

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

"Building Bright Futures Together"

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – February 24, 2016 – 7:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:35 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, and Mr. Sim. Also present Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Salvati, Mr. Henzel, and two members of the public.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

2016-2017 Budget Discussion – Dr. Tova Ben-Dov and Patricia Salvati

Dr. Ben-Dov and Mrs. Salvati spoke about the changes that were made to the budget since the last presentation. They spoke about the additional \$16,304 state aid that was announced on February 19th that will help offset the \$221,554 gap in the budget. They also explained all the items that have been cut since the last meeting totaling over \$106,000. The reductions were: kindergarten screening, instructional supplies, workbooks, tech services, Apple hardware-laptops lease not renewed, staff training, Special Education Aides, purchased services, property insurance, FICA, and Worker's Comp. The consensus of a majority of the board was to utilize the health benefits waiver to balance the budget. They later discussed the three tax levy scenarios for funding the budget.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov stated PARCC schedules have been created by the Principals. The testing will begin in early April and end in early May. We started training teachers for the tools for PARCC.

- The Department of Education informed us that the Median Student Growth Percentiles will come at the end of March along with the Principal Median Growth Percentiles. Dr. Ben-Dov met with the Principals to discuss the process this growth is measured. Each Principal will meet their staffs to explain how the Median Student Growth Percentiles are derived and then with each teacher to discuss his or her Median Student Growth Percentiles.
- Dr. Ben-Dov stated we were informed by the County that the new standards will be called New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLs) and we will have to implement them in 2017
- Parent Conferences will be held on March 8th and March 10th. Dr. Ben-Dov feels this is a constructive and prescriptive time of year for conferences.
- There was a School Safety Meeting on February 22nd. Police and Fire Chiefs as well as heads of River Dell and private schools in River Edge were present. They discussed all evacuation routes and updated emergency protocols.
- There was a Bi-Borough Meeting with Paul Saxton and Julia Diminich yesterday. A lot has been accomplished since July with regards to the curriculum and Professional Development. They went over Professional Development, curriculum, assessments, and vertical articulation with River Dell.
- REEF's math enrichment program called Crazy 8's worked out very well in Cherry Hill School and will start at Roosevelt School in April for eight weeks.
- The PTO's are donating two Chromebook carts to Roosevelt School and one Chromebook cart to Cherry Hill School. There will be a resolution on the next agenda.
- A Second Cup of Coffee was held on Friday, February 19th at Cherry Hill School. They discussed the development in town, basketball practices, and expressed satisfaction with the Post-Dismissal Instructional Academy.

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Henzel reported on the following:

- Sign up Genius is ready and open for parents to sign up. Conferences will be held on March 8th and March 10th.
- Our Iron Giraffe Challenge is going very strong. Roosevelt School has currently raised over \$1,400 and has exceeded their initial goal of \$1,000.
- Mr. Henzel thanked Ms. Kelly Wendrychowicz, 1st Cherry Hill School teacher, who proposed the idea of having a "Soup"er-bowl fundraiser where all students and faculty donate one can of soup during the week of the Super bowl and give it to those in need.
- Mr. Henzel attended a Bi-Borough Cyber Safety Meeting at Oradell School on February 9th with all other River Edge Administrators. They spoke about the following topics: learning about the most-up-to-date apps, how to protect children from online predators, cyber bullying, the confidentiality for online pictures and videos, and safeguards that can be put in place to protect kids. He stated it was a very informative evening.
- Starcase will be held on February 26th at the River Dell Middle School for Roosevelt School. Mr. Henzel thanked everyone who was involved and is looking forward to attending it.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Salvati had nothing to report at this meeting.

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers thanked Ms. Julia Diminich for all of her work with the Bi-Borough Curriculum
- Mrs. Myers and Ms. Dansky will meet with the Mayor and his liaisons on March 9th for a Mayor and Council Communications Committee Meeting.

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Danahy attended and spoke about the Finance and Facilities Meeting that took place before the board meeting. The evacuation route has been changed so June Court Steps are no longer needed for students. The committee discussed closing off the steps rather than replacing them.
- Mr. DiBella attended and spoke about the Personnel and Management Meeting that took place before the board meeting. They discussed the Assistant School Principal Job Description and the following policies: Non-Discrimination/Affirmative Action, Career and Education, and Medical Marijuana.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of January 6, 2016.

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. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedule for February 2016 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
3. **WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2016-17, and

WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board Of Education hereby authorized the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2016-2017 school year.

4. That the Board of Education approve the following class trips:

Date	School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
5/5/16	Roosevelt School	2	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$1,776.75
5/12/16	Cherry Hill School	2	Tenafly Nature Center Tenafly, NJ	\$740.00
6/3/16	Roosevelt School	4	Museum Village Monroe, NY	\$660.00

5. That the Board of Education approve the First Reading of the following policies:

Policy #	Title
2224	Non-Discrimination/Affirmative Action
6142.12	Career Education
*5141.22	Medical Marijuana

6. That the Board of Education approve the revised June 2016 Board of Education Meeting Dates as follows:

June 1, 2016
June 29, 2016

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

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, 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 February 2016 totaling \$957,443.09 including checks #38204 through #38294 claims dated February 2016 totaling Payrolls dated January 15, 2016 and January 29, 2016 totaling \$1,087,093.47 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 December 31, 2015. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending December 31, 2015.

Further, we certify that as of December 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 district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Addendum)

4. That the Board of Education establish May 4, 2016 as the date for the official Public Hearing of the 2016-2017 School Year Budget.

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

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, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Michele Campos, Lunch Aide, for the 2015-2016 school year.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Liza Schoen, Lunch Aide, for the 2015-2016 school year.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Nicolette Ferrigno, Part-time Aide, effective on or about February 25, 2016 through June 30, 2016.
4. That the Board of Education approve \$3,500 compensation for Chris Armen, as Director of the 2016 summer enrichment Program.
5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Jessica DeWitt, ABA Aide, effective on or about February 25, 2016, Step B.

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

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

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated February 2016 totaling \$824,485.35 including checks #65568 through #65798.
2. **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.

Sheralyn Zea	Bilingual Psychologist
Colleen Mullen	Psychologist
Cathy Cleenput LC LLC	Nonpublic Consultant

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

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky stated the NJSBA Advocacy Meeting with Legislators is scheduled for March 21st and March 31st.

The Board Members discussed the current committee structure.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:00 PM made by Mr. Busteed and seconded by Mr. DiBella

Patricia Salvati
Board Secretary/Business Administrator