate of their 2026–2027 annual salary for up to 20.5 hours of work.

@ The Guide Step and Salary figures reference the 2025-2026 salary guide. The 2026-2027 Guide Step and Salary figures will be approved upon the successful ratification of a new agreement between the Board of Education and the Berkeley Heights Education Association.

22) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the appointment of a long-term substitute paraprofessional, **Luke Tennant**, as a replacement for a resignation/retirement vacancy, assigned to Mary Kay McMillin School, effective May 6, 2026 through June 17, 2026. Mr. Tennant will serve in a substitute paraprofessional role at a daily rate of \$120.00 and does not require certification for this assignment.

Personnel Committee Report:

Ms. Bradford, Chair of the Personnel Committee, reported that the committee met on Friday, April 24, 2026 with members in attendance along with Dr. Feltre. The committee reviewed several employment contracts, including three requiring county superintendent approval, and discussed an additional contract not requiring county approval. A request was made for discussion at the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting on April 27 regarding one contract, and Dr. Feltre was asked to consult with the county superintendent regarding a potential extension, which was ultimately determined not to be necessary. The committee also discussed the staffing structure at Governor Livingston High School, specifically the impact of maintaining one versus two assistant principal positions. Ms. Berry and Dr. Marr presented information supporting the need for two assistant principals, citing ongoing demands related to

instructional support, teacher observations, MTSS and 504 coordination, professional development, parent communication, academic rigor, and oversight of referendum-related facilities work. The Superintendent recommended two assistant principals at GL, while the majority of the committee supported maintaining one position, with a minority supporting two. Additional items included requests related to restructuring elementary curriculum responsibilities, amendments to job descriptions within contracts, and adding a comment column to a personnel tracking document, which were not approved, with Dr. Feltre preferring direct communication with board members and administration. The next Personnel Committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

On motion by Mr. Morales seconded by Ms. Bradford, Personnel Resolutions 1-13: All Board members. Resolutions 14-22: Berkeley Heights only, were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanly, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Dillon (Resolutions #1-13 Only), Mrs. Akiri, Dr. Foregger and Mrs. Terrero
- “Noes” - None
- “Abstain” - None
- “Absent”- None

To hear the Board’s full discussion on Personnel Resolutions 1-13: All Board members. Resolutions 14-22: Berkeley Heights only, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

XII. Education

1) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the recommendations for the following cases of **harassment, intimidation and bullying** at Governor Livingston High School:

Case Number
306132GL

2) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the recommendations for the following cases of **harassment, intimidation and bullying** at Columbia Middle School:

Case Number	Case Number
306412CMS	306415CMS

Curriculum Committee Report:

Mrs. Akiri, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, reported that the committee met to review the amended Columbia Middle School schedule, noting that the proposed changes have been under discussion for approximately four years. She referenced a detailed presentation prepared by Mr. Kobliska and acknowledged the Superintendent’s inclusion of the topic in her report. The committee’s discussion focused on the goal of increasing core subject instruction to daily periods and the need for clearer timelines regarding implementation, including whether the revised schedule could realistically be introduced for the 2027–2028 school year. Mrs. Akiri requested that a specific target date be established and suggested the importance of communicating a clear timeline to the school community, particularly given ongoing parent interest expressed at CMS events over several years. Additional discussion

included reviewing comparable schedules from other districts, considering instructional time in core subjects, and exploring the possible addition of a recess period. The committee emphasized the importance of continued feedback from staff and administration following school visits and review of best practices. Mrs. Akiri concluded by noting concerns raised about consistency and the pace of scheduling changes over time, and requested further updates on the anticipated timeline for implementation.

On motion by Ms. Bradford seconded by Mr. Morales, Education Resolution 1: All Board Members Resolution 2: Berkeley Heights Only, were approved by the following roll call vote:

- “Ayes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Dillon (Resolution 1 Only), Mrs. Akiri, Dr. Foregger (Resolution 1 and Resolution 2 Case #206412CMS Only), And Mrs. Terrero
- “Noes” - Mrs. Akiri and Dr. Foregger (Resolution 2 Case #206415CMS Only)
- “Abstain” - None
- “Absent”- None

To hear the Board’s full discussion on Education Resolution 1: All Board Members. Resolution 2: Berkeley Heights Only, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

XIII. Policy

1) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the following district **bylaws/policies/regulations for study and first reading:** *(M- Mandated by law)*

