BETHLEHEM TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
280 ASBURY-WEST PORTAL ROAD
ASBURY, NEW JERSEY 08802
908-479-6336

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
March 12, 2025 - 6:30 p.m.
Ethel Hoppock Middle School Library/STEAM Room

I. CALL TO ORDER - President MacDonnell called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by sending notice to: The Express Times, Bethlehem Township Clerk, email sent to school community and township residents, by posting on the bulletin boards in the Ethel Hoppock Middle School and Thomas B. Conley Schools and by posting notice on the Board of Education website at http://btschools.org/

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Mr. Greg Glazar, Mr. Thomas Gregor, Mr. Michael Hale, Mr. Daniel MacDonnell, and Ms. Stephanie Yager

Absent: Ms. Jennifer Seibert

District Administrators Present: Edward Abato -Superintendent/Director of Curriculum and Kirby Hendershot - SBA/BS

Bethlehem Township School District
2024 - 2025 District Goals

1. Goal: Referendum Planning

Objective: To successfully prepare and promote a school district referendum in, securing essential funding for educational enhancements, infrastructure improvements, and building upgrades.

2. Goal: Enhance School Safety and Security with a Focus on Staff and Student Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

Objective: To create a safe, secure, and supportive school environment in the Bethlehem Township School District by integrating comprehensive safety measures with robust Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) programs for staff and students during the 2024-2025 school year.

3. Goal: Implement and Enhance the RTI Framework (Phase II) to Support Student Achievement

Objective: To fully integrate and enhance the Response to Intervention (RTI) framework within the Bethlehem Township School District during the 2024-2025 school year. This will include the identification of interventionists, development of new RTI action plans, and establishment of effective progress monitoring procedures to ensure all students receive the support they need to succeed.

4. Goal: Comprehensive Curriculum Rewriting for K-8 Science, Social Studies, Spanish, and STEAM

Objective: To develop and implement a rigorous, standards-aligned K-8 curriculum in Science, Social Studies, Spanish, and STEAM that fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and interdisciplinary connections, ensuring our students are prepared for a rapidly evolving global society.

V. BOARD CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

A. BOARD MEMBER CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS - To fill one vacant board member seat through December 31, 2025.

Candidates for Board Vacancy:

- Mr. Wade Dendy - 6:30 p.m.
- Mr. Christopher Sensor - 6:45 p.m.

Both Candidates were interviewed by the board and asked a series of questions in public.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Ms Gregor, seconded by Mr. Glazar, to enter closed session at 7:06 p.m. On a voice vote all were in favor.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act authorizes a public body to exclude the public from that portion of a meeting at which the Board of Education discusses topics falling within certain specified exceptions to the requirement for open public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to discuss matters that fall within one or more of the statutory exceptions to open public meetings;

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that, pursuant to Section 7 of the Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 10:4-12), that the Board shall adjourn from public session and enter into executive session for approximately 20 minutes to discuss the following: Board Member Vacancy

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will take action upon its return to public session; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matters discussed in executive session should be made public as soon as the need for confidentiality no longer exists, but it is not known at this time when that may be.

Motion by Ms. Yager, seconded by Mr. Glazar to return to public session at 7:18 p.m.

President MacDonnell called for Open Nomination(s) for vacant Board seat:

Motion by Mr. Glazar, second by Mr. Hale to nominate Mr. Chris Sensor. Seeing no other nominations, there was a motion by Mr. Glazar and a second by Mr. Gregor to close nominations for the vacant board seat.

ROLL CALL VOTE for Board Candidate - Mr. Christopher Sensor:

Motion by Mr. Glazar, seconded by Ms. Yager to appoint Mr. Christopher Sensor to fill one vacancy on the Board from March 19, 2025 through December 31, 2025, pending successful completion of

background check. On a roll call vote, Mr. Sensor was appointed as follows: 5-0-0 (aye: Glazar, Grgeor, Hale, Yager, MacDonell)

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS - Agenda Items Only

Public participation at board meetings is intended to allow individual members of the public to address the Board of Education on issues of public concern. The public comment period is an opportunity for the Board to listen to citizen concerns, but not to debate issues or enter into a question-and-answer session or a "cross examination" between the public and individual members. While all comments made by the public will be taken under advisement, the Board will not respond to comments made by the public.

- Pursuant to Board Policy #0167:
  - all statements from the public must be directed to the President or other presiding officer; no participant may address or question board members individually.
  - members of the public who wish to make a statement during the Public Comments portion of the meeting may speak for no more than three (3) minutes.
  - members of the public must identify themselves prior to speaking. Please state your name and address and group affiliation, if appropriate.

Motion by Mr. Gregor, seconded by Mr. Glazar to open public comment. On a voice vote, all were in favor.

No public comments

Motion by Mr. Hale, seconded by Mr. Gregor to close public comment. On a voice vote all were in favor.

VIII. NOTEWORTHY DATES

1. March 19, 2025 - Regular Board of Education Meeting - EHMS Library/STEAM RM. - Public meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Glazar, seconded by Ms. Yager, On a voice vote, all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kirby Hendershot
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Approved on 4/30/2025