

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

"Building Bright Futures Together"

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – November 16, 2016

7:00 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 7:00 PM.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Busteed, seconded by Ms. Dansky to convene into closed session at 7:00 PM

RECONVENE

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Koth to reconvene the regular public meeting at 7:35 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Danahy read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

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

Mr. DiBella arrived at 7:25 PM
Mr. Sim was absent

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

MOTION TO BE ACTED UPON

E. PERSONNEL

4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the employment contract for Joseph T. Bellino as Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary, effective on or about December 1, 2016.

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

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

Nays: None

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Summer Enrichment Program Report - Chris Armen

Chris Armen, the Director of the program, thanked the Board of Education, Ms. Karpowich, secretaries, Mr. Lyons and the custodians, volunteers, students and their families, and the teachers that contributed to the success of this program. This was Mr. Armen's eleventh year of directing this program. He reviewed the enrollment, financial data and gave some recommendations for next year's success.

Overview of Monthly Financial Reports – Patricia Salvati

Ms. Salvati reviewed the financial reports that must be approved by the board every month. She reviewed the budget transfers, treasurer's report, board secretary report, and board secretary certification. She answered all questions asked by the board members.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov stated that regarding the post-elections, the BCASA will write a letter to the President Elect to discuss the plans for education and to make sure everything we stand for will be in place. At the schools we set a tone of respect at the Veteran's Day events the morning after elections. We also held an ESL Advisory meeting that afternoon and it provided an opportunity to reassure on our new families about our multi-cultural commitment. The schools will pursue a theme of acceptance after Thanksgiving which will serve our goals of respecting each other's differences and different opinions.
- On November 9th we had wonderful Veteran's Day ceremonies at both schools and a successful ESL Advisory meeting the same day
- Parent/teacher conferences will be on Monday and Tuesday of next week. The Parent Portal for grades k-1 is ready to go and orientation sessions for parents of grades k-1 will be tomorrow night.

- We had long evacuation drills at Roosevelt School on November 7th and at Cherry Hill School on November 14th. Both schools successfully walked over to their respective destinations. The administrators are working out the small kinks that need to be resolved.
- Dr. Ben-Dov gave the board members an update on the progress towards the two district goals: 1). Continue planning and preparation for potential enrollment increases by exploring the following potential options and possible impact on student achievement by June 30, 2017. Dr. Ben-Dov has started to work with the architects. They had a meeting and will walk the buildings with the principals to see how the buildings are being utilized. They suggested we update our demographic study. The topic of Regionalization and a possible move of the 6th grades to River Dell in future years was discussed with the River Dell and Oradell Superintendents and brought up on the agenda of Bi-Borough. Oradell doesn't have a need to accommodate growing enrollment and had no interest in this option. 2). Complete a district-wide assessment of special education programs and develop a plan to optimize delivery of services to the River Edge special education population. Dr. Ben-Dov stated we are preparing for our monitoring that will take place in the beginning of December. Also, a survey was sent to teachers and aides regarding communication. Parent surveys were completed and reviewed. Dr. Ben-Dov will address the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee (SEPAC) in the near future.

PRINCIPALS

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- The Franklin Institute came to Cherry Hill School for grades K-3 and it was very successful
- We had our Veteran Day celebration at Cherry Hill School in the Gymnasium. It was a powerful ceremony. The fifth graders sang and the sixth graders read a poem.
- Cherry Hill School had their evacuation drill on November 14th. We successfully walked over 750 students and staff to our intended destination. We are working on tweaking some practices.
- Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled for November 21st and November 22nd
- Teachers are working on finishing report cards and beginning our second marking period

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- The audit is complete and Gary Higgins of Lerch, Vinci & Higgins, LLP will come to present the results to the board members at the December 7th board meeting
- Ms. Salvati updated the board members on the per pupil tuition rate
- Ms. Salvati gave the board members a tentative 2017-2018 budget calendar

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers attended the Veteran's Day ceremony at Roosevelt School on November 9th. It was a very nice ceremony.
- Mrs. Myers attended the Bi-Borough Meeting tonight before the board meeting

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Dansky spoke about the Bi-Borough Meeting that took place tonight before the board meeting. There were three items on the agenda: regionalization, the purpose of Bi-Borough organization, and Ms. Diminich gave a report on curriculum. Ms. Dansky also discussed ways to make the Bi-Borough meeting better and more structured.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of October 19, 2016.

