

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

"Building Bright Futures Together"

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – December 16, 2015

7:30 PM Public Meeting

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Project Room, Cherry Hill School, 410 Bogert Road, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:35PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Danahy read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Ms. Danahy; Ms. Dansky; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim; also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Salvati, Mrs. Heitman and approximately 12 members of the public.

Mr. Busteed was absent
Mr. DiBella was absent

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

That the Board of Education appoint, Michael Koth to the Board of Education to fill a vacancy, effective immediately through December 31, 2016.

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

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

Mr. Michael T. Koth was sworn in as a River Edge Board of Education member.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Summer Enrichment Program Report - Chris Armen

Chris Armen, Director of the program, thanked the Board of Education, the administrators, his clerical assistant, the secretaries, Mr. Lyons, the custodians, the volunteers, and teachers who contributed to the success of this program. This was Mr. Armen's 10th year of directing this program. He reviewed the enrollment, general information, financial data and offered some recommendations for next year's success.

Preliminary Results of the Spring 2015 PARCC

Dr. Ben-Dov gave a presentation on the Preliminary results of the PARCC Test that was taken in the Spring of 2015. She started with saying overall the district did well. She went over the five levels of PARCC performance, the grade level participation rates, the results for English Language Arts/Literacy, the outcomes of Mathematics, the trends in both Language Arts and Mathematics, parent guide to the score reports and explained how one can help their child(ren). She answered all questions that were asked by the board and the audience.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Winter Concerts are taking place this month. Roosevelt's took place today. It was a wonderful concert and Cherry Hill's will be tomorrow at 1:30pm. Cherry Hill School had a fantastic concert for the Senior Citizens on Monday December 7th.
- Post-dismissal Instructional Academy Cycle II is going well
- Dr. Ben-Dov discussed the draft calendar of the 2016-2017 school year. The calendar was given to the board members for review and she stated it coincides with Oradell and River Dell Schools as all three districts collaborated on achieving cohesion.
- There was one potential HIB Incident to report. It involved a few Roosevelt 4th graders making offensive comments to other 4th grade students. It was investigated and found not to be HIB related. Consequences were given in accordance with the River Edge Code of Conduct and there will be a resolution on the next agenda to affirm this decision.
- We met the requirements in all categories for a waiver from QSAC
- ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) was signed into law by the President. Dr. Ben-Dov offered information on how this was different from No Child Left Behind.
- Dr. Ben-Dov has asked for all schedules regarding the usage of the River Edge Schools for sport activities as they were not being submitted by the Leagues. She will schedule a meeting with Bobbi Conway and John Lyons to discuss unsupervised children playing in the hallways.

- STEM visits are continuing. Dr. Ben-Dov had a wonderful visit to the South Bergen Jointure on December 10th, where they have a successful STEM program. She has two more school visits planned, after which she will meet with the Architect for preliminary ideas.
- There is a Planning Board Meeting tomorrow at 7:00 PM and a Mayor and Council Meeting Monday at 7:00 PM. A few Board Members and PTO Parents will be attending the Planning Board Meeting. Dr. Ben-Dov is attending the Mayor and Council Meeting.
- Dr. Ben-Dov wished everyone Happy Holidays

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- The Kindergarten teachers are putting together a Holiday sing along this Friday at 10 AM
- Kindergarten teachers and students are working with Mrs. Cardia on Chromebooks and they are doing a great job with it.
- The PTO's are purchasing Chromebook messenger bags for the fifth and sixth grade students.
- Kindergarten registration will start at Roosevelt School on Tuesday January 26th and Thursday January 28th at Cherry Hill School.
- On December 7th, Mrs. Dent and her Music Club sang for the Senior Center
- Ms. Wendrychowicz's first grade students decided to make a mitten tree. Her students came up with this wonderful idea.
- All last week students worked on coding with the Media Specialist. The students really enjoyed this activity.
- On December 10th Building Bridges/Building Connections had a successful Parents Night Out.
- Roosevelt's Winter Concert took place today. Mrs. Heitman said Ms. Zacher did a great job with the students. Cherry Hill's Concert will be tomorrow at 9:30am and 1:30pm.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- On tonight's agenda there is a motion for the acceptance of the 2014-2015 Audit. There were no findings and thanked Ms. Maccaquano, Ms. O'Brien, and Ms. Femia for all of their hard work throughout the year.
- Mr. Gary Higgins, Lerch, Vinci, & Higgins, will attend a January board meeting to present the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.
- There will be a resolution next month to add projects to the Long Range Facility Plan.

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers welcomed Mr. Michael T. Koth to the Board of Education
- Mrs. Myers thanked Dr. Ben-Dov, administrators and all the teachers for all of their hard work on PARCC.

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Danahy stated there was a Finance and Facilities Meeting tonight before the board meeting. They discussed telephone upgrades and STEM labs.
- Mr. Sim discussed phone services he learned about at the NJSBA Fall Convention

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 December 2015 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve the revised class trips:

Date	School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
5/14/16	Roosevelt	5	Bronx Zoo Bronx, New York	\$750.00
6/10/16 Date may change	Roosevelt	6	American Museum of Natural History New York, NY	\$960.00

3. That the Board of Education affirm the HIB report previously reported at the November 18, 2015 Board Meeting.

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

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

Nays: None

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None

C. BUILDING & GROUNDS - None

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated December, 2015, totaling \$932,628.48 including checks #38005 through #38123. Payrolls dated November 13, 2015 and November 30, 2015, totaling \$1,084,541.73 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)

2. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2015-2016 as of October 31, 2015. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending October 31, 2015.

Further, we certify that as of October 31, 2015 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report (appropriations section) and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been overexpended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11 and that sufficient funds are available to meet the districts financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Addendum)

4. That the River Edge Board of Education accept the 2014-2015 Audit and approve the submission of the CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) submitted by the firm of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins with the following recommendations:

- I. Administrative Practices and Procedures
None
- II. Financial Planning, Accounting and Reporting
None
- III. School Purchasing Program
None
- IV. School Food Services
None
- V. Student Body Activities
None
- VI. Application for State School Aid
None
- VII. Pupil Transportation
None
- VIII. Facilities and Capital Assets
None
- IX. Miscellaneous
None

5. That the Board of Education approve the Summer Enrichment Program Report for the 2015 Summer Program.

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

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

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Kyle Aug, Part-time Aide, effective December 10, 2015.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following as substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year.

Rhonda Capozzi
Gianna Koslowicz
Diana Maurice
Carol Ofshinsky

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

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

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated December, 2015 totaling \$753,091.00 including checks #65269 through #65418.
2. That the Board of Education approve the following Transportation Services Agreement with Passaic County Educational Services Commission.

Route #	School	Per Diem
1131	New Bridges	\$82.62

3. **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.

Amanda D' Annibale Consultant Trainer
Diana Singer Physical Therapist
Patricia Shannon Behaviorist

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

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None

CLOSED SESSION

That the Board of Education convene into closed session at 8:40 PM to discuss an Individual Privacy Matter

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

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

RECONVENE

That the Board of Education reconvene the regular public meeting at 8:50 PM.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

That the Board of Education adjourns the regular public meeting at 8:50 PM

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

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

Patricia Salvati
Board Secretary/Business Administrator