

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – January 6, 2016 – 7:30 PM

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Media Center, Roosevelt School, 711 Summit Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Ms. Salvati called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. DiBella read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Mr. Busted; Ms. Danahy; Ms. Dansky; Mr. DiBella; Mr. Koth; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim; also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Salvati, Mr. Henzel and two members of the public.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

REORGANIZATION

Certification of Election Results – November 3, 2015

Ms. Salvati reported on the official results of November 3, 2015 election. She explained that Ms. Walker has since resigned and was replaced by Mr. Koth.

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Total Votes Cast</u>
Colin Busted (3 Year Term)	1,134
Gyuchang Sim (3 Year Term)	929
Wendy Walker (3 Year Term)	961
Personal Choice	3

Oath of Office to Newly Elected Trustees

The Board Secretary administered the Oath of Office to Trustees elect Colin Busted and Gyuchang Sim.

2016 Board of Education and Expiration of Terms of Offices

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Expiration of Terms</u>
Anthony DiBella	2016
Michael Koth	2016
Paris Myers	2016
Cathy Danahy	2017
Sheli Dansky	2017
Colin Busteed	2018
Gyuchang Sim	2018

Nomination and Election of President

Motion by Mr. Busteed to nominate Paris Myers as Board President, Seconded by Mr. Sim.

Roll call was taken and Paris Myers was elected Board President.

Ayes: Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers

Nays: None, Abstained: Ms. Danahy

Nomination and Election of Vice-President

Motion by Mrs. Myers to nominate Gyuchang Sim as Vice-President, seconded by Ms. Danahy.

Roll call was taken and Gyuchang Sim was unanimously elected Vice-President.

President, Paris Myers assumed the Chair.

REORGANIZATION MOTIONS

1. Meeting Time & Location

That the Board of Education continues to hold regular public meetings at 7:30 p.m. as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>School</u>
January 6, 2016	Roosevelt School
January 20, 2016	Cherry Hill School
February 3, 2016	Roosevelt School
February 24, 2016	Cherry Hill School
March 2, 2016	Roosevelt School
March 16, 2016	Cherry Hill School
April 6, 2016	Roosevelt School
April 20, 2016	Cherry Hill School
May 4, 2016	Roosevelt School
May 18, 2016	Cherry Hill School
June 8, 2016	Roosevelt School

June 29, 2016	Cherry Hill School
July 27, 2016	Cherry Hill School
September 7, 2016 September 21, 2016	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School
October 5, 2016 October 19, 2016	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School
November 2, 2016 November 16, 2016	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School
December 7, 2016 December 21, 2016	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School
January 4, 2017 (Reorganization Meeting)	Roosevelt School

FURTHER, provision is also made for closed meetings immediately following each regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters or any other private matters if necessary.

FURTHER, the Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to give at least 48 hours advance notice of all the aforesaid meetings, and said notice shall (a) be delivered to the municipal building and the post office; (b) be delivered to the Board's officially designated newspapers; (c) circulated in the School District; and (d) filed with the clerk of the Borough of River Edge, all as provided for the pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of the State of New Jersey 1975.

Motion by: Mr. Busted Seconded by: Mr. DiBella

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

2. School Ethics

FURTHER, that the Board of Education abide by the School Ethics Act and the Code of Ethics for School Board Members, pursuant to N.J.S.A.18A:12-21 et seq.

Motion by: Mr. DiBella Seconded by: Mr. Sim

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

3. Parliament Procedure

FURTHER, that the Board of Education meetings be governed by parliamentary procedure of Robert's Rules of Order.

Motion by: Mr. Sim Seconded by: Mr. Koth

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

4. Official Public Notice Newspapers

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate the *Suburban/Town News* and *The Record* as the Official Newspapers for the Board of Education until the next organization meeting.

5. Designation Board Secretary

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Patricia Salvati as Board Secretary until the next organization meeting.

6. Rules, Regulations and Policies

FURTHER, that all rules, regulations and policies adopted in previous years, and not rescinded by the River Edge Board of Education be continued in full force and effect until altered, amended, modified or repealed by other resolutions of this Board.

7. Curricula

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve all current curricula and programs that have been developed in accordance with NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards and the Common Core State Standards until the next organization meeting.

8. Mission Statement

FURTHER, that the Board of Education adapt the Mission Statement as follows:

The River Edge School District is a partnership of students, parents, staff, and community members. We are dedicated to providing a supportive environment in which all students can reach their maximum academic potential, while developing as responsible citizens who respect individuality. Our goals will be achieved because:

- curriculum and instruction are aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and the Common Core State Standards
- all decisions reflect the academic, social/emotional and physical needs of pre-K to sixth grade students
- cooperation and on-going communication exist between the school district and the community
- school administrators and the Board of Education work together to assess and adjust procedures in response to new mandates and the changing needs of the community

9. Designation of Depositories & Signature Authorizations

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate the Capital One Bank as the depository for funds for the Board of Education.

