

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – January 17, 2018
7:30 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 7:35 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Ms. Brown; Mr. Busted; Ms. Dansky; Mr. Herbst; Mr. Sim; Mrs. Myers. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, Mrs. Heitman and approximately three members of the public.

Mr. Koth arrived at 8:40 PM

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Herbst read the Mission Statement.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items –None

Ethics Training- Matt Lee, New Jersey School Board Association

Mr. Matt Lee, from New Jersey School Boards Association, held an Ethics Training with the board members. Mr. Lee gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Codes of Ethic, School Ethics Act, School Ethics Commission (SEC), SEC Jurisdiction, Conflicts of Interest, and the Nepotism Policy. The board members were able to interact with Mr. Lee while participating in some practice questions.

2018 - 2019 School Calendar Discussion

Dr. Ben-Dov proposed a draft of the 2018-2019 school calendar to the Board members. A discussion took place regarding the differences with River Dell, PARCC dates, and possible calendar changes with a new contract. Dr. Ben-Dov explained that the River Dell, Oradell, and River Edge Superintendents coordinated the calendars to the best of their abilities, but a few small differences exist due to the different needs of elementary and high school students and staff.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

- The custodians and Department of Public Works did a great job today with salting and the snow removal to the facilities. The custodians removed the snow while the town salted. Dr. Ben-Dov stated she feels she made the right decision with having a full day of school today. It was also consistent with River Dell.
- The District is making some secretarial changes to the buildings. Ms. Leslie Blute will be the new Roosevelt School Secretary and Ms. Audrey Traynor will be the new New Bridge Center Secretary. We will need to hire a part time Administrative Assistant for Roosevelt School since Ms. Traynor will be at New Bridge Center.
- Kindergarten registration will take place next week. Dr. Ben-Dov asked Mrs. Heitman and Mr. Henzel for their current and projected enrollment. She feels this is crucial for budget development. The upcoming kindergarten registration next week will also give us some ideas of incoming kindergarten numbers, but those are more difficult to predict. During budget deliberations they will plan for the number of sections of grades k-6 that are projected for each school.
- Dr. Ben-Dov read the Violence, Vandalism and Harassment Intimidation and Bullying report: As reported to the State, our reporting period 1 (July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017) indicates one HIB incident which was affirmed by the Board of Education. Dr. Ben-Dov discussed some of the HIB training and prevention activities being implemented by the River Edge School District.
- Today was Instructional Rounds in Cherry Hill School. Four Roosevelt Teachers came and observed Cherry Hill Teachers along with administrators. They saw great lessons that included flexible seating in classrooms. Dr. Ben-Dov stated that this type of seating led to academic choice for students and was the best experience to date. She also thanked the teachers who hosted, observed, and offered feedback.
- The Twelfth Annual Young Artists Exhibition opening will be held at the River Edge Cultural Center on January 30th and will be open for three weeks

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Our Kindergarten students will have a Winter Concert this Friday at 9:00 AM
- Cherry Hill will have their Geography Bee on January 19th
- Kindergarten registration will take place for Roosevelt School on Tuesday, January 23rd and on Thursday, January 25th for Cherry Hill School for the 2018-2019 school year
- On January 24th there will be an Assembly for Joe Maugeri for his retirement. All classes will sing and share their words of appreciation for him. The PTO will have a retirement celebration that evening for him in the Gym and Multi-Purpose Room.

- The STEAM Labs are moving along and the students are enjoying Liberty Science Center
- Mrs. Heitman thanked all of the custodians for the great job with the snow and ice cleanup
- There was a Jump Rope for Heart Assembly on January 11th

BOARD SECRETARY

- Mrs. Napolitano complimented the custodial staff and town on all of their hard work with the snow removal
- We are in the process of going out to bid for the Roosevelt School roof. We can do this after we receive the environmental report from RAMM stating. Hopefully, we will go out to bid by the end of the month.
- The STEAM Labs are coming along nicely. It's a work in progress.
- The software opened for the 2018-2019 budget on the state website today

