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***Barnegat Township
School District***

**BARNEGAT BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**January 17, 2012
Tuesday, 4:30 PM**

Barnegat High School
180 Bengal Blvd.
Barnegat, NJ 08005

Our collective mission is to nurture and educate our children in accordance with all curriculum standards to prepare them for responsible citizenship and success in life.

CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Becker called the meeting to order.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT

The notice of this meeting has been forwarded to the Asbury Park Press, and placed in the foyer of the Barnegat High School, the Municipal Building and filed with the Municipal Clerk, in conjunction with the Open Public Meeting Act N.J.S.A. 10:4-10.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Adorno	Present
Mr. Cloke	Present
Mr. Mihalik	Present
Mr. Houser	Present
Mrs. Sarno	Present
Mr. Caputo	Present
Mrs. Pilovsky	Present
Mrs. Becker	Present

Mrs. Olker Absent

Also Present: Mrs. Karen Wood, Superintendent
 Mr. Dean Allison, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
 Mr. Ben Montenegro, Board Attorney

IX. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND/OR ADDITIONS

Mrs. Becker: I have a correction to the Agenda. Under Finance Motion #9, strike the last paragraph. Are there any other corrections or additions to the Agenda? Hearing none, can I have a motion to approve the Agenda?

Mrs. Pilovsky: So moved

Mrs. Sarno: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes

Mrs. Pilovsky Yes
Mrs. Becker Yes

X. **PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

- 2011 State Assessment Results - Presented by: **Anthony Scotto**, Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

Mrs. Becker: We have a public presentation by Mr. Scotto, our Curriculum Director.

Mr. Scotto: Thank you Mrs. Becker, Ms. Wood and members of the Board of Education, members of the administration and members of the public. My name is Anthony Scotto and I am the newly hired Director of Curriculum and Instruction for Barnegat Township Schools. This evening I will be presenting to the Board and the public the 2011 assessment results. We will give the Board of Education a moment to move if they need to and for the public there are copies of presentation located in the middle of the auditorium on the arm of the chair.

In the state of New Jersey we are required under QSAC which is an accountability continuum to present the results of our test scores that our students earn each year. To give you a little background information there are a couple of things I would ask the Board and the public to keep in mind. As you are looking at the charts this evening you will see New Jersey's averages, District Factor Group Averages (known as DFG) districts that are similar in social economic status as Barnegat Township and of course the most important part of the chart is Barnegat's average on our state tests.

Just as a point of reference the DFG status for Barnegat Township Schools is a CD District; A being the lowest and J and I being the highest in terms of social economic status. I would like to give the public and Board of Education a little bit of background information about this test. All of the information was also shared with the sub-committee of the board called the Education Committee.

Students in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11 in public schools in the state of New Jersey are required to take a state assessment. In all grades but 11th, it is called the NJASK (assessment of student knowledge). In 11th grade it is the HSPA (same thing but for 11th graders). Currently under state code and educational code it is required that all students pass the HSPA in order to graduate from a public school and receive a diploma. With the background information it is very important for all of us to understand that whether a student is seven or eight years old in third grade or sixteen years old in the eleventh grade, there are many sections to this test. The language arts component requires students to read without any assistance, comprehend, answer multiple choice questions, answer open-ended questions which we often call essays and large compositions which are called writing prompts.

So if you were to ever sit in a doctor's office and read a magazine article that ranged from three to five pages in text that is very similar to what our students read when they take the NJASK regardless of their grade level or disability. In the area of mathematics our students are assessed in four main areas; number sense, geometry and measurement, patterns and algebra and

probability. I can remember being in school and some of the things I dreaded most on my math test were word problems. Think about the times you had to do those. Our students are required in this state regardless of age or disability or grade level to read those word problems, comprehend them and determine the mathematical equation that goes with those word problems and also write about how they solved. So I wanted the public and the Board of Education to get an understanding of how important these tests are and how comprehensive they are for our children.

I will not read every single number this evening for two reasons, I feel you are capable of seeing what is on the screen and it will also be placed on the district website which is a requirement for QSAC, but the first slide I will take the time to go through so you will understand the organization of the information, the content, etc.

In the first column of every chart this evening you will see the name of the test, LAL standing for Language Arts Literacy. Underneath that is mathematics. Keeping in mind the content that I just shared with you, now let us think about students who are now in twelfth grade. Last year they took this test and in New Jersey 89.6% of the student that took the test were proficient or higher. Proficiency in New Jersey is deemed as earning 200 or more points out of 300 on the test. It is very similar to a test that we have taken in our childhood or during our high school career where our score determined how we did. Whereas certain tests that might have a percentile are called norm reference tests and that score is compared against the rest that took it within the testing norm.

So as you can see on the chart here 89.6% were proficient or higher in New Jersey. Districts that were a lot like Barnegat, their average was 87.3% and Barnegat went over that average and we met the state average for 89.6% of our students being proficient or higher on that test. In mathematics you can see 75.2% in New Jersey were proficient or higher. Districts similar to Barnegat actually achieved lower; however, Barnegat exceeded that. Not only did it go over the state average but it also went over the DFG average. So as educators as we look at these scores we are very proud of our students, our staff and we appreciate our community when they support our budget and we thank our Board of Education because regardless of what we have or what we are currently working with you can see our kids are continuing to do well.

You might be saying what happened to the ninth graders and the tenth graders. They do not take a state required test. We administer internally a test called the S-test that helps us internally see how are kids are doing to prepare for the HSPA. This group of students on the screen is now in ninth grade. If you were to look at the Barnegat column and the DFG column and the state column you can see where are strengths were and where we exceeded things. Not only did we go over typical districts like Barnegat in Language Arts Literacy but we were over the state average of 82.8%. Barnegat earned 88.8%; meaning 88.8% of the kids that took the test were proficient or higher.

Math we were over the DFG and state average and in science where our students are only taking a test in grades 4 and grade 8, we were above that as well. So, we continue to be very proud and at times we get a bad rap as educators and we think those scores are not high enough and as a

new member of this administrative team to come in and see this as a baseline, it is a real congratulations for the district.

These kids are now in eighth grade and you can see we were over the DFG average and over the state average in Language Arts and as well in math. This is a cohort of students that are in their last year of middle school. This is a cohort of students that we are keeping a close eye on as educational leaders whether it be at the building level or the central office level because when we take data like this and we break it down for principals and for teachers, this is important but the most important part of the presentation is certainly the skills and the areas that we want to see our kids excel in. The data is the same for the principals and the teachers but the way we break it down for them is different. Teachers what to know what do I need to work on more or do I need to work on less.

This cohort of students it is their first year in middle school so it is very important that Board of Education as well as the public understand that if this is their first year in middle school they have come from four different elementary schools. As aligned and consistent as we are with our curriculum and instruction the reality is that each building and each cohort of students has their own strengths and weaknesses and uniqueness and the culture and climate of the building. This is the first time now our kids are coming together as one grade level from four different elementary schools. So, you can see that our eighth grade scores were higher than our sixth grade and a lot of that has to do with the children understanding the middle school concept. I know as a teacher myself when my students were transitioning into sixth grade when I taught middle school managing a locker, switching classes, following a bell schedule are all things that we have to remind ourselves that our children are getting used to in addition to mathematics and literacy at the middle school level.

We were a little bit below the state average for Language Arts Literacy but we were above the DFG average in Language Arts Literacy and significantly higher in mathematics. If we were to look at all of our fifth grade scores together which our state requires us to do you can see we are over for the DFG and the state in language arts and significantly higher in mathematics for Barnegat. Kudos to those kids, let's begin with that, for being 92% proficient or higher when districts very similar to Barnegat were only at 76.2% or in New Jersey across the board, almost 600 districts, only 80.6%.

There is that science test again. In fourth grade kids are about 9-10 years old. It is very important that we not only look at science performance at the middle school level but also the elementary level because in a few years these fifth graders will take another course assessment called end of course biology. So our state has continued to give us initiatives and assessment beyond the tests I am talking about today. So, for example it would not be unusual for a ninth or tenth grader to sit down and take an end of course biology exam. The reality is it is one question, extremely comprehensive with 90 minutes to complete. Within that test we build upon the skills that our district teaches our kids. The 90 minute question in biology would have mathematics in it and data interpretation, written expression and application of the life sciences. So, when we see that 98%, almost 100% of our students, in fourth grade last year were proficient or higher in science that is a great indicator of where we are going with our science performance.