FURTHER, that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Treasurer of School Monies be authorized and directed to maintain accounts for and on behalf of the Board in Capital One Bank and

FURTHER, that the Board of Education official warrants be signed by three of the following five:

President, Vice President, Board Secretary/Business Administrator, Treasurer of School Monies, Superintendent of Schools

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approves the designated signatures on the above accounts as outlined in the attached document.

10. Participation in Bergen County Banking Consortium

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the district's participation in the Bergen County Banking Consortium (BCBANC) and authorize the School Business Administrator to serve as a trustee until the next organization meeting.

11. Signature Authorization – Taxes, Payroll, Insurance

FURTHER, that the President or Vice President in his/her absence, and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator or Superintendent in his/her absence, and the Treasurer of School Monies, be authorized and directed to execute warrants without further action on the part of the Board of the payment, when due, for salaries of all employees of the Board and for withholding taxes, pension funds, medical insurance plans, property insurance, Social Security and New Jersey Unemployment Insurance.

12. Office Account Signatures

FURTHER, that the Board of Education authorize the following individuals to approve the Petty Cash Reimbursements:

- Patricia Salvati, Board Secretary/Business Administrator
- Dr. Tova Ben-Dov, Superintendent of Schools

FURTHER, that the maximum allowable amount per warrant be established at \$125.00 providing all necessary claims are found to be in order according to law.

13. Designation of Board Auditor, and

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Lerch Vinci & Higgins, as Board Auditor until the next organization meeting.

14. Designation Board Attorney

WHEREAS, the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs., has the expertise and experience to provide professional services to the River Edge Board of Education; and,

WHEREAS, the Board is desirous of appointing the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs, to provide professional services to the Board;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board of Education appoints the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs., as the Board Attorney until the next organization meeting at the following rates: \$175.00 Partner and \$155.00 Associate.

15. Designation Board Architect

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate DiCara Rubino Architects, as Architect of Record until the next organization meeting at an hourly rate of \$175 Principal, \$165 Senior Associate Architect, and \$140 Project Architect/Engineer.

16. Designation Board Insurance Agency

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Brown and Brown Advisors of Lambertville, New Jersey as the Broker of Record for Dental Benefits.

17. Designation School District Consulting Physician

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Dr. Christopher Nicpon as Board School Physician until the next organization meeting.

18. Custodian of Public Records

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Patricia Salvati as Custodian of Public Records until the next organization meeting.

19. Designation Treasurer of School Funds

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Antoinette Kelly as Treasurer of School funds until the next organization meeting.

20. Bi-Borough Interlocal Agreement

FURTHER, that the Board of Education renew the Bi-Borough Agreement with the Oradell Public School District for the coordination of curriculum services until the next organization meeting.

21. Designate Purchasing Agent

WHEREAS, the recent changes to the Public School Contracts Law gave Boards of Education the ability to increase their bid threshold up to \$40,000; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3A, permits an increase in the bid threshold if a Qualified Purchasing Agent is appointed as well as granted the authorization to negotiate and award such contracts below the bid threshold: and

WHEREJ.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq. establishes the criteria for qualifying as Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Salvati possesses the designation of Qualified Purchasing Agent as issued by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq.: and

WHEREAS, River Edge Board of Education desires to increase the bid threshold as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the governing body of the River Edge Board of Education in the County of Bergen, in the State of New Jersey hereby increases its bid threshold to \$40,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the governing body hereby appoints Patricia Salvati as the Qualified Purchasing Agent to exercise the duties of a purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2b, with specific relevance to the authority, responsibility, and accountability of the purchasing activity of the Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.2 the Board of Education Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution and a copy of Patricia Salvati's certification to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

22. Move to authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to seek sealed bids, Educational Data Services, county contract, and/or state contract for all goods and services until the next organizational meeting.

23. Membership in Bergen County Region V

FURTHER, that the Board of Education continue its membership in the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education, does hereby accept, adopt and agree to comply with the Region V by-laws; designates the District Superintendent as its representative to Region V; and empowers her to cast all votes and take all other actions necessary to represent its interest in Region V; until the next organization meeting and

FURTHER, approve the Joint Transportation Agreement for all River Edge students who are transported through Region V.

Motion by: Mr. Koth Seconded by: Ms. Dansky

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comments on Agenda Items – None

Overview of School Climate Surveys - Beth Rosen

Mrs. Rosen presented to the Board the School Climate Survey that was taken in the Fall of 2015. The theme of this survey was multicultural awareness and appreciation. Students, staff, and parents took a survey of ten questions designed for each constituency. The survey was completed by 597 students, 46 staff members, and 305 parents. The results of the survey, which were very positive, were discussed and Mrs. Rosen answered all questions asked by the Board members. She also discussed plans to improve the areas where need was indicated. The results will be posted on the website and shared with staff and PTO's.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov read the Violence, Vandalism and Harassment Intimidation and Bullying report: As reported to the State, our reporting period 1 (July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015) indicates no HIB incidents.