Policy	Title	Action
P 0149	Retiring Board Members <i>(tabled)</i>	Revise
P 1220	Employment Of Chief School Administrator (M) <i>(as amended)</i>	Revise
P 3324	Right Of Privacy <i>(as amended)</i>	Revise

2) The Berkeley Heights Board of Education does hereby approve the following district **bylaws/policies/regulations for second reading and adoption:** *(M - Mandated by law)*

Policy	Title	Action
R2510	Adoption of Textbooks	New

Policy Committee Report:

Mrs. Stanley, Chair of the Policy Committee, reported that the committee met on April 20, 2026 with a relatively small agenda. The committee reviewed Policy 1220, Employment of Chief School Administrator, which had previously been through first read and is returning for first read again due to the removal of a sentence stating that the superintendent shall devote themselves fully and exclusively to the duties of the office. The committee also discussed Policy 3324, Rights of Privacy, along with related policies addressing the use of personal devices for photographing or recording students, noting the need for clarification in light of evolving expectations and pending guidance related to New Jersey’s cell phone regulations. It was agreed that staff should use district-issued devices when recording

students unless it is a public event, and further revisions will be considered pending additional state guidance.

The committee also reviewed Policy 0149, Retiring Board Members, and discussed clarifying language related to Board members presenting diplomas to their children or grandchildren at graduation ceremonies. The committee proposed establishing a 10-year service threshold to define eligibility, with additional clarification regarding term length considerations. Following subsequent review, it was noted that additional language adjustments may be needed to ensure the policy does not unintentionally limit participation across districts, and further revisions may return to committee for refinement.

Finally, the committee reviewed the Adoption of Textbooks policy, which was deemed ready for second read following confirmation of alignment with current practice and expectations for periodic review of instructional materials.

On motion by Mrs. Stanley seconded by Mrs. Joly, a motion was made to table Resolution 1 Policy 0149 Retiring Board Members. It was approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Dillon, Mrs. Akiri, Dr. Foregger
And Mrs. Terrero
 “Noes” - None
 “Abstain” - None
 “Absent”- None

On motion by Dr. Foregger, seconded by Mrs. Akiri, the Board approved an amendment to Resolution 1, Policy P1220, as follows:

1. Strike the words “where feasible.”
2. Strike paragraph four.
3. Strike paragraph five.
4. Strike the words “they will not be reappointed” and replace with “non-reappointment.”

Items 2 and 3 of the amendment did not pass. Items 1 and 4 of the amendment were approved by roll call vote as follows:

“Ayes” - Mr. Morales (#1 & #4 Only), Mrs. (#1 & #4 Only), Mr. Dillon, Mrs. Akiri, Dr. Foregger,
and Mrs. Terrero (#1 & #4 Only)
 “Noes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Morales (#2 & #3 Only), Mrs. Joly (#2 & #3 Only) and
Mrs. Terrero (#2 & #3 Only)
 “Abstain” - None
 “Absent”- None

On motion by Dr. Foregger, seconded by Mrs. Akiri, the Board moved to amend Policy P3324 by striking paragraphs 3, 4, 5, and 6, which failed by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Mrs. Akiri and Dr. Forreger
 “Noes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Joly and Mrs. Terrero
 “Abstain” - Mr. Dillon

“Absent”- None

On motion by Mrs. Stanley seconded by Ms. Bradford, Resolution 1 Policy 1220 as amended by Board approval, Policy 3324 as in the attachments and Resolution 2, were approved by the following roll call vote:

“Ayes” - Ms. Bradford, Mrs. Stanley, Mr. Morales, Mrs. Joly, Mr. Dillon, Mrs. Akiri (Resolution 1 P1220 and Resolution 2 Only), Dr. Foregger (Resolution 1 P1220 and Resolution 2 Only) and Mrs. Terrero

“Noes” - Mrs. Akiri (Resolution 1 P3324 Only) and Dr. Foregger (Resolution 1 P3324 Only)

“Abstain” - None

“Absent”- None

To hear the Board’s full discussion on Policy Resolutions 1-2: All Board members, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

XIV. Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning Committee Report:

Mrs. Stanley, Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, reported that the committee met briefly to review the status of the district’s strategic plan and associated action plan. She noted that no feedback had been received on the previously shared action plan, and the committee raised clarifying questions on several items. The committee acknowledged and supported the district’s efforts to balance hands-on learning with appropriate screen usage. Administration anticipates presenting the final strategic plan at the May 28 Board meeting, with June 11 as a backup date, allowing the district to begin developing 2026–2027 goals in late August. Mrs. Stanley also reported that the district is developing a yearly scaffolding document to outline the progression of goals in a format similar to the five-year curriculum plan, showing year-by-year implementation steps. The committee requested a more detailed timeline with clearly delineated annual tasks, as well as identification of items requiring budget commitments. The committee will not meet again prior to the presentation of the strategic plan, and the next meeting is expected in August to review implementation and alignment with the 2026–2027 district goals.