The test in science is not as hard as the math or the literacy but it is certainly a very good snapshot of where our students are. So, fifth grade teachers and middle school teachers continue to look at this data. It is my office's responsibility to break this data down for our instructional staff to help them with some decisions.

These are the new kids on the block. This is the first time they have taken a state assessment. It is the first time they look at their teacher in the spring who they have always raised their hand to and asked for clarification from and extra time and we always said yes because that is what good teachers do. But our Department of Education does not allow us to assist the kids so if you have a third grader at home or a grandchild that is a third grader and then come home and say my teacher talked like a robot a little bit today, that is true because they become the proctor. So now let us look at the scores here, these kids are seven and eight years old, very little help on the test and reading three to five pages of information text or fictional text and reading a lot of word problems and doing more than just answering their multiplication times tables. So when we take that into consideration and see how Barnegat performed we were above the state average in both areas.

Moving forward is very important for our middle school because we have already put some things in place that we are very proud of. I would be remiss if I did not point out that the administrative team at the middle school has worked diligently with my office to put things in place to help our kids be successful. Parents of middle school students have received letters from the principal's office letting them know within the day we built an additional test prep for our kids because we want them to be successful. Within the day kids are simulating and using an online test preparation program called Study Island so our kids can be successful. In the coming week our kids will be sitting down and looking at their test scores from last year and setting a goal for themselves because we know that kids can do that, they do it every day in athletics, in life and they are certainly capable of setting a goal for themselves academically.

So at the Brackman School, yes our scores have been a little low, but we are confident that what we put into place within the last two weeks will help our kids to be successful. Moving forward within the district, I have been meeting with each faculty and letting them know how they have done and where they can improve and certainly focusing on the strengths and the charm of each building and what they bring each day.

So, yes these tests are high stakes and these tests are important but they are one snapshot of what we do every day for the Barnegat student. I would like to thank the Board of Education, the Board President and the Superintendent for allowing me to present this tonight. Thank you.

Mrs. Becker: Do any members of the public have any questions about the presentation? Seeing none, thank you Mr. Scotto.

XI. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Mrs. Becker: Since I do not see our student representative we will move on.

XII. DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Mrs. Becker: Superintendent, please.

Ms. Wood: Usually our student representative presents on district highlights but unfortunately she is not here tonight. The district enrollment numbers as of January, 2012 are 3,254 students.

To piggy-back on what Mr. Scotto presented on the entire Brackman Staff, along with the curriculum department, recently implemented 3 school-wide initiatives to promote success on the NJ-ASK. They include personal goals setting for students in LAL and Math, daily NJ-ASK simulations as well as the online use of skill review (via Study Island). We are looking forward to the results that these strategies will have on our testing for the students.

Sarah Flynn, a 5th grade teacher at JTDS, was just recognized for being “A Teacher Who Rocks” on 95.9 “The Rat”

LEADERS IN TRAINING ARE COLLECTING HATS, MITTENS, SCARVES AND GLOVES FOR CHILLY FAMILIES IN THE DISTRICT.

The Robert Horbelt Elementary School is proud to announce that the winner of the Ocean County poster contest was **Kara Ferrigno**. The contest was open to all fourth grade students. Last year the students were instructed to create a poster that depicted all that is special and unique about Ocean County. Kara’s poster was judged to be the best among all those submitted.

In addition to Kara, **Rachael Fieramosca**, another Horbelt student, also has her poster displayed in the calendar. This is representative of the county so congratulations a job well done to those two individuals.

In addition, the posters of two LMDS fifth grade students, **Brianna Stephan** and **Antonio Cascio**, are featured in the 2012 edition of “My County Poster Calendars”. The contest was open to all fourth grade students last school year and the theme was to promote awareness of County Government. We congratulate Brianna and Antonio for their outstanding achievement and representation of their school and district.

The Cecil S. Collins Elementary School is proud to announce that **Christian Sita** was named a winner of the County Poster Calendar contest. Congratulations Christian, you make us proud!

All of the winning posters are published in this year’s *My County 2012 Poster Calendar* issued by the Ocean County Clerk’s Office. Congratulations to all students who participated I think it is a fine representation of the Barnegat Township schools’ students. We are exceeding expectations in academics as well as artistic areas.

XIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S INFORMATION

Ms. Wood: Under Superintendent’s Information, January is School Board recognition month in New Jersey. We have a Resolution to recognize the board members and without reading the

entire Resolution although it is in your agenda packet, I would like to say that in my short time with the Barnegat Township schools I meet every day and I am pleased and excited to be a part of the Barnegat Township school system and I commend the Board of Education for the job that they do every day and remind everyone that it is a volunteer position that you elect the Board members to represent the interests of the Barnegat Township residents and they do it in their free time with no additional compensation. A special thank you to the members of the Board of Education and we purchased flowers for the board members to be recognized this evening. I would just like to take a moment to recognize everyone individually.

Mrs. Becker, Board President, thank you for your service. Mrs. Pilovsky, Vice President and also Chair of the Finance Committee; Mrs. Sarno, Chair of our Education Committee; Mr. Mihalik, Board of Education member and thank you for being a part of everything; Mr. Cloke, Board of Education, thank you for your service; Mr. Adorno, also a member of the Board of Education, thank you for your service; Mr. Caputo, one of our newest members, thank you for our service to the district; Mr. Houser, Chair of Budget Committee; and for Mr. Allison as our Board Secretary. Thank you for your service to the district and Mr. Allison also serves obviously as our School Business Administrator but he has responsibilities to the Board and the Board Secretary. So as a personal note, that you to the members of the Board of Education for their service to the township of Barnegat as well as the students and staff of the Barnegat Township schools.

SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH IN NEW JERSEY

JANUARY 2012

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association and the National School Boards Association have declared January, 2012 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The Barnegat Board of Education is one of 587 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees the operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The Barnegat Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of 1.4 million children in Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Barnegat Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January, 2012 as **SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH**; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Barnegat Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs forward the improvement of our children's education.

Ms. Wood: At this time I would like to introduce a motion to approve the District Goals for the 2011-2012 school year.

Mr. Caputo: So moved

Mrs. Pilovsky: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Ms. Wood: I would like to turn it back over to Mrs. Becker.

XIV. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS/INFORMATION

Mrs. Becker: Thank you. To the members of the public who are here with us this evening I am sure that you are aware that last week on Tuesday the Township Committee called a press conference and five members were in attendance and it was not a publicly notified meeting. They made some statements that were derogatory towards the Board of Education and the budget process that we have undergone for the four years that I have been on the Board is what I will speak to.

As the Board President that was totally uncalled for and totally unprofessional and all of their statements are inaccurate, inept and show a lack of understanding for school accounting. As a

member of the community for twenty-two years I am embarrassed that people who represent the taxpayers of this community would get in a public forum and make accusations that there is something irresponsible about planning and saving and doing more with less on the bottom line of the budgets that have been presented to the community of Barnegat over the four years that I have been sitting here and the four years that Mr. Houser, Mrs. Pilovsky and former Board members who are not with us have been members of the budget committee who have worked very hard to minimize impact to do more with less. I must remind everybody that the first year of 08-09 budgeting we added a new elementary school and were still able to present flat budgets four years running.

In addition to that the four budget cycles that went to the public, two years were approved and two years failed. In the first year that the budget failed the township took \$1M and the second year that it failed they took \$600,000. In the two years it passed it included a return to the taxpayers of surplus. Not one of you in this room got one penny of the money that the township took from the schools. So for them to lodge accusations at the integrity, the process or the budgets that were put together by this district are an insult to you as well.

I would like to say on behalf of the Board the reason we have money sitting there is as the state withdrew aid and our needs did not diminish but increased our administrators, staff and faculty found ways to save money. If we did not need to spend it they did not and you know what today we are not coming to you as a Board of Education asking you to approve a referendum to do renovations on a school that needed to be done. We are not coming to you for a referendum on solar which is coming on line; we saved and planned because they have evacuated all of their resources; they take from the sewer and water, they take from the schools and they have made no cuts or reductions. They were totally out of line to make the accusations against the district. I will tell you that the bottom line is in reaction to the passage of bill S3148 which now takes the township completely out of the equation. They can no longer take money from the students to plug the gaps in their own budget.

Additionally, my final comment is not one of them is sitting here to answer for what they said at a press conference, not one of them because they know they do not have anything to say; they have no facts to back up their accusations. At this time I would like to offer to any Board member who has a statement or would like to make a comment please feel free to do so. I will defer to Mr. Houser first as Chair of Budget.