- There was a meeting today with the Report Card Development Committee to discuss the new standards-based report cards. They discussed the vision and process with the Bi-Borough Supervisor today. They will look at other school districts that have this type of report card. The report card will be aligned to the standards and will reflect in a better way the content taught and mastered.
- In regards to STEAM, Mr. DiCara, School Architect, will visit our school and go over future renovations of our Discovery Labs. On Monday, January 11th Dr. Ben-Dov will visit Chatham STEAM Lab and she is also planning a visit to Mt. Olive to view their lab with Mr. DiCara and other school administrators.
- The School Behaviorist and Technology Coach are two key positions that have been filled recently. Dr. Ben-Dov is getting great feedback on the School Behaviorist. The Technology Coach will start on Monday.
- There will be a Parent Academy Meeting on the evening of January 13th. The topic of presentation will be: "PARCC Lessons Learned." There will be breakout sessions for parents of grades 3-6 with classroom teachers.
- REEF is sponsoring a math enrichment program called Crazy 8's. It's starting on January 13th for eight weeks at Cherry Hill School. It will be held in the Spring for eight weeks at Roosevelt School.

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Henzel reported on the following:

- The winter concert at Roosevelt School was fantastic and the new music teacher, Ms. Zacher, did a great job. Mr. Henzel has received many compliments.
- The River Edge student body will have a dime drive to raise money for the Iron Giraffe Challenge which will help provide water for Sudan.
- Mr. Henzel spoke about a google program called OSMO and gave a demonstration to the board.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- The Auditors are back to complete the ASSA and Region V audit.
- Mr. Gary Higgins, Lerch, Vinci, & Higgins, will attend the next board meeting to present the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers will work on the 2016 Board Committees and the new seating chart

COMMITTEES

No committees reported at this meeting

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for January 2016 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve the completion of the following emergency drills:

School	Fire Drills	Security Drills
Cherry Hill School	December 4, 2015	December 10, 2015 Evacuation
Roosevelt School	December 4, 2015	December 17, 2015 Lockdown

Motion by: Mr. Busted Seconded by: Mr. DiBella

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

3. That the Board of Education affirm the HIB report previously reported at the December 16, 2015 Board Meeting.

Motion by: Mr. DiBella Seconded by: Mr. Sim

Ayes: Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None, Abstained: Mr. Busted, Mr. DiBella

4. That the Board of Education approve the River Edge Elementary School Calendar for the 2016-2017 school year. (Addendum)
5. That the Board of Education approve the following class trip:

Date	School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
5/11/16	Cherry Hill School	5&6 Artistically talented	Newark Museum Newark, NJ	\$408.00

6. That the Board of Education approve the Violence, Vandalism and Harassment Intimidation and Bullying Report and HIB Training Report for Reporting Period 1(July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015).

Motion by: Mr. Sim Seconded by: Mr. Koth

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education accept a donation from Andrea and Craig Horowitz in the amount of \$3,000.00 to be used for the Building Bridges Program.

Motion by: Mr. Koth Seconded by: Ms. Dansky

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education approve the following teachers for the Cycle III of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2015-2016 School Year:

Cherry Hill

Deborah Auriemma
Michelle Baragona
Joanne Haggerty
Emma Halik
Christine Moran

Roosevelt

Abby Burns-Paterson
Ashley Denn
Colleen Poole
Heather Rothschild
Caroline Church

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Lauren Port Vliet to commence on, or about April 1, 2016 through May 4, 2016, to be followed by a State Family leave of absence effective May 5, 2016 through June 30, 2016.

Motion by: Ms. Dansky Seconded by: Ms. Danahy

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers
Nays: None

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. **BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE REGION V COUNCIL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION WILL PROVIDE SHARED SERVICES FOR ITS MEMBER DISTRICTS AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION,** upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Region V Shared Services Consultants, Psychologists, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants, Social Workers, Speech Language Specialists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, Translators to provide evaluations, direct services and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2015-2016 school year.

Sandra Rosenblum	Social Worker
Rachel Marken	Speech and Language Specialist
Jessica Fernandez	Behaviorist
Jodi Schmeltz	Speech and Language Specialist

Deborah Hamburg
Jennifer Ciano
Jillian Cannon

Speech and Language Specialist
Certified occupational therapy assistant
Nonpublic consultant

Motion by: Ms. Danahy Seconded by: Mr. Busted

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers

Nays: None

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky reported that she spoke on behalf of the Board of Education at the recent planning board meeting. She reported that the town's hands are tied with regard to future development, and they cannot avoid approving applications that meet the ordinances. Our efforts need to be focused on the ordinances that allow them to be developed.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

That the Board of Education convene into closed session at 9:45 PM to discuss a legal update.

Motion by: Mr. Busted Seconded by: Mr. DiBella

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers

Nays: None

RECONVENE

That the Board of Education reconvene the regular public meeting at 10:00 PM.

Motion by: Mr. Busted Seconded by: Mr. DiBella

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers

Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT

That the Board of Education reconvene the regular public meeting at 10:00 PM

Motion by: Mr. Busted Seconded by: Mr. DiBella

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, Mrs. Myers

Nays: None

Patricia Salvati
Board Secretary/Business Administrator