

# RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

*"Building Bright Futures Together"*

## Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – March 15, 2017

7:30 PM Public Meeting

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 7:40 PM.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Ms. Danahy read the Mission Statement.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present on roll call were Mr. Busteed, Ms. Danahy, Ms. Dansky; Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim, and Mrs. Myers. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mr. Joseph Bellino, Mrs. Heitman and two members of the public.

### **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Mr. Bellino read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

### **SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

2017-20189 Budget Presentation – Dr. Tova Ben-Dov and Joe Bellino

Mr. Bellino spoke about the 2017-18 budget and how the State released the budget in two parts. The preliminary budget will be voted on tonight. Final budget will be presented in May. Mr. Bellino recommended a meeting with the Finance and Facilities Committee to discuss other items for possible inclusion. He mentioned the PTO buying Chrome Books for 2017-18 school year as part of the reduction to meet the preliminary budget cap threshold.

### **REPORTS**

#### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov welcomed everyone and expressed how difficult the past 24 hours were and how the right decision was made today for a delayed opening. Dr. Ben-Dov thanked all involved in helping the district get back to school. The custodial group put in long hours and were amazing in the cleanup especially with the conditions and a truck breaking down at Roosevelt School.
- The Professional Day that was going to take place on March 14<sup>th</sup> was canceled due to the snow day. As mandated training such as PARCC and Dyslexia still had to take place Dr. Ben-Dov asked for it to be rescheduled on another 12:45 dismissal day. She would inform the parents with a letter as soon as possible and give them advanced notice.

- Parent/Teachers Conferences concluded last week and were a success – Parent Portal and scheduling need some adjusting. Thanks to Mr. Henzel and Ms. Blute paperless report cards were accomplished for the first time in River Edge.
- Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Hafers, and Ms. Spano visited Liberty Science Center STEAM presentation/program which we are considering for our district. It is an excellent program that shares our philosophy
- Today we chose our 2017 Teachers of the Year and as always there were many amazing teachers to choose from. Tomorrow the winners will be announced and as customary presented with flowers.

### **PRINCIPAL**

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Mr. Freedman, River Dell Middle School Principal and guidance counselors visited the 6<sup>th</sup> graders to speak about transitioning to Middle School. There was a parent orientation on March 1<sup>st</sup> regarding this topic.
- The Talent Show was March 3<sup>rd</sup> with many students in K-6 grade participating
- Conferences were held on March 7<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> and were well attended
- A Fire Safety presentation from Firefighter Phil was presented to the Cherry Hill Students
- The PI Digits contest is currently going on
- March 22<sup>nd</sup> is our Family Math Night at Cherry Hill School The CREATE students did a presentation on a Recycling Carnival they want to have in June to teach other students about recycling. All games will have recycled materials used.
- We are working on the Tricky Tray, which will be held at the Fiesta April 19<sup>th</sup>
- PARCC training and infrastructure will be the last week of March
- The Penguins will be coming March 28<sup>th</sup>
- The 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are working on the performance of Macbeth, to be presented in May
- The Spring concert will be April 6<sup>th</sup> at Cherry Hill School

### **BOARD SECRETARY**

Mr. Bellino reported on the following:

- Mr. Bellino suggested the Architect firm come in and help with facilities long-range plan and help determine future upgrades and estimates
- Mr. Bellino contacted the software company regarding a correction from the 2016-17 fiscal year rollovers or closeout. He doesn't have a complete answer at this time, but will follow up with the company. January financial reports will be approved at the next meeting.

### **PRESIDENT**

- Mrs. Myers thanked Stan Stevens and Mark Jentz for the great clean-up.

### **COMMITTEES**

No Committees reported at this meeting

**RESOLUTIONS**

**A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of March 1, 2017.

**Motion by: Mr. Busted Seconded by: Mr. Herbst**

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

2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for March 2017 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policy:

<b>Policy #</b>	<b>Title</b>
6171.4	Special Education

4. That the Board of Education affirm the HIB report previously reported at the March 1, 2017
5. That the Board of Education approve the following class trip:

<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Cost to District</b>
4/26/17	Roosevelt	2	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$1,641.00
5/17/17	Roosevelt	6 Art Club	Metropolitan Museum Of Art New York, NY	\$432.00

**Motion by: Mr. Herbst Seconded by: Ms. Dansky**

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Danahy, Mr. Herbst, 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 March 2017 totaling \$856,272.46 including checks #33546 through #39656. Payrolls dated February 15, 2017 and February 28, 2017, totaling \$1,122,275.55 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 2016-2017 as of January 31, 2017. (Addendum)

- That the Board of Education tentatively adopt the 2017-2018 School Year Budget for submission to the Executive County Superintendent as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
Total General Fund	\$17,107,892	\$15,002,102
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$1,022,743	N/A
Total Debt Service	\$1,409,313	*\$1,197,136
Total	\$19,539,948	

**Be It Further Resolved**, that the Board of Education requests the approval of a Capital Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$75,000 in order to improve and make other repairs as set forth in the district using Long Range Facilities Plan and Maintenance Plan.