Mr. Houser: On January 9, 2012 the legislature passed bill S3148 as Mrs. Becker stated. This bill will allow school districts that are under cap to move the school board election to November. The intention of this bill is to allow for the savings for school districts and tax payers by not having to run a separate election in April. The bill was signed by the Governor this afternoon. Less than two days after this bill was passed by the legislature the Barnegat Township Committee had an emergency meeting to attack the Barnegat School District. At this emergency committee meeting the Township Committee claimed that the school district had a surplus of \$2.9M. The Township Committee also stated at this meeting that based on state regulations that the school district really only appeared to only have \$1.5M in reserve. So the question we must all ask ourselves is why would the Township Committee risk violating the Open Public Meeting Act also referred to as the Sunshine Law by calling this emergency meeting to attack the school

district. Why was the Township Committee attacking the school district when they had this budget information for two months? In order to answer these questions we must all look at the facts.

In 2008 and 2009 the school district's budgets were defeated. The township and school district cut a combined total of \$1.4M from the school district budget. What did the township committee do with the \$1.4M?

From 2008-2011 the Township Committee raised their total general budget \$2,427,211.36. Their budget wasn't flat; their budget increased. Also, in the last four years the township budget surplus balance in 2008 was \$2,932,846.42, that is their surplus in 2008. In 2009 the township surplus was \$878,698.34 and in 2010 it was \$1.4M and in 2011 the anticipated surplus in their budget is expected to be \$1M. So, they feel they can put surplus in yet they have the nerve to attack the Barnegat School District for having a surplus.

In the last four years based on the Barnegat Township schools' budgets the school district's percentage of township total property taxes has been reduced from over 60% to 52.82% in 2010. That is a reduction of 8%. What did the township committee do with that 8%? The Barnegat School District will clearly show what we have done to create the 8% reduction. From 2008-2012 we have cut the Superintendent salary and saved \$65,000; cut the Business Administrator/Board Secretary salary and saved \$30,000; eliminated the Assistant Superintendent position and saved \$160,000; eliminated the Business Administrator as part of the Superintendent position and saved \$48,000. Eliminated a vice principal position and saved \$90,000; eliminated the communication liaison position and saved \$65,000. Eliminated a supervisor position and saved \$80,000; eliminated adult school and recreation liaison position and saved \$60,000; eliminated the head of security position and saved \$60,000. Thanks to the employees in the school district we were able to negotiate a change in medical insurance that saved \$1M. In regard to professional service contracts saved \$70,000 and the safe routes to school program that we set up where we met with parents and talked about having safe routes to school and did work with the township and we applaud the township for putting in the sidewalks. We saved \$500K and energy we saved \$500K. We also cut 67 employee positions saving \$500K. These are all positions we can show we cut in four years to make this a sound fiscal responsible school district. Now what positions have the township eliminated? How many of the township job classifications are less in 2012 than they were in 2008 like I just stated in the school district? Clearly the township cannot show the same fiscal responsibility that the school district has shown. In fact, based on the Barnegat School District finances our school district was recognized by the state of New Jersey.

As you are aware in 2010 the state cut our state aid by a total of \$3.4M. Included in that state aid reduction was a reduction for school construction which we got in 2011 and we honestly do not know when that is going to continue the state has not told us when they are going to stop taking this reduction in state aid from us for school construction. Because of this reduction in state aid the school district was forced to add \$1.7M to the local tax levy. The school district had to make a fiscal financial decision since the school district had to pay for our past high school students at Southern Regional that was being fought by our past administration and they refused

to pay the bill. We owed the money and the state came in and said we needed to pay it and we did owe it to Southern Regional so we did pay them.

We opened up a new elementary school, the Donahue School. We had to deal with paying for repairs on the new additions on the high school, Brackman School, Horbelt School, Collins School and the Dunfee School. The school district is taking the necessary legal action in the hopes of recovering those monies that the district has put out in repairs. When dealing with the SDA and the contractors that have done the work we have them in court to get the school district's money back.

The fact is if we did not make these fiscal sound decisions we would not have the monies necessary to fix the Collins' School today and we would not have any monies in reserve for any emergency situation. That would not be fiscally responsible to the students or the taxpayers of Barnegat.

As you all know the school district was faced with the closing of the Collins School because of mold. Many people have suggested that the school district not spend the money and not open the school. That is exactly what a past Board did with the Edwards School and now we are faced with the potential cost of millions of dollars to repair that school if we would ever hope to open it or utilize it for any reason. This current Board has been looking into every avenue for that school including selling the Edwards School and using it as tax deferred or giving that money back to the taxpayers.

The other issue we are facing in the Barnegat School district is that additional developments are being built. We would not be able to handle the additional students if we did not fix the Collins School and open it up. As you are aware any bonding that is done by the school district must be approved by you, the taxpayers, which is exactly what happened when the school district bonded for the building of the Donahue School and the additions on the high school, Brackman, Collins, Horbelt and the Dunfee Schools. You, the public, voted yes and then the school district bonded. At the Township they just bonded \$2.1M without a vote from you, the public for equipment. Well, unlike the Township the school district much budget from year to year to make sure we can purchase buses, books, supplies and anything necessary to run a school district and educate the students.

As stated by the Township Committee at their emergency meeting the Township has experienced budget troubles in recent years. The Township has constantly been late with your tax payments to the school district and they did not make the tax payment for the ending of the 2010 year until 2011. The school district audit reflected this violation of statute and the school district was forced to pass a Resolution stating that the township would not violate the statute again. The school district also had to file an action plan with the State Department of Education to correct the Township's violation which included the School Board Resolution.

The Township Committee stated that their financial problems were being caused by tax appeals. We all know that when the Barnegat Township Committee did the reevaluation the housing market immediately fell. All of our homes in Barnegat were appraised at way more than what we could sell them for. The Township claimed that doing another reevaluation would be too

costly so the Township Committee waited for years to pass before they finally cut the appraisal on each of our homes. Yet we all know our homes are appraised for more than what they are worth so, again, we must ask the question why will the Township Committee not figure out what an average home in Barnegat is worth and cut our appraisals even further so that tax appeals will not be an issue for the Township and for us as taxpayers.

Based on the facts, no matter if you are a Republican, Democrat, Independent, senior citizen, parent or employee in the Barnegat School District, you must understand that the majority of the Township Committee members' strategy was to push for the voting down of the school district budget so as history has shown the Township could keep the children's money for the Township of Barnegat. The Barnegat School District has and will continue to provide an excellent education to our students and we will continue to be fiscally responsible to the taxpayers of Barnegat. As elected Board of Education members we all stand together in saying Barnegat Township Committee get your own financial house in order and leave your hands off our children's futures.

Mr. Adorno: I have some comments I would like read tonight. Again, I would like to begin by saying that I am very thankful and proud to have been elected and re-elected and to serve on the Barnegat Township Board of Education by the good people of this community. I take my fiduciary duty to the children of this school district and community very seriously. I would like to say to my fellow Board members that I truly appreciate the countless hours, time and your total commitment to continue providing a thorough and efficient education to the children and staff of our school district. Some of my fellow Board members will make their comments here this evening and explain all the work and what has been put in and how we have gotten to where we stand today.

We, the Barnegat Board of Education and administration staff have been called out "for a blatant fleecing of Barnegat taxpayers or a so-called planned under run of our budget". I resent the fact that the township elected officials, township committee and township administrator can make such an accusation even to imply via press conference that there was some sort of misappropriations of taxpayer funds in our school district budget.

We, the Board of Education, have many rules and regulations, minimum and maximum guidelines and financial caps to our availability in operating this school district fiscally responsible. The State of New Jersey restricts how and how much the school can save from year in and year out. The Board of Education is held to a much higher standard by the State of New Jersey for accountability than any Township local committees. Our books, reports and financial information is readily available via OPRA request, our school website and also the website of the Dept. of Education all which are very easily accessible to anyone.

Our Superintendent, Ms. Wood, had previously explained to reporters that the budget process is preliminarily set up with the Business Administrator and school administration. It is then reviewed by her, the Superintendent, and our budget committee. If there are any Board of Education questions, input or concerns, it will be addressed in that process. From that point forward the budget must be approved by the County Business Administrator. It is then passed back over to the Barnegat Board of Education to vote on as a whole and then finally put out to

you, the taxpayers of Barnegat which you have approved two of the last four. As this is the only budget that the community can vote on, this is also the only method that the Township can draw from if it was ever to be defeated. When the budget is defeated by the taxpayers of Barnegat the Township would make a determination of how much money to cut after examining our whole budget packet. So they are given every document on file for them to be able to determine whether there has been any type of surplus or any kind of savings in there.

