



Berkeley Heights Community Watch  
Shining a Light on Local Government

[www.bhcvw.io](http://www.bhcvw.io)

## The Declines Continue Across All Schools

School District	NJ Proficiency Rating/Ranking Elementary	NJ Proficiency Rating/Ranking High School	US News & World Report High School Ranking	US News & World Middle School Ranking	US News and World Report Average Elementary School Ranking**	Niche Ranking	Average Ranking Position
Milburn	3	48	19	5	8.5	3	14.42
Westfield*	4	60	49	24	71	14	37.00
New Providence	6	30	51	14	64	15	30.00
Madison	7	70	40	43	148.5	41	58.25
Chatham	7	25	21	28	105	13	33.17
Summit	9	101	23	21	73.8	6	38.97
Berkeley Heights	20	137	80	49	141	43	78.39

\* Average rating among 2 Middle Schools Westfield (Roosevelt #8 and Thomas Edison #40)

\*\* Average Rankings Among All Elementary Schools Where a Ranking Was Available Within The District

### Latest Elementary and Middle School Rankings Not Encouraging For Berkeley Heights

The decline in rankings continues under Dr. Melissa Varley as Superintendent...[Read More](#)

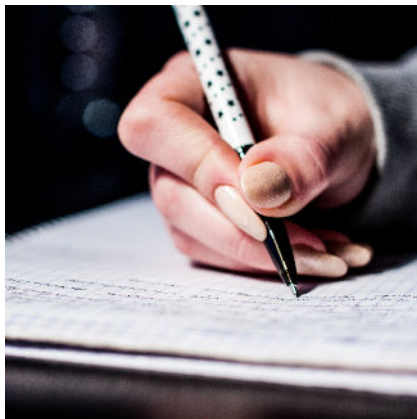


### Responses to Constructive Feedback and Questions on BHCW's Reporting on the Declines

Over the past month BOE Members and several community members on different forums provided BHCW feedback on our articles and I want to provide these concerns with the respect of a response. **This isn't**

**intended to embarrass or call out anyone** (we aren't attributing any of the objections or questions to names) but to continue an important conversation that deserves our attention. These are points made by **multiple members of the community and members of the current BOE Majority....**[Read More](#)

## 2024 Cannot Come Soon Enough - The 11/16/2023 BOE Meeting



### [My Notes on the Berkeley Heights BOE 11/16/2023 Meeting](#)

**The elimination of Mr. Hopkins' role as records custodian.**

I'm happy about this, as I've argued many times why this role, which costs an additional \$12k per year, was not necessary based on the number of OPRA requests....[Read More](#)



### [11/16/2023 Berkeley Heights BOE Meeting Agenda - Laura & Shauna's Notes](#)

This continues the dangerous trend of the last few years of consolidating power into the BOE President. As we have seen in the past three years, work done in committees is often not shared with the public or even other BOE Members. This practice again blew up in the BOE's face this year when....[Read More](#)

## More Money to Lawyers

[Cleary, Giacobbe,](#)



## **Alfieri, and Jacobs Has Over 86,000 Reasons to Be Thankful for Berkeley Heights**

This month -Cleary, Giacobbe, Alfieri, and Jacobs pulled another ~\$9700 out of our District and into its pockets -contributing to the already record-breaking 11 month running total for legal fees to the tune of ~169,000 of which our favorite firm has received nearly half....[Read More](#)

## **Natasha and Sai Thank Voters**



### **Thank You, Berkeley Heights**

I am overwhelmed and humbled by the support I received over the past three years. It has not been an easy journey for many parents who have been vocal about change....[Read More](#)



### **Thank You**

I'd like to say a heartfelt "thank you" to the Berkeley Heights community for your support. The fact that so many people turned out and voted in a contest that was seemingly a done deal means so much to me....[Read More](#)

## **Notes from the Week**

**The BOE Majority Continues to Play Politics As Rankings Tumble Again**

**NJ Education Report: School Districts Are Lying to Families**

# Top Three Articles in October



[2024 Niche  
"Best School  
Districts in New  
Jersey"  
Released](#)



[Laura's Notes  
on the  
10/12/2023 BOE  
Agenda](#)



[The 48 Hour  
Rule](#)

