

**BURLINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC BUDGET MEETING
March 13, 2024**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The March 13, 2024 Public Budget Meeting of the Burlington Township Board of Education was called to order by Ms. Minors, President, at 7:02 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 9, 2024 the Secretary gave notice of this public meeting to be held at 7:00 P.M. in the Board Conference Room, 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. Melissa Cardone	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mrs. Marilyn Dunham	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mrs. Lisa Hodnett	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mrs. Carlye Lamarca	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mr. Melvin Moore	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mrs. Velina Marie Riggi	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mr. Michael Sherman	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mrs. Kimberly Smith	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Ms. Antoinette Minors	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Dr. Mary Ann Bell, Superintendent	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mr. Nicholas Bice, BA/Board Secretary	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Ms. Ann Britt, Asst. Supt. for Curr. & Inst.	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mr. Christopher Giannotti, Asst. Supt. for Sp. Ed	7:02 P.M.	7:31 P.M.
Mr. David Serlin, Solicitor	Absent	---

V. PRESENTATION

- Mr. Bice gave a presentation regarding the status of the 2024-2025 budget. The administration is presenting a proposed budget for 2024-2025 that is balanced with the

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understanding that the final budget is determined by the Board of Education. The changes discussed by the Board of Education at the previous meeting have been made. The proposed budget was developed utilizing the goals that were established by the Board of Education. The administration is prepared to answer questions from the Board regarding the proposed budget and how it supports the district goals. The following documents were reviewed:

- Documents Reviewed at Previous Budget Meetings:
 - [Budget Overview 2024](#)
 - [Review of Board Budget Goals, Challenges and Calendar](#)
 - [Impact of Budget Changes 2023-2024](#)
 - [Fiscal Year 2024-2025 State Aid Allocations](#)
 - [Enrollment Projections 2024-2025](#)
 - [Answers to questions posed by public](#)
- Updated Documents for the March 13, 2024 Budget Meeting:
 - [Proposed Budget 2024-2025](#)
 - [Revenue Trend 2016-2025](#)
 - [Expense Trend 2016-2025](#)
 - [2024-2025 Budget Proposed Tax Impact](#)
- Dr. Bell shared information regarding the 2% cap on the tax levy increase vs. the impact of a 2% increase on the tax rate instead.

VI. BOARD ACTION

- On the motion of Mrs. Riggi, seconded by Mrs. Dunham, to recommend approval of the Preschool Education Aid Budget Workbook and Budget Narrative for 2024-2025. Roll Call Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.
- On the motion of Mrs. Lamarca, seconded by Mrs. Cardone, to recommend approval of the following budget resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Burlington Township Board of Education approves the tentative budget for the 2024-2025 school year and authorizes the Board Secretary to submit the following budget to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval in accordance with the statutory deadline and to advertise said budget in the Burlington County Times in accordance with the form suggested by the State Department of Education and according to law:

2024-2025	TOTAL	ANTICIPATED REVENUES	LEVY
General Fund	76,180,704.00	30,036,649.00	46,144,055.00
Special Revenue Fund	5,757,877.00	5,757,877.00	0.00
Debt Service Fund	2,828,430.00	473,242.00	2,355,188.00
TOTAL	84,767,011.00	38,267,768.00	48,499,243.00

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Burlington Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget the adjustment for increase in health care costs in the amount of \$47,984.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Burlington Township Board of Education has \$372,014.00 in banked cap carried forward from prior year budgets. The Board proposes to utilize \$64,603.00 of banked cap in the proposed budget to fund a mental health professional position. The need for funds for this service will be completed by the end of the budget year and not deferred over a longer period. A total of \$307,411.00 will remain available in banked cap for the 2025-2026 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Burlington Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget revenue in the amount of \$515,000.00 to be withdrawn from Maintenance Reserve for the purpose of required maintenance of the school district's facilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Burlington Township Board of Education includes in the proposed budget a transfer of \$460,710.00 from the General Fund to the Special Revenue Fund to cover the cost of preschool students with disabilities in general education classrooms.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held at Thomas O. Hopkins Building, 710 Jacksonville Road, Burlington, New Jersey on April 24, 2024 at 7:00PM for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on the budget for the 2024-2025 school year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Burlington Township Board of Education approves travel and related expense reimbursements, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.2(b), to a maximum expenditure of \$40,000 for all staff and board members.

Roll Call Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

VII. BOARD OF EDUCATION DISCUSSION

- Ms. Minors thanked Mr. Bice, Dr. Bell, the staff, and the Board of Education for their efforts in developing and adopting the 2024-2025 tentative budget.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

- none

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IX. ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Mrs. Dunham, seconded by Mrs. Cardone, approval was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 P.M.

Roll Call Vote: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicholas Bice
Business Administrator/Board Secretary