

**RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661**

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – September 2, 2015

7:00 PM Public Meeting

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

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

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 Ms. Salvati, Dr. Ben-Dov, Mr. Henzel and one member of the public.

Mr. Busteed was absent
Mr. DiBella was absent
Ms. Walker was absent

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Board Evaluations

Mr. Alfred Annunziata, New Jersey School Boards Association, reviewed the board’s self-evaluation. Discussions were held on the board’s scoring of priorities, and the scores for the board as a whole as well as scores of individual board member. Mr. Annunziata answered questions asked by the board members.

Annual Violence and Vandalism Report

Dr. Ben-Dov read the following Violence, Vandalism and Harassment Intimidation and Bullying report: As reported to the State, during reporting Period 2 there were four HIB investigations reported for the River Edge School District. Two of the incidents reported were HIB Violations that were reported and affirmed by the Board of Education.

Dr. Ben-Dov stated to the board that the River Edge School District uses Safe-Schools online staff training and compliance program that is designed specifically for schools. The HIB Coordinator and School Specialists continue to monitor and support all existing programs.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov thanked everyone working behind the scenes for the start of the 2015-2016 school year, including the custodians, office personnel, administrators, and the technology staff.
- Extensive Professional Development has been taking place in the District. New Teacher Orientation was held on August 26th and August 27th and was very successful. September 1st and September 2nd were Professional Development days for all teachers and it was conducted in several areas.
- There is a motion on tonight's agenda to approve the curriculum of Language Arts Grade 6. This is the last curriculum item to be approved. Dr. Ben-Dov would like to have Ms. Diminich come and meet with the Curriculum Committee or meet with the entire board to review it. The board discussed it and they would like for Ms. Diminich to meet with the board at the second October Board Meeting.
- New Teacher Reception will be held at the September 16th board meeting.
- Dr. Ben-Dov spoke to the board about enrollment. She is watching many grade levels in both Schools. The total enrollment in Roosevelt School is 503 students and the total enrollment for Cherry Hill School is 663 students. In Roosevelt, there are 18 Kindergarten students in each class with four classes. Cherry Hill has four Kindergarten classes; three have 19 students and one has 18 students. When Cherry Hill School reaches 20 students, any new student will be sent to Roosevelt School. She also stated Second Grade is almost closed at Roosevelt School. We have three Second Grades at Roosevelt and four Second Grades at Cherry Hill School. She indicated Fifth Grade at Roosevelt School is closed. Any new student for Fifth Grade will go to Cherry Hill School.

- On tonight's agenda there are four motions for approval regarding stipend positions: Cycle I of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy, Grade Level Chairs, Safety Patrol, and Student Council.
- We are waiting for our specific requirements from the County for QSAC. Once we receive them, a committee will be formed to handle it.
- Dr. Ben-Dov proposed two versions of the 2015-2016 school calendar to the Board members. The difference between the calendars are version A has the school year ending on June 24th and having three days of February Break and version B has the school year ending one day earlier, June 23rd and having two days of February Break. The board chose Version B.
- Dr. Ben-Dov stated to the board three school goals that were created:
 1. Evaluate level of questioning
 2. Multi-cultural awareness
 3. achievement

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Henzel reported on the following:

- Mr. Henzel thanked the Board Members for the opportunity of being the Roosevelt Principal and is excited for the first day of school tomorrow.
- Mr. Henzel hired many qualified teachers over the summer.
- The teachers, custodians, and summer help did an excellent job with preparing for the start of school.
- The morning drop off has changed a little for this school year. Students will no longer enter the front of the building. They will enter through the back of the building or through the courtyard doors.
- The PTO will have their Meet and Greet at both schools tomorrow.
- Back to School Night for Roosevelt and Cherry Hill School will be on Thursday, September 24th.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- The REEA contract books have been printed and will be distributed to the REEA Presidents tomorrow.
- Retro pay for the settlement of the contract was paid on Friday, August 28th.
- The outside steps to the old gym at Roosevelt School are completed. Ms. Salvati said they look great.

- Over the summer, three classrooms at Roosevelt School have been carpeted, and the teacher's room and stairs leading up to the board office have been painted.
- The District hired a new bus driver. Her name is Maria Jimenez and she is on tonight's agenda for approval. Jim Levis has been working with her to learn the routes.
- All of the board members are registered for the NJSBA Fall Conference on October 27-October 29th. We will stay at the Sheraton Hotel this year.
- Mrs. Salvati spoke about the housing tear downs in town. She stated in 2012 there were 11 tear downs, in 2013 there were 15 tear downs, and in 2014 there were 22 tear downs. These numbers do not reflect partial renovations or additions.

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers spoke about the conflicted board members vs. non-conflicted board members.
- Mrs. Myers attended the Welcome Back Meeting with the District on Tuesday, September 1st.

COMMITTEES

No committees reported at this meeting

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education postpone until September 16, 2015 the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of July 29, 2015.

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

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

2. That the Board of Education approve the following to attend the NJSBA Fall Conference on October 27-29, 2015.

River Edge Board Members
Dr. Tova Ben-Dov
Patricia Salvati

3. That the Board of Education approve the annual reporting period two for Violence & Vandalism and HIB Incidents for the 2014-2015 school year.
4. That the Board of Education approve the Special Milk Pricing at a rate of \$.36 per day for the 2015-2016 school year.
5. That the Board of Education approve the revised Calendar for 2015-2016 School Year.