How they use it or how they wish to do with it is totally up to them. All they do is come back to us and tell us the actual monetary amount that we have to remove from the budget. The Township Committee may take this money and who knows what they do with it. Would they use it to fill in any of their fiscal irresponsibility or shortcomings, I don't know. Do any of you sitting out there tonight know what they have done with that money? As we all know two of the last four school budgets have been defeated. The Township Committee has called for \$600,000 in cuts for the first defeated budget and over \$812,000 in the second budget. My question is to you, Mr. Former Mayor Melchiondo, Mr. Current Mayor Al Cirulli, Deputy Mayor Al Bille and all Township Committeemen and Committeewoman including you, Mr. Business Administrator, Dave Breeden, what did you do with that money from both defeated budgets in the last four years?

Did you provide any tax relief or as Mr. Martin Lisella said in the press conference, I demand we get immediate tax relief. We the residents of Barnegat cannot sit back and let you, the Township Committee continue without some answers to where that money went. That was close to \$1.3M or \$1.4M. Mr. Bille is quoted in the paper as well stating that we could have given \$240-\$270 in tax relief. Well, let me ask you this, Mr. Bille, where were you when we had \$1.3M taken away that could have been \$120 savings in tax relief? Did you come up and ask this community if they wanted that money? All of a sudden you are here now. Did you seek a reduction in our taxes then? I do not believe so.

What I would like to say to the Township officials and the Business Administrator is that it is nothing but an absolute perfect example of political grandstanding at its best. And just an FYI, you have no roll in any official capacity with the business operation of the Barnegat Board of Education. We have a joint shared services meeting to extend mutual cooperation for information and minor contractual agreements. Mr. Breeden, Business Administrator of Barnegat Township, you also stated in the newspaper that you have some areas of concern in regard to \$2.5 - \$2.9M in reserves. I wish you were here tonight because you probably would have just about gotten schooled in Board Membership, Business Administration and Budgeting 101.

Our school officials will explain and provide all accurate information on all monies in those accounts. Some of the other areas that you have quoted in the paper Mr. Breeden stating "they never mentioned a planned under run" meaning us the Board of Education had never mentioned a planned under run or a plan to fund the reserve. We were repeatedly told if we cut more than \$800,000 that we would have to cut sports and clubs which would adversely affect the education in classrooms. Well, sir, correct me if I am wrong, you were given a very big binder with the detailed description of what you needed to do in the defeated budget process. You had two opportunities and we gave the actual reductions you asked for and you did adversely affect the

education of this district as well as the people who work in this district who dedicate themselves for many years.

I would also like to touch base on the Safe Routes to School money that my fellow Board members also brought up, the \$500K that you claimed, Mr. Breeden, that any transportation costs saved be returned to the taxpayers. I worked on that committee with a few members here; I do not recall any statement of that money going back. What it actually was it helped us produce a flat budget year after year.

Facility fees was another subject they touched on. I also sat on that committee for four years. There were facility fees and guidelines before I even became a Board member four years ago. A former Board member and I had worked tirelessly for eighteen months making sure we provided a more accurate policy that would put all the Barnegat youth programs and outside organizations or senior programs to be in a classification of schedules. The Barnegat Township also told us they would submit an actual group of people to be exempt based on children's recreation and that are represented by the Township Recreation Department. The problem is we have accrued a lot of fees, again, Mr. Breeden and Township officials you have not paid for many of those of bills.

When you talk about the reduced fee in water in your quote in the newspaper, come on, we are a little smarter than this. The Township water is by the township department. All we are simply doing is transferring funds from your budget to our budget and you know what it is simply just coming from the same darn place, the Barnegat taxpayers. So there has been no reduction in fees in water or seeking any type of help.

Also, the SRO you brought up in your press conference. The SRO is completely up to the police chief and the Township Committee whether they wish to provide them or not. The community should know that the town collects the money and has to pay the schools. That is who they collect it for. Mr. Breeden, all we know is you have had some difficulty passing your CFO exam and you are supposed to be our Business Administrator here in this town. How can you not produce a budget on time? How come you can't pay your bills on time? Mr. Breeden, for all of you to know and also as an FYI, he costs us an additional \$20,000 in taxpayer money for his own personal vehicle, tolls, gas mileage, wear and tear and repairs on that vehicle, is everyone aware that he is not doing anything he can to reduce costs?

I also resent the fact the Mr. Breeden and the Mayor have also said that we, the Barnegat Board of Education, should take from their lead and by more like you, the Township. That is so far from accurate; you continue to be fiscally irresponsible to all taxpayers of Barnegat.

In closing, we, the Barnegat Board of Education, have worked very hard. We have rolled up our sleeves numerous times and have clearly done more with less in these four years we have done our duty and we will continue to do so for all the children and staff of this district. This Board of Education has decreased property taxes significantly. I will not repeat them as my fellow Board Member, Mr. Houser, had just mentioned how much we saved. What I would like to say as well as I myself, a representative of this Board of Education, I will continue to support this administration, staff and my fellow Board members in every way that continues to allow our

children to learn. I would also like to recite something that I never forgot that my high school teacher told me why she became a teacher.

Teachers are those who use themselves as bridges. They invite their students to cross, and then having facilitated their crossing, they joyfully collapse encouraging them to create bridges of their own. We are all stakeholders in the children and their future of this school district and I am very proud to live here. Thank you very much for your time.

Mr. Cloke: The Township has been late in paying its local tax levy to the Board of Education twenty-two out of twenty-five times. Most of the times did not pay in full. This is irresponsible and unacceptable. They said we cried about the SRO in the middle school; we cut it in the budget and they decided to leave it there. We do the snow removal with the town savings taxpayers over hundreds of thousands of dollars each year. They forget very fast.

When Mr. Adorno talked about the facility usage fees, the recreation leagues, we are owed over \$34,000 in recreation league fees, where is the money? Where did it go? That is all I have to say, thank you.

Mrs. Pilovsky: I am proud to be here as a volunteer for the Barnegat Board of Education. I just wanted to bring up a few things as Chair of the Finance Committee, a couple of things I want the public to be aware of. We were supposed to be put in the bid for the garbage collection. We were told we were going to be in the bid, here is the document, we were not even in the bid. It is here if anybody would like to see it. Also, we are now paying \$3,700 a month and if we went in with Waste Management it would have cost us \$5,500 a month, who is saving, and who made the right choice? We did.

We changed the health insurance and saved money. Two years before the township did it, why didn't they do the right thing? We made a plan to save money for the district and we have done it. We planned to save \$300,000 on utility bills and with the help of everyone, staff, teachers and administration, Rich Morrill, custodians, buildings and grounds and students, we saved over \$500K. We saved in transportation.

I also wanted to bring up that fact that it was quoted that we did not pay for the water bill. We have cancelled checks if anybody would like to see them. In the 2009-10 budget year, the township was late 17 times and 2010-11 they were late 22 times and in 2011-12 up to date they are late 22 times. What does that tell you? They do not know how to manage the township's finance.

The summer program – they told us they would pay for the utility usage; that was for the year 2011 and they still have not paid. They broke the Sunshine Law, they don't care. I invited the Township Committee to come to this meeting and they have not because their claims are not true. You will notice that this is a trend for them. They try to hide their financial problems by putting the blame on somebody else. It is time for this town's residents to tell the committeemen enough is enough. Stop spending and start saving like we are. Thank you.

Mrs. Becker: One thing I would like to say in closing which if you are a resident of this community you follow the township and the school budgets. You will remember a nice presentation the town just did for their 2011 budget when we all got hit with the change of rate and on their own material it states right here that the 85% tax rate increase is due to the assessments. They have known everything that our entity has done; we have included them in the budget process and now they are having difficulty. So, I guess we are easy pickings and an easy target because we run an enterprise that employs over 400 people running six buildings and educating 3200 students and we are able to do it each year with the same amount of money, if not less. On everybody's behalf I would like to thank you for listening to us vent in the public setting which is what you are supposed to do by law and we invite you during the public portion if you have any questions to come up to the podium because we would be more than happy to answer any questions you have.

At this time, I need a motion to approve the Board Goals for 2011-12.

Mr. Caputo: So moved

Mrs. Pilovsky: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

XV. PUBLIC SESSION

The Barnegat Township Board of Education appreciates and welcomes public comment, please preface your comments by a statement of their name, address and group affiliation, if appropriate. Comments are limited to five minutes. Do I have a motion to open to Public Session?