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

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

Nays: None

2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for November 2016 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education approve the 2016 Board of Education Meeting Dates as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>School</u>
January 4, 2017 January 18, 2017	Roosevelt School (Re-Organization Meeting) Cherry Hill School
February 1, 2017 February 15, 2017	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School
March 1, 2017 March 15, 2017	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School (Tentative Budget Adoption)
April 5, 2017 April 19, 2017	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School
May 3, 2017 May 17, 2017	Roosevelt School (Public Hearing for Budget) Cherry Hill School
June 7, 2017 June 21, 2017	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School

4. That the Board of Education approve the following bus evacuation drills:

Class	Date	Time
Building Bridges (Preschool)	November 2, 2016	8:30 AM
Building Bridges (Primary and Elem Class)	November 2, 2016	8:35 AM
Building Connections (Primary and Elem Class)	November 2, 2016	8:40 AM
Pre-k 4	November 2, 2016	2:05 PM

5. That the Board of Education approves the following class trip:

Date	School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
4/5/17 & 4/6/17	Roosevelt	5	Fort Lee Historic Park Fort Lee, NJ	\$325.00
12/6/16	Cherry Hill	1	Paper Bag Players Lodi, NJ	\$873.00

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

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mr. Koth, 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 November 2016 totaling \$372,429.50 including checks #39140 through #39239. Payrolls dated October 14, 2016 and October 31, 2016, totaling \$1,109,245.58 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list are attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2016-2017 as of September 30, 2016. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending September 30, 2016.

Further, we certify that as of September 30, 2016 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 over expended 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. The Board of Education approve the Budget Calendar for the 2017-2018 school year budget.
5. That the Board of Education approve the Summer Enrichment Program Report for the 2016 Summer Program.

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

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

Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education approve the following teachers for Cycle II of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2016-2017 School Year, as per contract:

Roosevelt

Abby Burns-Paterson
Whitney Castellvi
Nichol DelRosso
Ashley Denn
Lauren Guida
Colleen Poole
Heather Rothschild
Leah Taylor
Nevin Werner

Cherry Hill

Ashley Cannata
Kristen Corcoran
Kaitlyn Devasto
Noy Sapir
Kacie Schrettner

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

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

Nays: None

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Cindy Femia to commence on or about March 20, 2017 through April 28, 2017, to be followed by a Federal/State Family leave of absence effective May 1, 2017 through June 23, 2017.

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

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

Nays: None

3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Barbara Oliveri, Part-time Aide, starting November 17, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

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

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

Nays: None

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION

1. That the River Edge Board of Education approve an additional out of district student from Oradell into the Building Bridges Pre-k Program for the 2016-2017 school year.
2. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the revised Community Based Instruction Schedule for the 2016-2017 school year. Dates subject to change. (Addendum)

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

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

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 2016-2017 school year.

Beverly Silver Therapy LLC	Occupational Therapist
Idelle M. Schwinder LLC	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant

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

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky discussed the National Convention and her interest in attending this year. Costs were discussed and the board agreed that they were in support of it.

Ms. Dansky reminded the Board that there is a Bergen County School Board Meeting on December 6th. Mr. Steve Fogarty will speak about Special Education.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION- None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. DiBella, seconded by Mr. Koth to convene into closed session at 8:55 PM.

RECONVENE

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Koth to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:25 PM.

Patricia Salvati
Board Secretary/Business Administrator