XV. Negotiations

Negotiations Committee Report:

Ms. Bradford shared an update from the Mountainside Committee Negotiations. A proposal was shared from the Berkeley Heights Board Attorney. An internal committee meeting is being scheduled for next week. The Head Custodians Committee negotiations continue over a contract.

Mrs. Terrero reported that the BHEA negotiations are still ongoing.

XVI. Liaison Reports

Berkeley Heights Town Council:

Ms. Bradford reported that the Berkeley Heights Town Council met on April 21, 2026. During the meeting, two Eagle Scout projects were approved for Logan Melendes and Jimmy Barter, one of which involves the installation of benches around trees in Lower Columbia Park to provide additional seating. The Council also authorized a resolution supporting the application for the World Cup Community Initiative of Berkeley Heights, with additional information to be shared as the event approaches. In addition, a bond ordinance was introduced to fund various capital improvement projects. For further details, the public was directed to the Berkeley Heights Township website.

The Berkeley Heights Educational Foundation:

Ms. Bradford reported that the BHEF met on Tuesday, April 28, 2026. A report was provided on the success of the Wizards Basketball Game fundraiser. The Foundation also discussed a special World Cup raffle initiative in coordination with the Berkeley Heights Town Council's efforts to promote the community during the upcoming games. Student wish requests were reviewed and scholarships were discussed. The BHEF Junior Board presented a proposal to create intergenerational programming connecting local students with senior residents, which was approved. Additional discussion included exploring enrichment activities for students during downtime associated with NJSLA testing and early finish times, as well as encouraging the Technology Team to pursue grant opportunities to support district technology needs.

Union County Educational Services Commission:

No report provided.

To hear the Board's full discussion on Liaison reports, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

XVII. Comments from the Public on Any Topic

During this portion of the meeting, District residents and staff are invited to address the Board of Education on any item.

The Board requests that individuals state their name and town of residence (or school of attendance) for the record. Additionally, all in-person public commenters are asked to please sign in. All comments should be directed to the Board President and depending upon the nature and complexity of the question, it may or may not be answered during the meeting by the Administration. If so, the response would occur after this public portion of the meeting has concluded. Although the Board may not respond to all items raised during the public forum, all public comments will be considered.

The Board asks that members of the public be courteous and mindful of the rights of other individuals when speaking. Specifically, comments regarding personnel matters are discouraged and cannot be responded to by the Board. Students and employees have specific legal rights afforded by the laws of New Jersey. The Board bears no responsibility nor will it be liable for any comments made by members of the public.

Please note that if any member of the public becomes disruptive during the meeting the Board President may terminate the participant's statement. Continued disruptions may result in removal from, or adjournment of, the meeting.

Each speaker's statement will be limited to three (3) minutes in duration.

Time In: 11:04 p.m.

There were no in person comments from the public.

John Migueis (Berkeley Heights Resident) Mr. Migueis expressed general respect for district leadership while disagreeing with aspects of the administrative narrative. He raised concerns regarding district administrative costs and compared staffing structures to neighboring districts, stating that he felt there should be further review of expenditures despite acknowledging the strength of the current year's budget. He commented on prior district reconfiguration decisions, suggesting that some changes may have contributed to inefficiencies, and expressed concern about how resources have been allocated during a period of declining enrollment. Mr. Migueis also supported slowing the pace of work on the strategic plan, stating that it should be developed thoughtfully rather than rushed, and thanked board members for their approach in allowing additional time for review and discussion.

Time Out: 11:07 p.m.

To hear the Public Comment Session in its entirety, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).

XIII. New Business

None.

XIV. Old Business

None.

XVI. Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Morales and seconded by Mr. Dillon and approved by all present, the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 p.m

Respectfully submitted,


Ms. Jennifer Nicholson
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

For the full recording of the April 30, 2026 Board of Education Meeting, you can visit the district YouTube page [here](#).