Mrs. Pilovsky: So moved

Mr. Caputo: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Mrs. Becker: Is there anyone who would like to ask questions or make a comment? Start with Mr. Checcia.

Inaudible

Mrs. Becker: Just so you understand, when the budget is formulated and approved and accepted it then goes between the township to set the rate accordingly and they work with our Business Administrator to set up a tax payment schedule which is agreed upon by them. When they are late they obviously have the money, we do not.

Mr. Chechia: Right now, how much do they owe you.

Mrs. Pilovsky: I know they are late, if you give me one second I will pull out the schedule.

Mr. Chechia: Inaudible.....where is that money that they did not pay you? Is it in their operating account in the township budget because if it is that is criminal. Also, inaudible.

Mrs. Pilovsky: As of right now, they did catch up; they finally caught up.

Mr. Chechia: What does it cost the taxpayer and students by being late?

Mr. Allison: If there were any interest on the accounts, which we do not get at the present time, that would be the cost. We would be losing interest. What it causes us now is worry and thank goodness that we had budgeted in a financially stable manner so that we have a little bit in reserves so we are allowed to get through. There have been a couple of months I have been pretty nervous about making the payroll.

Mrs. Becker: There are times of the year where if they do not make a payment and we were unable to make payroll it could create a situation, but at which time there are mechanisms by law that they are supposed to notify and advise and we would have to take appropriate measures.

Mr. Chechia: Inaudible...the question is where did they put the money, in what account. Inaudible. It is time to recall the inept people running this Township and change the form of government and they will no longer harass the students, the faculty or the School Board.

Mrs. Becker: We cannot tell you where the money is; we do not have access to their inner-workings of their budget. As a taxpayer you can ask that of them.

Mr. Chechia: Inaudible...

Mrs. Becker: Mr. Sarno

Scott Sarno: Inaudible.....we got a chance to tour the Collins School the other night and I know Mr. Houser touched upon this but if some of that extra money was not budgeted for emergency that school would be closed and our kids would be in the Brackman School and

Donahue School and who knows if that school would ever open again. The school looks beautiful and everything is clean and new. Inaudible.

I heard from several of the Board members their feelings about what the Township did but do you agree with it? Are you ok with it? Do you have a problem with it? I would like to hear from you too.

Mrs. Becker: Jim?

Mr. Mihalik: I will answer that. I have been pretty upset for a long time. I talked to the Board members as to why we are not responding back to the township. Number 1, I am an ex-Mayor as you know and I was always aware that the township had to pay the school district on the date they were due. If they do not they have to go out and borrow the money to make the payments to us. We have been a very good Board trying to keep peace within the community; always going to them and trying to work out a schedule so we can get paid and we can cover out bills. All we have been doing we have done quietly and the people in the town do not know that. The Township should pay us when it is due. I am involved with the Shared Service Committee which I thought was a very good thing. The School Board and the Township get together to see what could we do together to share the costs. Most of the time they do not show up or they cancel the meetings. People do not know that. We talked about the garbage bid which was a very big deal. Maybe they did not want to have us involved in that, but the state is pushing for shared services between all the entities of the community. They do not even broach us on it; scary and we keep going back and we call and ask why we cannot get together on this. No answer.

The simple thing like the tower for communications for our transportation for security, they were supposed to get back to us and let us know when we could use the tower and share the cost, never got back to us. So bend over backwards to meet the township; I think we have an obligation to do that but what is lacking is the township coming back and trying to get involved with us. Trying to make us look bad and not sharing the whole story with the taxpayers is a tremendous injustice. I kind of thought they were all good people but when they do things like this you say to yourself maybe we made a bad selection. They should be concerned about the taxpayers and more concerned about the children of the community, the education we provide our children. It goes a long way for who we will be as a people. So to answer your question, Scott, I am very upset with them. I am a man of very few words, I like to use legal means to go after them; I proposed to our attorney that we do that and the Board being who they are and very good people and not wanting to do that; I just think it is a legal thing that needs to be taken care of and go on the books as saying pay us when you are supposed to pay us. Then we can do our job to provide the kids with the best education we can for the money. Thank you.

Mr. Caputo: Mr. Sarno, if you would like to hear from me, basically as the newest member of this Board and as an educator all my life and a former member of many Boards. I believe that the effort of the Board of Education is doing what it wants to do in the best interest of all of the children in this community, first and foremost. I believe it is our responsibility to sit here as this Board and make sure that a thorough and efficient education is provided to all of the children and to the people of the community an affordable education. I would only hope that between the

township and the Board of Education instead of looking to pass blames and problems on each other that they sit down together and try and find a harmonious relationship that will produce nothing but positive results for all parties and especially our children.

Mr. Sarno: I hope I can still get my time because I wanted to hear responses. Mr. Caputo was the only one sitting up there that did not have problems with this and did not say that this was garbage and this was lies. It tells me a lot about him. With that being said, let me go on.

I say what I feel and I am not going to hold back on that. Inaudible....about nine years ago in the Collins School library or gym I stood up in front of that gym and told them what they were doing to this district was garbage and I said I would not rest until everyone up on that stage is gone. In two years they were gone, every single last one of them. I think it is time now to put the focus on the other entity in town and that is going to be my priority and I am sorry that the cowards are not here tonight and I will have to go to the next township meeting to tell them to their faces; I am not afraid to do that. I am good on my word and I will not stop; I will not rest until it happens. So, enjoy, Mr. Caputo.

Mr. Caputo: Excuse me.

Mr. Sarno: Secondly, this is my time right now. Inaudible.....I can vouch for maybe eight of the nine Board members, I worked hard to get good people up here to serve that do not want to get into the politics; that want to serve on this Board and do not get paid or a pension like the Township members do or medical coverage like the Township members do. The good people that are up here want to be here for our kids and our taxpayers. Maybe we do not agree on everything and we are not the best of friends in some things but I am you all are up there to do what is right. I do not have to talk to the Board to ask you certain things. I follow this district, the budget and meetings and come here consistently like Jake and a few other guys. So for somebody to come out and say something like this, it is deplorable.

I also wanted to give Ms. Wood a lot of credit for being above all this. If it was me and with those comments I would not have been in as much control with her comments as she was in the paper. She was professional for our district as opposed to what the town did so kudos to her.

Ms. Wood: Thank you.

Mr. Sarno: So what is this all about? Mr. Houser know this, we have been at this for a long time. This came up two months ago. The Township Committee put word out that they were going to run a ticket in April if we did not put certain people on the ticket that some of the Board members, Bob and I were working on together. We had meetings with Martin Lisella and talked to Mayor Melchiondo about all these issues and we sat down with Breeden and Marty basically they said you put these people on the ticket or else. That is what they told me and when we walked out of that meeting Bob and I said the same thing, they can't make idle threats to us. Many conversations have carried on since then and the reason they came out with this press conference the other day was because once they realized the election could move to November, they were worried about their own rear-end and their own re-election to that Township Committee and they had fear that now we really have to fight because we don't only have the

Democrats against us, we have people actually who have been through this. This is about on-going issues over the last two months and we put in who knows how many hours in the last two months dealing with all of this. Why? Because we care. Just like the rest of you care; you care about what happens to our district, our kids and our taxes. So, you can tell them the fight is on; and I will let them know at the next Township meeting, the fight is on.

Mr. Houser: Lisa, could I make one comment?

Mrs. Becker: Yes

Mr. Houser: The only thing I want to say out there is when we first were elected to the Board and we did build a good relationship with the Township Committee one of the things we stressed to them was we were not going to allow this Barnegat Board of Education to become political. We said we do not care if you are a Democrat, Republican or Independent sitting up there, it is not supposed to be political. When we did hear that they were trying to make it political this year that was a problem for us. We did tell them you are not telling us who you are putting on the school Board because you are not legally allowed to and you cannot let it be political and we are not going to tolerate it being political. Unfortunately, the Township Committee wants it to be political.

Mrs. Becker: The gentleman in the back with the black shirt.

Audience: Inaudible

Mrs. Becker: Thank you, Mr. Lorenzo.

Mrs. Pilovsky: Mr. Lorenzo, you can go to the Township meeting, that is a good question.

Inaudible from audience.

Mr. Houser: I would like to say something in response to that. One of the things is that we do not believe there is a division with the west of the GSP and I understand that there is a division trying to be created here. But the fact of the matter is we believe once the senior citizens west of the GSP understand that the Township Committee's pushing for the budget defeat is not going to help them with their taxes as long as the Township is keeping those funds. We think they will understand. We have an obligation to get out and educate everyone in this building that has heard this and the newspapers, anyone who can get out there and tell the truth because they need to know the truth. It is not helping our taxes by voting the budget down, it is not helping. So I think another avenue the Township thought was by bringing this out it would put pressure on the Board about moving the election to November. This way people will think that by going out and voting down the budget they are helping their taxes. The proof is, if you go back four years and probably back beyond that to the last eight years you will find that the Township Committee has raised their budget and has not given any tax relief to the taxpayers ever. At least not in the four years we have been dealing with this Board. So we need both sides of the GSP to understand. We are one Barnegat whether you live on the west side or the east side; whether you are a parent or a senior citizen, we represent everybody in Barnegat and we need everyone working together

to make a change. So the only way to make that happen is the same way we do it here in the school building, we need to educate everyone and get the facts out and the truth out. Because somebody asked me how will you respond to these statements from the township and I said with the truth. The truth will set you free and it is the truth. These are the facts and this is what has happened and that is the only way to stop the abuse from the Township Committee.

Mrs. Becker: I am sorry I would like to give a moment to a representative of our auditing firm who came here in case people had any questions about why surplus would be a bad thing for a district to have.

Mr. Mike Holt: I am from Holman and Frenia and I have been doing this for twenty-five years. This is the first time I have been asked to come to a meeting to explain why it is a bad thing or a good thing for a Board of Education to have too much surplus sitting in the bottom line. It is amazing to me that there is a debate between the Township and the Board of Education. The management and the Board of Education staff were able to not spend above the budget and bring about \$2.5M in bottom line to increase surplus as of June 30, 2011. You were able to put money in the special reserves to fund future projects and you were able to have excess surplus that is the amount that is over and above the 2% which is allowed to be retained by districts in this day and age. Your amount of excess surplus is \$1.4M and that is local tax relief and it is mandated by law. There is a calculation that is done every year by the auditors in accordance with the NJ statutes, 18A7F-7 that states exactly what the calculation is. There will be tax relief in the 2012-13 budget.

Inaudible

There are other districts in the state that had excess surplus too. You guys have shown fiscal responsibility, implemented cost-saving measures and really did a good job and I want to commend you.

Mrs. Becker: Thank you so much.

Ms. Clemente: Deferred to the gentleman.

Frank Pesci: I am proud of all of you and you have done an excellent job compared to what we had here not too many years ago. I was not shocked when I was informed what was in the newspaper. What bothered me most is that some of those folks knew that I had worked with Dean, the Business Administrator, and looked at records and spending time with them and telling them in my experience how to reduce the budget not to hide money. I do not recall ever mentioning that and in fact I scolded Dean for allowing the Township not to pay on time. They cannot do that. It really bothered me because that money that you had to lay out you had to get a note and you lost interest. That is wrong. Under the legislation they are obligated to give no ifs, ands or buts and you, as a Board, cannot make that exception and should not. That is what is bothering me.

The other thing hearing all of your responses, I thoroughly enjoyed that. You had all the facts there. People have to realize there are bonds in the budget and they have to understand the

budget and how you can better present it. The seniors need to understand it better because when I challenge something with the Township they can't answer the questions. The Board does needs to be open.

Ms. Clemente: I am a citizen and taxpayer and glad to be here and congratulate all of you guys because you have done a great job from beginning to end. I was so upset when I read the articles about the schools that it sickened my stomach. It is like a war; we had a war before because the school board was operating in a non-fiscally responsible manner and the township did not work with them. When you folks came on board that changed and things were transparent and things were cleaned up. Now the tides have turned and the school board has the white pass and the township has the black pass as far as I am concerned. We have got to change that. They can't get away with it.

Mrs. Becker: Ultimately, like Mr. Pesci said, when they are due to pay on time we are supposed to force them to go out and borrow the money. But every member I worked with intimately for the last four years realizes that the bottom line it winds up costing the taxpayer money. If we litigate it costs the taxpayer, if we do this it costs the taxpayer. Honestly for the last three years we sat here with our mouths shut while they were doing all this and not saying a word. That is why we are not going to be quiet any more.

Ms. Clemente: We had several conversations where we said you maybe should have spoken out more about issues that we were having. I spoke to you about the garbage contract and asked why the school didn't do the contract. Denise mentioned that it would have cost us more.

Mrs. Pilovsky: Yes, it would have been \$5,500 a month and we are currently paying \$3,700.

Ms. Clemente: Does the township pay more?

Mrs. Pilovsky: We don't know.

Ms. Clemente: That led me to believe that the Township is probably paying more than they could have paid.

Mrs. Becker: They are probably paying less because we get fewer services if you remember they cut our schedules, so they are doing less. The bottom line is it will look like it is flat or less. I think the savings came by them doing both towns. But also if we were part of the bid process then we would have been intimately involved, we would have had to be there at the bid opening, and input on the contract and things so we are not sure of the outcome because we were excluded from the whole process.

Ms. Clemente: Inaudible. It behooves all of us to get Barnegat folks involved in the township and the school board. That means coming to the meetings and raising questions. Then people who can't come to the meetings will find out about things. You guys have done a wonderful job and that reduction of 8% is a real number. There is no funny math it was a reduction in taxes.

Mrs. Becker: A woman in the back.

Sarah (inaudible): I am not going to pretend to understand a lot of what goes on in this town; I just know I am a taxpayer like everyone else. It bothers me that the Township can make statements about you and then they are not here tonight. That says it all. My taxes are up this year and it makes no sense. It is amazing to me. I appreciate that you gave examples of what you have done to cut costs for the taxpayers. I have to pay my bills, there is no question and if I don't I am in trouble. But they don't pay their bills, they have to be held accountable, it is not fair. I am proud of you guys, I knew nothing coming into this and it does bother me that they are not here. You are here in front of all of us to answer any questions and they took the coward's way out. That says it all. Thank you very much, I appreciate it.

Mrs. Becker: Anyone else?

Audience: Inaudible.

Mrs. Becker: I can answer your questions, but you still have a minute. Are those your two questions?

Audience: Yes

Mrs. Becker: OK, just so you understand district goals and Board goals are something that a Board of Education does on an annual basis and some encumber more than just one year. We have a new Superintendent who joined us in July so we had to give her time to evaluate the overall district and work with the Board to formulate these very broad spectrum goals. Once the Board had come down to agreement on the three district goals, the three Board goals, and the next phase is to put in very specific, strategic action plans for each one. The district goals, while they are set by the Board, are actually carried out by the Superintendent. The next phase, once we have adopted them tonight, is that the Superintendent will go back and formulate a plan for evaluation. Also taking into consideration all of the new regs that are coming down and being formulated by the Department of Education about the new evaluation processes that they are looking for and now the qualified staffing requirements.

As far as the Board goals, those are the areas of content that this Board, the majority having three years or more, with the exception of Mr. Caputo, have felt that we have not addressed. This strategic plan is very important for a district so that you are not just going year to year without any goals or objectives. We also would like to move forward on getting blue-ribbon status for the schools which is not something you just say we are going to do this this year and we will have it by June. So that is another long-term. And, we also have policies and procedures that have to be annually reviewed but some of them with all the new changes in regulations and policies put forward by the State, they directly affect student performance so we want to make sure that ours match up to real objectives for the administration and the faculty within the district. That is my answer; does anyone have anything to add to that?

Ms. Wood: Just to add to the district goals, Mrs. Becker brings up a good point. Normally, when you look at a strategic planning document or any kind of goal-setting or objectives we would look at indicators of success and I think these are the items you are speaking of that are

not listed on tonight's agenda, for example, creative plan for improved effectiveness, accountability, productivity, mentoring of staff. That might be some of the indicators of success may be analyze and evaluate the current mentoring plan; does it meet all the expectations and the requirements of the Department of Education. How can we meet or exceed those expectations? Then we would evaluate that program and implement other items that we feel might be necessary. So although the details are not included on tonight's agenda what Mrs. Becker eluded to is that the next step in the process, I think is what you are referring to Mr. Linton, are the action items and the indicators of success. Normally, what a school Superintendent would do is develop those indicators of success with the administrative team. We have started to have some preliminary discussion and will be continuing that toward the end of January. Those pieces of information will be turnkey from me to the Board of Education on a regular basis almost like a chart that would show progress toward those goals. The Superintendent goals are aligned to the district goals and Superintendent Goals don't need to be Board approved but they do need to be approved in my professional growth plan with the State Department of Education. It is also a QSAC requirement so all of these indicators of success show progress towards meeting certain goals. It is my responsibility to report on those on a regular basis to the Board of Education as we move into the completion of those goals. And some of those goals quite honestly may be turned over into the future depending on how close we get to meeting those. Like Mrs. Becker said we did take quite some time to set the 2011-12 goals. I know it says 2011-12 and already it is January of 2012. You will likely see some of these goals repeated for the 2012-13 school year or at least an extension of the goals you see tonight will go into the 2012-13 school year as we move the district forward.

Voice from audience: Inaudible

Ms. Wood: Although I will say the reporting out on the indicators of success is not normally done for the public, it doesn't mean that it cannot be shared. We tried to be transparent in our progress with the Barnegat Township schools and I think it is important to communicate to the public. Certainly, would see a reapproval or changing of those goals as we approach the 2012-13 school year anyhow but I have no problem putting that information on the district website as we start to move toward the completion of those goals. Keep in mind for members of the public that it is the Board's determination whether or not those goals have been met and the Board's recommendation to develop those goals as a group. We did use the NJ School Boards Association to assist us in that process this year. I think it was very beneficial. I feel every stakeholder was heard from each member of the Board of Education. That is really important because remember that they are elected by community members. But, again, I understand your concerns. I just want to reiterate that the responsibility is of the district and School Board to set those goals, to determine whether or not we have met those goals and then to either reapprove similar goals or change them as the needs may change in the district as we move forward.

Voice from audience: Thank you.

Mrs. Becker: Is there anybody else who would like to address the Board? Seeing none, do I have a motion to close?

Mr. Caputo: So moved

Mrs. Sarno: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

XVI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Becker: Moving on to XVI – Approval of the Minutes, motion to approve #1-2, do I have a motion?

Mrs. Pilovsky: So moved

Mrs. Sarno: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any discussion or comments?

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Abstain

1. Motion to approve the Regular Minutes from the regular meeting of December 20, 2011.
2. Motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes from the regular meeting of December 20, 2011.

XVII. FINANCE COMMITTEE – MOTIONS:

Mrs. Becker: XVII – Finance Committee motions, #1-9, reminding everybody of the deletion of the final paragraph under #9.

Mrs. Pilovsky: So moved

Mr. Houser: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any questions or comments?

Mr. Adorno Yes
 Mr. Cloke #1, abstain on P.O. 120166 and yes on the rest; yes on rest of Finance
 Mr. Mihalik Yes
 Mr. Houser Yes
 Mrs. Sarno #1, abstain on P.O. 120670; yes to rest of #1; and yes to #2-9
 Mr. Caputo #1, abstain on invoice 120007,123500 and 123583 and yes to rest
 Mrs. Pilovsky Yes
 Mrs. Becker Yes

1. Motion to approve January bills list in the amount of \$963,331.51.
2. Motion to approve December payroll in the amount of \$2,791,016.14.
3. Motion to approve hand checks written for December in the amount of \$9,000.
4. Motion to approve the Monthly Report of the Treasurer (A-149) for November, 2011.
5. Motion to approve the Monthly Report of the Secretary (A-148) for November, 2011.
6. Motion to approve Transfer Report for the month of November, 2011.
7. Motion to approve the following Homebound Instruction students:

<u>STUDENT</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>DURATION</u>
D.L.	ROBMS	12/22/11 – 1/13/12
K. S.	BHS	11/16/11 – 12/23/11
A.M.	ROBMS	12/22/11 – 1/12/ 12
J. P.*	BHS	12/20/11 – 1/9/12
J.H.*	BHS	1-13-12 – 1-20-12
A.R.	BHS	1/24/12 – 2/10/12
T.J.*	BHS	1/16/12 – 1/23/12

*Administrative Suspension

8. Motion to approve the following workshops:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>FEE</u>	<u>MILEAGE</u>	<u>TOLLS/PKG.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
K. McShaffrey	SRT & ETTC School Law Training	2/8/12; 3/7/12; 4/18/12; 5/30/12	Pomona, NJ	\$350.00	0	0	\$350.00
D. Sylvia	Master Schedule Bldg.	2/14/12- 2/15/12	Upper Saddle River	\$500.00	132.68	\$20.00	\$652.68

9. Motion to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the form of Flexible Spending Account Cafeteria Plan including a Premium Expense Account, effective March 1, 2012, is hereby approved and adopted and that the proper officers of the school district are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrator of the Plan one or more counterparts of the Plan.

RESOLVED, that the Administrator shall be instructed to take such actions that are deemed necessary and proper in order to implement the Plan, and to set up adequate accounting and administrative procedures to provide benefits under the Plan.

RESOLVED, that the proper officers of the school district shall act as soon as possible to notify the employees of the Corporation of the adoption of the Cafeteria Plan by providing a copy of the summary description of the Plan in the form of the Summary Plan Description, which form is hereby approved.

XVIII. EDUCATION COMMITTEE – MOTION:

Mrs. Becker: XVIII – Education Committee Motion, #1, do I have a motion?

Mrs. Pilovsky: So moved

Mr. Cloke: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any comments or questions?

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Abstain

1. Motion for BHS band to go to Cleveland, Ohio in May. Expenses to be paid by students. (See attached information).

XIX. EXECUTIVE SESSION RESOLUTION

Request a resolution for Executive Session at this point in the meeting of the Barnegat Township Board of Education on January 17, 2012 for the purpose of discussing confidential student information, personnel items, contracts and/or litigation.

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Township of Barnegat in the County of Ocean and State of New Jersey, as follows:

The public shall be excluded from discussion on the actions upon the hereinafter specified subject matter(s): student information, personnel/contracts, and/or litigation.

The general nature of the subject matter(s) to be discussed is listed under Executive Discussion.

It is anticipated at this time that the subject matters will be made public, if and when, confidentiality is no longer needed. Action may be taken.

This resolution shall become effective immediately.

XX. EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION

Mrs. Becker: May I have a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss contractual, personnel and litigation issues?

Mrs. Sarno: So moved.

Mr. Caputo: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Mrs. Becker: We will probably have a bit of a lengthy session due to a presentation that has to be done so I cannot offer a time for return. Thank you very much for coming.

XXI. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Becker: I would like to call the meeting back to order.

XXII. ROLL CALL

Mr. Adorno	Present
Mr. Cloke	Present
Mr. Mihalik	Present
Mr. Houser	Present

Mrs. Sarno Present
Mr. Caputo Present
Mrs. Pilovsky Present
Mrs. Becker Present

XXIII. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – MOTIONS:

Mrs. Becker: XXIII – Personnel Committee Motions #1-6, do I have a motion?

Mr. Adorno: So moved

Mrs. Sarno: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any clarification?

Ms. Wood: Yes, on #1 under Personnel, that does not need to an emergent hire, that person will be starting on January 19 which is Thursday. Her fingerprints have been received; that is the only correction that I have.

Mrs. Becker: OK, any other questions?

Mr. Adorno Yes
Mr. Cloke Yes
Mr. Mihalik Yes
Mr. Houser Yes
Mrs. Sarno Yes
Mr. Caputo Yes with the amendment as noted on 1a.
Mrs. Pilovsky Yes
Mrs. Becker Yes

1. Approve hiring the following personnel for the 2011-2012 SY

- a. Carolyn Skodi– BHS – Math Teacher (B)
Certification: Teacher of Mathematics (Standard)
Salary/Step: \$44,200/1BA (pro-rated)
Effective: 6/30/12
Justification: replacing Greg Ryan resignation
Acct #11-140-100-101-01 Ext 11369
- b. Margaret Bryson – PT Instructional Aide – JTDS (B)
Salary/Step: \$11,056/Step 1 (pro-rated)
Effective: 1/23/12 – 6/30/12
Justification: IEP mandated
Acct #11-204-100-106-01 Ext 11392

