

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

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – September 21, 2016

7:00 PM Public Meeting

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the New Bridge Center 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 7:10 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Dansky read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were; Ms. Danahy; Ms. Dansky; Mr. DiBella; Mr. Sim; Mrs. Myers. Also present were Ms. Salvati, Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Heitman, Mr. Henzel, Ms. Rosen, Mrs. Kuruc and approximately sixteen members of the public.

Mr. Busteed arrived at 7:20 PM
Mr. Koth arrived at 8:15 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Dr. Ben-Dov welcomed the new staff to the River Edge School District. Each staff member introduced themselves.

Jessica Barbo– Cherry Hill School –Resource Teacher
Kristin Corcoran– Cherry Hill School- 3rd Grade Teacher
Kara Cuadra – District –Instrumental Music Teacher
Leah DelGuidice– Cherry Hill School-Art Teacher
Allyson Israel– Cherry Hill School – 6th Grade Teacher
Sabrina Johnston– Cherry Hill School -Nurse
Danielle Kowalczyk-Roosevelt School-Nurse
Gianna Kozlowicz– New Bridge Center Leave Replacement-Multiple Disabled
Kathy Lee-Cherry Hill School -Part-time BSI and Leave Replacement Part-time ESL
Laura Lombardi–Roosevelt School-6th Grade Teacher
Kacie Schrettner– Cherry Hill School-Leave Replacement Part-time Resource Teacher

Andrea Siclari– Cherry Hill School-Kindergarten Teacher
Brian Urban– Roosevelt School-Music Teacher

Board Evaluation – Matt Lee, New Jersey School Board Association

Mr. Matt Lee, New Jersey School Boards Association, reviewed the board's self-evaluations with a PowerPoint presentation. Discussions were held on the board's score to value, the board to individual member score, and board self-evaluations compared scores from 2014-2016. He also helped the board members develop their District Goals and Board Goals. Mr. Lee answered questions asked by the board members.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- The River Edge school district is into our third week of school and all is going well. A few informal events have taken place already. 2nd Cup of Coffee was held on September 13th and it was very well attended. There were questions on technology in kindergarten. A technology parent meeting is scheduled on October 13th for primary grades. Community Outreach was on the evening of September 15th. It was a huge success with over 200 people attending. It was a great community event. Another parent evening was held last night on reinforcing positive behavior in students and over 70 people attended. There will be a Mayor and Council Meeting tomorrow with Dr. Ben-Dov, Paris Myers, and John Lyons to discuss the Inter-local Agreement. There will be a Town Emergency Panel meeting on September 28th.
- The initial introduction of the report card "roll out" to the staff was on September 12th. Much work needs to be done with teachers and parents. Our plan is to roll out grades K-1 for November report cards.
- Special Education monitoring will take up much of our resources in the next few months. Dr. Ben-Dov spoke to Maureen Kerne and Rosemary Kuruc and monitoring has not been done in the district in a very long time. Dr. Ben-Dov is planning on making the assessment of Special Education one of the goals for this school year.
- Grants for our recycling will be received on October 7th in a public ceremony at Bergen Community College. This was applied for by Nancy Hafers.
- Dr. Ben-Dov is working with the Administrators on school goals. It will be on the October 19th agenda for board approval.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- The 2016-2017 school year had a great opening. They had a smooth drop off and pick up.
- Kindergarten adjusted well to a full day of school. We have five full classes this year.
- The PTO Welcome Back Tea Meeting was held on Friday, September 9th. They are planning for October events.
- Mrs. Heitman stated Monica Schnee is keeping a blog from Korea and encouraged all to read it

- Picture day for Roosevelt School was today and on Monday, September 26th for Cherry Hill School. We are using a new company this year.
- Back to School Night for both schools will be on Tuesday, September 27th
- There was a great turnout for last night's presentation on Positive Behavior Support. Parents of grades K-3 attended.
- There will be an ESL Parent Night on the evening of October 6th

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- Ms. Salvati has been working on closing out our grants, applying for Title I carry over, and several state compliance reports
- The Auditors are coming the week of October 17th

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers attended the Community Outreach Event on the evening of September 15th
- Mrs. Myers will attend the Mayor and Council meeting tomorrow to discuss the Inter-local Agreement

COMMITTEES

No Committees reported at this meeting

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of September 7, 2016.

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

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

Nays: None, Abstained: Mr. Koth

2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for September 2016 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education approve the list on file in the district office of pupil records maintained in the district for the 2016-2017 school year. (Addendum)
4. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policies:

Policy #	Title
2224	Non-Discrimination/Affirmative Action
4111.1/4211.1	Non-Discrimination/Affirmative Action
5145.4	Equal Educational Opportunity
6121	Non-Discrimination/Affirmative Action

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

Date	School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
9/22/16	New Bridge Center	Building Connections	Demarest Farms Hillsdale, NJ	\$0
10/20/16	Roosevelt	3	Sterling Mine Ogdensburg, NJ	*\$960.00
10/21/16	Cherry Hill	3	Sterling Mine Ogdensburg, NJ	\$772.00

Motion by: Mr. DiBella, Seconded by: Ms. Danahy

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

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS - None

C. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the agreement for the River Edge Board of Education to provide technology services and supplies to the following Non-public Schools for the 2016-2017 school year:

St. Peter's Academy
Sinai School at RYNJ
Yeshiva of North Jersey
Stepping Stone Learning Center
New Beginnings at Grace Lutheran

2. That the Board of Education approve the 2016-2017 school year attendance of specific students at Cherry Hill or Roosevelt School which is other than their customary neighborhood school, as on file in the District Office.

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

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

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated August, 2016 totaling \$944,553.25 including checks #38763 through #38874.
2. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2016 totaling \$466,517.30 including checks #38875 through #39002.
3. Payrolls date July 15, 2016 and July 29, 2016 totaling \$441,635.82 and Payrolls dated August 15, 2016, and August 31, 2016 totaling \$273,487.85 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list to be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)

4. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2016-2017 as of July, 2016. (Addendum)
5. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending July 31, 2016.

Further, we certify that as of July 31, 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 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)

6. That the Board of Education approve an amendment to the 2016-2017 NCLB Application be submitted to the State to include Title I Carry-Over from 2015-2016 in the amount of \$40,748.

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

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

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Stephanie Franco, Part-time Clerical Aide, at a maximum of 15 hours per week, for the 2016-2017 school year.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Stan Stevens, Cherry Hill and Mark Jentz, Roosevelt as Lead Custodians for the 2016-2017 school year, as per contract.
3. That the Board of Education designate Michael Henzel, Affirmative Action Officer, for the River Edge School District for the 2016-2017 school year.
4. That the Board of Education designate Denise Heitman, Attendance Officer, for a yearly stipend of \$500.00 for the 2016-2017 school year.
5. That the Board of Education approve Beth Rosen, Homeless Student Liaison, for the River Edge School District for the 2016-2017 school year.
6. That the Board of Education approve Beth Rosen, HIB Coordinator, for the River Edge School District for the 2016-2017 school year.
7. That the Board of Education approve Rosemary Kuruc, Mental Health Liaison, for the River Edge School District for the 2016-2017 school year.
8. That the Board of Education approve Maria Pepe as the Primary Project Aide for the 2016-2017 School Year.
9. That the Board of Education approve Christine Moran for the Cycle I of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2016-2017 School Year.
10. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Whitney Castellvi to commence on, or about February 8, 2017 through March 15, 2017, to be followed by a Federal/State Family leave of absence effective March 16, 2017 through June 30, 2017.

11. That the Board of Education approve Nancy Hafers to assist in the preparation of the STEAM Lab, at her contractual rate. Hours to be determined by the Superintendent.

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

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

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated August, 2016 totaling \$26,437.75 including checks #66730 through #66860.
2. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2016 totaling \$695,020.30 including checks #66861 through #66984.
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 2016-2017 school year.

Angela Gussoni	Home Instructor
Robin Ross Oliff	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant
Theresa E. Regan-Geraci	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant

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

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky reminded the board of the upcoming County Meeting and the NJSBA convention in October.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. DiBella to convene into closed session for contractual and personnel matters at 9:15 PM.

All Ayes

RECONVENE

Motion made by Mr. Busted, seconded by Ms. Dansky to reconvene the regular public meeting at 9:40 PM.

All Ayes

E. PERSONNEL

12. That the Board of Education approve the submission of the following Superintendent Merit Goals to the Executive County Superintendent for the 2016-2017 school year.

Quantitative:

1. **Goal Statement:** by June 2017, the district will increase the amount of services being offered through Region V, resulting in enhanced opportunities for students and cost savings (per unit of service) of at least 5% as compared to 2015-2016. Currently The River Edge School District uses Region V for a variety of related services. Beginning July, 2016, the district will establish increased shared services through Region V. To advance this goal, the Superintendent will conduct a needs assessment to identify potential growth areas for shared services. In addition, the Superintendent will participate in monthly meetings with the Region V consortium to enhance current practices and develop new programs.

(3.33%, \$5,161.50)

2. **Goal Statement:** By June 2017 the superintendent will conduct 110 walkthroughs using the My Learning Plan walkthrough tool that was specifically created for River Edge School District. Walkthroughs will provide snapshots of classroom lessons and non-classroom staff activities. The goal of the walkthroughs is to establish PD needs and drive differentiated professional development for all staff. The superintendent will also hold three meetings with all administrators conducting the walkthroughs and instructional rounds to establish the needs based on trends being observed and identified by the administrative staff. This goal exceeds the mandated observation and evaluation requirements.

(3.33%, \$5,161.50)

3. **Goal Statement:** The Superintendent will establish the need to define and note the use of meaningful technology in the classrooms. By June 2017, 50% of observations/walkthroughs will note recommendations and/or commendations reflecting the use of **meaningful technology** in grades 3-6 classrooms.

(3.33%, \$5,161.50)

Qualitative

1. **Goal Statement:** The superintendent will provide opportunities for New Family Outreach through informal means as a vehicle for increased participation of new families in school and community events. Starting with a joint venture between River Edge Board of Education, Mayor and Council, and PTO's at a "kickoff event" on September 15th, new families will be invited to attend informal evenings throughout the year that will help them navigate life in a new culture through the guidance of professional and lay school leadership.

(2.5%, \$3,875)

2. **Goal Statement:** to embark on the creation of two STEAM Labs (one in each building) and initiate the implementation of STEAM projects and activities on all grade levels that reflect the integration of NGSS, technology, engineering, art, and math. Following research, exploration, renovations, curriculum development, and Professional Development the labs will be operational during the 2016-2017 school year while full implementation is planned as a two year project.

(2.5%, \$3,875)

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

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

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Sim to convene back into closed session at 9:45 PM.
All Ayes

RECONVENE

Motion made by Mr. Busted, seconded by Ms. Dansky to reconvene to public and adjourn the meeting at 9:55 PM.

All Ayes

Meeting Adjourned

Patricia Salvati
Board Secretary/Business Administrator