- WHEREAS**, River Edge School District Policy and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2 (b) provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for 2017-2018 school year.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the River Edge Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2017-2018 school year at an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

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

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

Nays: None

#### **E. PERSONNEL**

- That the Board of Education approve the following teachers for the Cycle IV of the Post Dismissa Instructional Academy for the 2016-2017 School Year at the REBOE/REEA CBA hourly rate:

<u>Cherry Hill</u>	<u>Roosevelt</u>
Jessica Barbo	Abby Burns-Paterson
Kaitlyn DeVasto	Nichol Del Rosso
Emma Halik	Lauren Guida
Katie O'Reilly	Colleen Poole
Andrea Siclari	Heather Rothschild
	Leah Taylor

- That the Board of Education approve Kristen Johannessen, ABA Aide , to start on March 20, 2017 Step B with BA.
- That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Andrew Gonzalez, ABA Aide effective March 15, 2017.
- That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Northpointe Staffing Professionals as the common law employer of Patricia Reardon-Kary, Secretarial Leave Replacement, from March 20, 2017 through June 23, 2017.
- That the Board of Education rescind the retirement of John Lyons, Building and Grounds Supervisor, effective July 1, 2017.
- That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of John Lyons, Building and Grounds Supervisor, effective June 1, 2017.
- That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Stan Stevens, Building and Grounds Supervisor from June 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017,

Be It Further Resolved, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Stan Stevens, Building and Grounds Supervisor from July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018.

**F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION – None**

**G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION**

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated March 2017 totaling \$813,692.36 including checks #67786 through #67962.
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 2016-2017 school year.

Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Home instructors  
Silvergate Preparatory School Limited Home instruction

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

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

**A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

- 6.. To reschedule the early dismissal day, originally scheduled for March 14, for the purpose of Professional Development to a date to be determined by the Superintendent with proper notification and advanced notice to the families.

**Motion by: Mrs. Myers Seconded by: Ms. Dansky**

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

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Dansky thanked the Board for approving upcoming workshop. Ms. Dansky was appointed to NJSBA Board of Directors. Save the NJSBA update.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION – None**

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion made by Mr. Busted, Seconded by Ms. Danahy to convene into closed session.

Voice vote all Ayes

That in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act the River Edge School District Board of Education shall conduct a closed session pursuant to the exceptions prescribed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 for the purpose of discussing:

- A. Residency
- B. Mayor and Council Interlocal Agreement
- C. Personnel
- D. Negotiations

It is anticipated that the length of time of this closed session will be approximately sixty minutes and that action may be taken in public after the closed session.

**Board Adjourned to Closed Session – 8:58 P.M.**

**Public Meeting Reopened – 10: 54 P.M.**

- E. 8. **WHEREAS**, an employee whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office who has exhausted all of his annual and accumulated sick leave has requested that the River Edge Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board"), grant this employee an extended sick leave of absence with pay, for medical reasons, from March 1, 2017, through June 1, 2017, or as otherwise needed during the aforesaid period of time; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:30-6 provides that once an employee exceeds the annual sick and accumulated sick leave, a board of education may continue to pay such person less the cost of a substitute or the estimated cost of a substitute, for such length of time as may be determined by a board in each individual case; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has determined to grant this employee additional sick leave at fifty percent (50%) of the employee's annual salary from March 1, 2017, through June 1, 2017, or as otherwise needed during the aforesaid period of time; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board has determined to grant this employee additional sick leave at fifty percent (50%) of the employee's annual salary from March 1, 2017, through June 1, 2017, or as otherwise needed during the aforesaid period of time.

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

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

Nays: Non

Abstain: Mr. Busted

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Koth, seconded by Ms. Danahy to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 10:55 P.M.

Voice vote all Ayes

Joseph Bellino  
Interim Board Secretary/Business Administrator