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mr. Busted attended the Eagle Scout Ceremony on Sunday, January 14th. He presented the Scouts with a letter from the River Edge Board of Education.
- Mrs. Myers spoke with the Mayor to re-start their meetings to continue their efforts for open communication between the mayor's office and the Board of Education
- Mrs. Myers sent the board the new 2018 committees list

COMMITTEES

No committees reported at this meeting

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the River Edge Elementary School Calendar for the 2018-2019 school year. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve the following class trips:

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill	3	Turtle Back Zoo West Orange, NJ	\$1,390.00

Cherry Hill and Roosevelt	2	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$2,383.50
Cherry Hill and Roosevelt	6 Grade C.R.E.A.T.E.	National Museum of Math New York, NY	\$563.00
Roosevelt	K	River Edge Cultural Center River Edge, NJ	\$0

3. That the Board of Education approve the Violence, Vandalism and Harassment Intimidation and Bullying Report and HIB Training Report for Reporting Period 1. (July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017)
4. That the Board of Education appoint Beth Rosen as District School Safety Specialist per state law. (P.L. 2017 c.162)
5. That the Board of Education approve the updated Student Code of Conduct. (Addendum)
6. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for January 2018 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)

Motion by: Ms. Dansky Seconded by: Ms. Brown

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

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None

C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS - None

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated January 2018 totaling \$419,104.76 including checks #40634 through #40702. Payrolls dated December 15, 2017 and December 22, 2017, totaling \$1,188,534.11 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 2017-2018 as of November 30, 2017. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 30, 2017.

Further, we certify that as of November 30, 2017 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)

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

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

Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education approve the following teachers for the Cycle III of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2017-2018 School Year at the REBOE/REEA CBA hourly rate:

Cherry Hill

Deborah Auriemma
Kristen Corcoran
Breanne DeVico
Noy Frasciello
Jaime Lazor
Katie O'Reilly
Andrea Siclari

Roosevelt

Caroline Church
Abby Burns-Paterson
Leah Taylor
Nevin Werner
*Nicole Colon

2. That the Board of Education approve the following individuals for movement on the step guide effective February 1, 2018* based on educational credentials.

Sabrina Johnston	from	MA to MA+15
Ryan Schmid	from	BA to BA+15

3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the Child Care Leave of absence for Julie Fallon to commence upon the completion of her Federal/State Family leave of absence, March 16, 2018 through June 30, 2018.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Susan Yi, MA, Step 1* to continue as Leave Replacement Teacher through June 30, 2018.
5. That the Board of Education approve the transfer of Leslie Blute, Secretary, from the New Bridge Center at Cherry Hill School to Roosevelt School effective February 1, 2018.
6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Cynthia Sherlock as a substitute Clerical Aide for the 2017-2018 School Year (Addendum)
7. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Audrey Traynor, New Bridge Center Secretary, starting on February 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

8. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Denise Albanese, Part-time Aide, effective on or about February 1, 2018.

**Salary to be determined and adjusted upon the ratification and approval of the negotiated REEA Agreement.*

Motion by: Mr. Koth Seconded by: Mr. Herbst

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, 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 January 2018 totaling \$923,437.30 including checks #69415 through #69588.
2. That the Board of Education approve Triumph Coach, Inc. as a new transporter.
3. WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education (the "Board") is the lead education agency ("LEA") for the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education ("Region V"); and

WHEREAS, Region V provides shared services for its member districts such as evaluations, direct services, and consultation; and

WHEREAS, as the LEA, the Board must approve the consultant agreements of the providers that Region V utilizes to deliver shared services to its member districts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approves the consultant agreements of the following Region V Shared Services Consultants, Psychologists, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants, Social Workers, Speech Language Specialists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, and Translators to provide evaluations, direct services, and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2017-2018 school year:

Woodland Speech Therapy LLC Speech and Language Specialist
Preferred Home Health Care and Nursing Services

Motion by: Mr. Herbst Seconded by: Mr. Sim

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Koth asked about communication with constituents, i.e. Facebook, Twitter etc. He was told the school does have both accounts.

Mr. Herbst asked about email addresses for board members.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Mr. Herbst to adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:07 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator