

**BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC WORK SESSION
November 12, 2025**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The November 12, 2025 Work Session Meeting of the Burlington Township Board of Education was called to order by Dr. Dunham, Board President, at 6:04 P.M. in the Board Conference Room of the Hopkins Building at 710 Jacksonville Road, Burlington, NJ.

II. STATEMENT OF CONFORMANCE

Notice is hereby given that this meeting is being conducted in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, and that adequate notice has been provided as follows:

On January 14, 2025 the Secretary gave notice of this Work Session meeting to be held at 6:00 P.M. in the Hopkins Building in the following manner:

- (a) Posted notice on the entranceway; Door #18 of the BTHS Hopkins Building;
- (b) Notices were sent to the Township Clerk, the Burlington County Times and the Trenton Times.

III. FLAG SALUTE

IV. ROLL CALL

	<u>ARRIVAL</u>	<u>DEPARTURE</u>
Mrs. Lisa Hodnett	Absent	---
Mrs. Carlye Lamarca	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Mr. Melvin Moore	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Mr. Minesh Patel	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Mrs. Velina Marie Riggi	Absent	---
Mrs. Marguerite Romilus	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Mr. James Shedaker	Absent	---
Mrs. Kimberly Smith	Absent	---
Dr. Marilyn Dunham	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Dr. Mary Ann Bell, Superintendent	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Mr. Nicholas Bice, BA/Board Secretary	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Mrs. Sherry Knight, Int. Asst. Supt. for C&I	Absent	---
Mr. Christopher Giannotti, Asst. Supt. for Sp. Ed	6:04 P.M.	7:39 P.M.
Mr. David Serlin, Solicitor	Absent	---

V. BOARD DISCUSSION

- Dr. Dunham congratulated Mrs. Lamarca and Mr. Moore on being reelected and Ms. Angeline on being elected to the Board.
- The Board discussed ideas for the annual holiday video message to staff.

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- The Board was reminded that Justin Wright of NJSBA will be presenting on Effective Meetings at next week's meeting after the public session and that 7 of 9 Board members must be present in order for the training to count toward certification.
- Mr. Moore shared that NJSBA is hosting a presentation called "The 3Rs: Roles, Responsibilities, and Resources" on November 20th at 5:15pm at Willingboro High School. The session is designed for newly elected, reelected, and veteran Board members and includes credit toward Board Member Academy Certification. The Burlington County SBA meeting will take place following the training.

VI. BOARD ACTION

A. PERSONNEL

3. On the motion of Mrs. Lamarca, seconded by Mr. Moore, to recommend accepting, with regret, the **retirement/resignation** of:
 - a. *(Adjustment to effective date originally approved on October 29, 2025 agenda)* Resignation of **Bahareh Moghadassi**, Preschool Expansion Teacher - PEA FUNDED at B. Bernice Young School, effective November 19, 2025, last day of work being November 18, 2025. Mrs. Moghadassi is also requesting payment of all accumulated sick and personal days. Mrs. Moghadassi will have served the district for 3 years.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

5. On the motion of Mrs. Lamarca, seconded by Mr. Moore, to recommend approval of the following positions:
 - b. **Ariana Moseley** as Preschool Expansion Teacher - PEA FUNDED at B. Bernice Young School, effective November 19, 2025 through June 30, 2026, at the BA level, Step A, salary as negotiated, prorated, pending meeting employment requirements. Submission has been made to the County.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

C. MISCELLANEOUS

6. On the motion of Mrs. Lamarca, seconded by Mr. Moore, to recommend approval and acceptance of items required by the NJDOE as listed:
 - a. [2026-2027 Preschool Operational Plan](#)
 - b. [2026-2027 Preschool Enrollment Projection](#)
 - c.  DPR 25-26 *(Note: County will complete the district's score for the Instruction & Program section. The District has awarded the maximum score that the District can award.)*

Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

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VII. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

- Dr. Bell reported that Coach Everette has been named Burlington County Coach of the Year. The awards ceremony is November 19th, which is the same night as the public Board meeting, so we will honor the football team at the December meeting. We will be honoring the field hockey team in December also.
- Dr. Bell reported that the BT Annual Tree Lighting ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 4th, at 6:00pm at Green Acres.
- Dr. Bell reported that a community member expressed concern that our flags were not at half staff. We did not receive a notification from the County like usual. This was addressed once it was brought to our attention.
- Dr. Bell reported that she answered an email sent to the Board President about a Recreation Cheerleading concern.
- Dr. Bell reported that she answered an email from a student sent to the Board President about a proposed club.
- Mr. Bice reported that we are still waiting for the official Statement of Votes Cast from the county to determine the write-in winner for the second one-year unexpired term that was on the ballot in the election. The report is usually received about 3 weeks after the election.
- Mr. Bice reminded Board members to submit their NJSBA workshop expenses for reimbursement.
- Dr. Bell reminded Board members that there is a Finance Committee meeting on Monday, November 17th, at 6:00pm.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Strategic Planning Committee - [see report](#)

IX. BOARD DISCUSSION

- The Board discussed planning for development of the 2026-2027 budget, including the possibility of changing back to an April School Board election.

The Board took a brief recess at 7:00 P.M. and reconvened at 7:07 P.M.

- The Board discussed a draft of the 2026-2027 school calendar.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public are invited to submit any general comments during this public comment portion of the meeting. The Board, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, will not publicly discuss personnel matters. This portion of the meeting is not a question and

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answer session. The Board will not respond to comments made by members of the public during this portion of the meeting; however, the Board will give all comments appropriate consideration and will refer all individual complaints to the Superintendent of Schools or Administration for resolution. In accordance with Board of Education Bylaw # 9322, each statement made by a participant may be limited to three minutes' duration. Please be polite when making your comments. Disruptive conduct such as shouting, interrupting a speaker, use of profanity, or similar behavior, is not permitted in a school setting. Any person engaging in such behavior will be asked to cease by the President, and if the conduct continues, the person will be asked to leave the meeting. - none

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On the motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Patel, to recommend to adopt a resolution to move into Executive Session at 7:17 P.M.

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, THAT PURSUANT to Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, the public shall be excluded from this portion of the meeting involving the discussion of:

1. Matters Required by Law to be Confidential
 - a. HIB report review
2. Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney-Client Privilege:
 - a. Investigation of matter at High School
 - b. Contractual issue
3. Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements:
 - a. Potential sidebar with BTEA regarding 2026-2027 calendar

FURTHER RESOLVED, that discussion of such subjects in Executive Session will be disclosed to the public at some later time.

On the motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Patel, to approve the return to regular session at 7:29 P.M.

5 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

- The Board continued discussing planning for development of the 2026-2027 budget, including the possibility of changing back to an April School Board election.
- Mr. Giannotti reported that he visited Pemberton's early childhood center on October 30th with some of our preschool staff and it was a great experience.

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XIII. ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Patel, approval was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 P.M.

Roll Call Vote: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas Bice
Business Administrator/Board Secretary