

**BLOOMINGDALE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA**

Walter T. Bergen School Library  
225 Glenwild Avenue  
Bloomingtondale, New Jersey 07403  
March 26, 2020  
5:30 P.M.  
PUBLIC CALL IN #908-409-1340  
PIN# 50966#  
Approved minutes

Mrs. Grecco called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

She read the following statement:

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, public notice of this meeting has been sent to the Star Ledger, Suburban Trends, all Board Members, all district schools, Bloomingtondale Borough Hall, and Clerk of Borough of Bloomingtondale; and posted in the Administration Office of the Board of Education.

Copies of agendas are available in the Board of Education office and are posted on the Bloomingtondale School District website – [www.bloomingtondaleschools.org](http://www.bloomingtondaleschools.org)

**ROLL CALL** – present at this meeting were:

Mr. Bloodgood, Mr. Caraballo, Mrs. Gurbisz, Mrs. Marcus, Mr. Moeller, Mrs. Santana, Mr. Schalago, and Mrs. Grecco.

Also present were Mr. Jeffrey Merlino, Board Attorney, and Mrs. Eulalia Gillis, Interim Business Administrator.

Mrs. Grecco lead the meeting in the Flag Salute/Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Grecco opened the meeting to comments on the agenda items only at

**Presiding Officer Opens the Hearing of Citizens**

*Please state your name and address for the record. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to three (3) minutes. These discussions are limited to thirty (30) minutes and should address agenda items only. After the board completes the business portion of the meeting, there will be a second public*

*comment section where anyone wishing to speak, on any topic, will be given the opportunity to do so.*

*Hearing no public comment Mrs. Grecco closed the meeting to public comment at 5:34 p.m.*

Motion by Mr. Bloodgood and seconded by Mrs. Gurbicz meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 5:34 p.m.

**Voice Vote:** All yes

Motion by Mr. Caraballo and seconded by Mrs. Gurbicz to return to Public Session was made at 6:30 p.m.

**Voice Vote:** All yes

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:17-24.1 authorizes two (2) school districts to share a superintendent; and

**WHEREAS**, Butler Board of Education and Bloomingdale Board of Education are both authorized to provide the services of a superintendent for their respective school districts; and

**WHEREAS**, Butler and Bloomingdale are of the preliminary opinion that the services of a superintendent may be more efficiently and economically provided to their respective school districts through a joint agreement for the subcontracting of such services; and

**WHEREAS**, Butler and Bloomingdale are also of the opinion that the sharing of a superintendent may provide for better alignment of curriculum at the elementary grades, especially in the middle school, increasing preparation of students from both districts as they enter high school; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, based on the foregoing premises, the Bloomingdale Board of Education hereby agrees as follows: the districts shall prepare a joint report for submission to the county superintendents that outlines the anticipated advantages to the districts and the feasibility of a shared arrangement. The report shall set forth a plan explaining how the shared arrangement will operate, and shall also address such items as term, support for the arrangement, effect on services to the respective districts, division of the superintendent's time between the districts, availability of administrative backup, likelihood of situations creating conflict of interest, and financial advantages of the arrangement.

Motion moved by Mr. Caraballo seconded by Mrs. Gurbicz

**Roll Call Vote:**

Yes - Mr. Caraballo, Mrs. Gurbicz, Mr. Moeller, Mrs. Santana, Mr. Schalago, and Mrs. Grecco

Abstain - Mr. Bloodgood, and Mrs. Marcus

Mrs. Grecco opened the meeting to a second public comment at 6:35 p.m.

*Please state your name and address for the record. To help facilitate an orderly meeting and to permit all to be heard, speakers are asked to limit their comments to three (3) minutes.*

*Mrs. Jacobs questioned why change now from Mr. Verducci with only 3 months of school left and this pandemic that we are currently facing. Mrs. Jacobs also questioned if this was a consolidation of districts. She asked how Dr. Johnson would be able to separate himself and be unbiased. She questioned if any other candidates had been considered.*

*Mrs. Reese echoed the sentiment of Mrs. Jacobs, mentioning the lawsuits from Butler in previous years. She also asked what the proposed salary would be for Dr. Johnson.*

*Mrs. Rooney was concerned about this change. Mr. Verducci was doing an outstanding job. She felt that Bloomingdale would be pigeon holed to go to Butler and wanted to know if students would still have choices to go to schools other than Butler High School.*

*Ms. Millward supports Mr. Verducci as doing a bang-up job. She feels frightened and abandoned, currently there is no leadership. This should have been left alone. She also asked the timeframe of this transition. Ms. Millward asked if Dr. Johnson had been interviewed, and what his long term vision is for the district. She commented on the Special Education population needs and how would they be met. She stated that Dr. Petrosino was doing a great job.*

*Ms. Calvi stated that her daughter attends RBS in Butler and she was accepted into Morris County and is being encouraged to attend and is not being "pigeon holed" to attend BHS so she doesn't think it will happen to Bloomingdale students.*

*Mrs. Sondermeyer stated that this was whipped together too quickly and with a district that we have been contentious with for years.*

*Mr. Hannah was done in such a rush. Why not extend Mr. Verducci until the end of the school year? Why a three-year contract for Dr. Johnson?*

Mr. Merlino explained that New Jersey state law required a contract with at least a minimum of three years for a permanent Superintendent.

Mrs. Grecco closed public comment at 7:25 p.m.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Bloodgood and seconded by Mrs. Marcus.

**Voice Vote** - all yes

Meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Eulalia Gillis  
Interim Board Secretary