BUILDING & GROUNDS - None

CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and St. Peter's Academy to provide Non-public Nursing Services for the 2015-2016 school year.
2. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Sinai School at RYNJ to provide Non-public Nursing Services for the 2015-2016 school year.
3. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Yeshiva of North Jersey to provide Non-public Nursing Services for the 2015-2016 school year.
4. That the Board of Education approve the following Bi-Borough Curriculum:

Language Arts Grade 6

FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the OMNI Group as the third party Plan Administrator for the District's 403b and 457 retirement plans.

PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Certificated Personnel for the 2015-2016 School Year.

Julia Amaya	.6 Spanish Teacher, BA, Step 1
Mariana Marinich	.5 ESL Teacher, MA, Step 1
Alyson Herrick	Leave Replacement Teacher, 9/1-10/30, BA, Step 1
*Deborah Michels	Instructional Technology Coach, BA+15, Step 9
(Start date 9/25/15)	

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Maria Jimenez, Bus Driver, for the 2015-2016 school year, effective August 20, 2015.

3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Audrey Traynor, Part-time Clerical Aide, starting August 24, 2015 through June 30, 2016.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Janet Pacifico, Lunch Aide, for the 2015-2016 school year.
5. That the Board of Education approve Gregory Kupchak for Morning Supervision Duty as per Article XIII Section 13.3 of the River Edge Education Association Contract Agreement.
6. That the Board of Education approve the following Aides for the 2015-2016 School Year, upon approval of State Criminal History Check.

Courtney Scheideler	ABA Aide, Step B
Shannon Knapp	ABA Aide, Step B
Ashley Suarez	ABA Aide, Step B
Paige Seifert	ABA Aide, Step B
Anne Madrid Angeles	Part-time Aide
Stacy Fernandez	Part-time Aide

7. That the Board of Education approve the following Grade Level Chairs for the 2015-2016 School Year:

Colleen Poole	Deborah Auriemma
Alexandra McNeil	Diana Richards
Nichol DelRosso	Jennifer Glaydura
Kayla Moran	Jamie Krupka
Wendy Otis	AnneMarie Spiegel
Nevin Werner	Joanne Haggerty
Heather Rothschild	Michelle Baragona

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

<u>Roosevelt</u>	<u>Cherry Hill</u>
Colleen Poole	Susan Boucher
Nichol DelRosso	Melissa Gant
Lauren Della Torre	Kaitlyn Burke
Heather Rothschild	

9. That the Board of Education approve Julie Fallon and June Karpowich for Safety Patrol Advisors for the 2015-2016 School Year.
10. That the Board of Education approve Kate Langan and Christine Moran for Student Council Advisors for the 2015-2016 School Year.

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.

Salvatore J. Tralongo	Teacher
Stacy Weinberg	Speech and Language Specialist
All Source Recruiting Group, Inc.	Speech and Language Specialist
Jessica Paige Lippe	Behaviorist
Power Grip Therapy LLC	Occupational Therapist
Lauren Spallone	Physical Therapy Assistant
Jacqueline Finnen Baggio	Physical Therapist
Erin Anderson	Physical Therapist Assistant

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

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS -None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

That the Board of Education convene into closed session at 8:25 PM to discuss a contractual matter.

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

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

RECONVENE

That the Board of Education reconvene the regular public meeting at 9:30 PM.

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

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

PERSONNEL

11. That the Board of Education approve the submission of the following Superintendent Merit Goals to the Executive County Superintendent for the 2015 - 2016 school year.

Quantitative:

1. **Goal Statement:** 50% of all formal observation reports written and completed by administrators of K-6 ELA classes during the 2015-16 school year will contain indicators of and/or recommendations pertaining to the level of questioning observed with the goal of targeting students' higher order thinking through questioning.
2. **Goal Statement:** to create and implement a Post-dismissal Instructional Academy to benefit at-risk students in the area of Language Arts and Math. Five instructional six week cycles, alternating ELA and Math will be planned and implemented, based on need, for students in grades 1-6 between October 2015 and May 2016. Instructional sessions will be held in each school once a week for each grade level (as needed) and will be one hour long.
3. **Goal Statement:** to create seven informational and informal mentoring venues for new teachers using experts in their general and specific areas of need. This focused effort is a direct result of the survey administered at the end of last year to 16 new teachers in which feedback on the current RE mentoring practices was requested. This project exceeds the mentoring requirements for new teachers and is part of a two year project begun last year.

Qualitative

1. **Goal Statement:** The Superintendent will convene and facilitate a panel of administrators and other school professionals with the purpose of reviewing the district's Intervention & Referral Services procedures and developing a district handbook by June 2016.
2. **Goal Statement:** To improve multicultural awareness in River Edge while working with school constituencies to embrace tolerance of different traditions and perspectives. Our goal is to prepare students to live and work in a global, multicultural society by creating and supporting a teaching-learning environment where all employees and students understand and value commonalities and differences within and across various cultures. This will be done through a pre and post multicultural climate survey, curriculum-embedded literature, and school and community activities.

12. That the Board of Education approve the abolishment of the Behavioral Analyst position.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

That the Board of Education adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:35 PM.

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

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

Patricia Salvati
Board Secretary/Business Administrator