- c. Terrance Daley – PT Instructional Aide – JTDS (B)
Salary/Step: \$11,056/Step 1 (pro-rated)
Effective: 1/23/12 – 6/30/12
Justification: new student w/IEP
Acct #:11-204-100-106-01 Ext 11392
 - d. Doreen Cotton – PT Instructional Aide – JTDS (B)
Salary/Step: \$11,056/Step 1 (pro-rated)
Effective: 2/1/11 – 6/30/12
Justification: due to transfer from Melody Carey resignation
Acct #: 11-204-100-106-01 Ext 11392
2. Approve the following personnel to fill Maternity/FMLA leaves for 2011-2012 SY
- a. Kelsey Goddard – ROBMS – Math Teacher (B) (mom teaches @ RLHS)
Certification: Elementary Ed; Middle School Science
Middle School Math; Standard
Salary/Step: \$44,200 (pro-rated)
Effective: 2/13/12 – 6/30/12
Justification: filling Karen Brodwater medical leave
Acct #11-130-100-101-01 ext 11366
 - b. Heather Westen – ROBMS – Resource Room Teacher (B)
Certification: Elementary School w/Subject Matter Specialization
Language Arts/Literacy Specialization in Grades 5-8
Elementary School Teacher
Teacher of Student w/Disabilities
Salary/Step: \$44,200 (pro-rated)
Effective: 1/17/12 – 5/18/12
Justification: filling Christine Duffy maternity leave
Acct #11-213-100-101-01 ext 11399
 - c. Confirming Resolution
Jennifer Giaccone – Central Office (B)
Salary/Step: \$24,500 (\$3,500/month)
Effective: **Emergent** – 8/31/12
Justification: filling Colleen Shive maternity leave
Acct #11-000-251-100-01 ext 11277
3. Approve the following transfer from part-time to full-time for the 2011-2012 S/Y
- a. Karen Steen – Instructional Aide – RLHS (B)
Salary/Step: \$17,972/Step 6 (pro-rated)
Effective: 2/1/12 – 6/30/12
Justification: due to Melody Carey resignation
Acct #11-204-100-106-01 ext 11392

4. Approve the following vacant positions for coaching for the Spring 2011-2012 SY
 - a. Assistant Middle School Baseball Coach
 - b. Assistant Softball Coach

5. Approve the following substitute personnel for the 2011-2012 SY (B)
 - a. Michael Kestlinger – applying for substitute certificate
 - b. Chester Klutkowski – applying for substitute certificate
 - c. Jennifer Kreybig – certified substitute
 - d. Ryan Layer – applying for substitute certificate
 - e. Joseph Tonetti – certified substitute
 - f. Richard Bartha – substitute security
 - g. Thomas McVay – substitute security
 - h. Andrew Lockner – substitute bus driver

6. Approve following curriculum stipend positions for the 2011-2012 SY (B)

<u>Employee</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Stipend/OT</u>
Kim Gorecki	Family Math & Reading Lead Facilitator	\$350
Arlene Kadlubowski Larissa Taff Margie Schoka Laura Arluna Leah Froberg	Family Reading Teachers	\$175
Jenna Walsh Melissa Daus Sue Harkness Karen Johnson Sarah Flynn Gina Verderosa Barbara Gross	Family Math & Science Teachers	OT Rate 4 ½ hrs.

XIV. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE – INFORMATION:

1. Notification of Retirement:
 - a. Melody Carey (9/1/86) – Instructional Aide @ RLHS, effective 2/1/12

2. Notification of leave without pay:
 - a. Jessica McCormack – Preschool Teacher @ CSCS
1/12/12 – 1/23/12 - unpaid

XXV. OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Becker: XXV – Old Business. Do we have any Old Business? Seeing none we will move to New Business.

XXVI. NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Becker: We do have New Business motions.

Mr. Allison: #1 is to authorize the upgrade, recalibrate and rebalance of existing univent system at the Collins School.

Mrs. Becker: Do I have a motion?

Mr. Adorno: So moved

Mr. Cloke: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any questions, comments or discussion?

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Mr. Allison: The next New Business motion is to authorize the design and release of the bid to re-roof the entire center roof section of the Collins School in the summer of 2012.

Mrs. Sarno: So moved

Mr. Adorno: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	No, based on the fact that I believe the entire roof should be done.
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Mr. Allison: The third New Business motion is the ESIP Resolution and there are a couple of changes in there. Barnickel Engineering and Spiezle have approved the plan so instead of saying it is being reviewed and approved we can say accepted and the last paragraph, Be It Further Resolved, comes out.

Mr. Houser: I would suggest you read the entire Resolution into the record.

Mr. Allison: You want me to read the entire Resolution? OK.

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (“Board”) is desirous in being of being in compliance with the requirement of PL 2009, Chapter 4 “Energy Savings Improvement Program”, and

WHEREAS, the Board engaged the Spiezle Group to complete and submit an energy audit; and

WHEREAS, the Board utilized the competitive contracting process to select Johnson Controls, Inc. as its Energy Services Company (ESCO); and

WHEREAS, the Board on August 26, 2011 directed Johnson Controls, Inc. to proceed with development of an Energy Savings Improvement Plan; and

WHEREAS, Johnson Controls, Inc. submitted an Energy Savings Improvement Plan (ESIP) to the Board on January 12, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the ESIP has been approved on behalf of the district by Spiezle Architectural Group in conjunction with Barnickel Engineering Group; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board accepts the ESIP and approves Johnson Controls, Inc., to act as a General Contractor, to develop and receive bids for the installation of energy conservation and facility improvement measures as per the ESIP.

Mrs. Becker: Do I have a motion?

Mr. Adorno: So moved.

Mrs. Sarno: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any discussion?

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes

Mrs. Becker Yes

Mr. Allison: The next new motion is a motion to rescind acceptance of 3rd Rock/RGD Energy proposal for third-party lease of solar panel equipment for the Barnegat Township School district due to failure to arrange necessary financing to begin the project and concession requests to reduce the scope of the original RFP awarded. We are essentially ending the contract with them.

Mrs. Pilovsky: So moved

Mrs. Sarno: Second

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Mr. Allison: The next New Business motion is to authorize the Board Attorney and the Business Administrator to begin negotiations with EZenergy Company to develop a contract for use of EZenergy/Hudson as the third-party provider to install solar panels on the Barnegat Township School District properties.

Mrs. Sarno: So moved

Mr. Caputo: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any questions or comments?

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Mr. Allison: The next New Motion is motion to approve the facilities use agreement with the Ocean Professional Theatre Company.

Mrs. Pilovsky: So moved

Mr. Cloke: Second

Mrs. Becker: Any discussion?

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	No
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

Mrs. Becker: New Business Motion #7 adopting Resolution moving its annual election to November. This motion would allow the Barnegat Township Board of Education to move the annual school election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November providing the law enacted by the Governor was signed in the same form and format existing in Senate bill 3148.

Mr. Mihalik: So moved

Mr. Adorno: Second

Mrs. Becker: Does anyone have a comment?

Mr. Cloke: This could not have come any sooner. Thank you.

Mr. Adorno	Yes
Mr. Cloke	Yes
Mr. Mihalik	Yes
Mr. Houser	Yes
Mrs. Sarno	Yes
Mr. Caputo	Yes
Mrs. Pilovsky	Yes
Mrs. Becker	Yes

WHEREAS, the New Jersey legislature has passed a bill (S3148) that establishes procedures for moving the date of a Type II school district's annual election to the day of the general election in November; and

WHEREAS, under the first procedure the question would be presented to the voters for their approval whenever a petition signed by not less than 15% of the number of legally qualified voters who voted in the district at the last preceding general election for the election of President and Vice President of the United States is filed with the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, under the second procedure a Board of Education in a Type II District may adopt a resolution moving the annual school election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November without voter approval; and

WHEREAS, under the third procedure the governing body of the municipality constituting the district may adopt a resolution moving the annual school election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November without voter approval; and

WHEREAS, bill S3148 further provides that a district that moves its annual school election to November would not require voter approval for its base budget which is a budget with a proposed tax levy that does not exceed its tax levy cap; and

WHEREAS, the bill has been enacted into law by the Governor's signature on 1/17/12; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to move its annual school election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November without voter approval.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the Township of Barnegat and the County of Ocean, New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Barnegat Township Board of Education shall move the annual school election to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November provided that the law enacted by the Governor on 1/17/12 is in the same form and format as existing Senate Bill 3148.
2. The Board Secretary and the Board Attorney shall take all further action necessary to effectuate the change in election dates for the annual school election.

I, Dean Allison, Secretary to the Barnegat Township Board of Education, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Board at a public meeting on January 17, 2012.

Dean Allison
Board Secretary
Barnegat Board of Education

XXVII. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Becker: May I have a motion to adjourn at 10:43 p.m.?

Mr. Caputo: So moved

Mrs. Sarno: Second

Mrs. Becker: All in favor?

All: Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Dean Allison, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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