

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – January 3, 2018 – 7:30 PM

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. Napolitano called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Busteed read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Ms. Brown; Mr. Busteed; Ms. Dansky; Mr. Herbst; Mr. Koth; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim; also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Henzel and approximately ten members of the public.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

REORGANIZATION

Certification of Election Results – November 7, 2017

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the official results of November 7, 2017 election.

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Total Votes Cast</u>
Sheli Dansky (3 Year Term)	717
Elizabeth Brown (3 Year Term)	922

Oath of Office to Newly Elected Trustees

The Board Secretary administered the Oath of Office to Trustees elect Sheli Dansky and Elizabeth Brown.

2018 Board of Education and Expiration of Terms of Offices

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Expiration of Terms</u>
Colin Busteed	2018
Gyuchang Sim	2018
Michael Koth	2018
Paris Myers	2019
Caleb Herbst	2019
Sheli Dansky	2020
Elizabeth Brown	2020

Nomination and Election of President

Motion by Mr. Sim to nominate Paris Myers as Board President.

Roll call was taken and Paris Myers was unanimously elected Board President.

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

President, Paris Myers assumed the Chair.

Nomination and Election of Vice-President

Motion by Ms. Dansky to nominate Gyuchang Sim as Vice-President.

Roll call was taken and Gyuchang Sim was unanimously elected Vice-President.

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

REORGANIZATION MOTIONS

1. Meeting Time & Location

That the Board of Education continues to hold regular public meetings at 7:30 p.m. as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>School</u>
January 3, 2018	Roosevelt School
January 17, 2018	Cherry Hill School
February 7, 2018	Roosevelt School
February 27, 2018 (Tuesday)	Cherry Hill School
March 14, 2018	Roosevelt School
March 28, 2018	Cherry Hill School

April 11, 2018	Roosevelt School
April 25, 2018	Cherry Hill School
May 2, 2018	Roosevelt School
May 23, 2018	Cherry Hill School
June 13, 2018	Roosevelt School
June 27, 2018	Cherry Hill School
July 25, 2018	Cherry Hill School
September 5, 2018	Roosevelt School
September 26, 2018	Cherry Hill School
October 3, 2018	Roosevelt School
October 17, 2018	Cherry Hill School
November 14, 2018	Roosevelt School
November 28, 2018	Cherry Hill School
December 5, 2018	Roosevelt School
December 19, 2018	Cherry Hill School
January 2, 2019 (Reorganization Meeting)	Roosevelt School

FURTHER, provision is also made for closed meetings immediately following each regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters or any other private matters if necessary.

FURTHER, the Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to give at least 48 hours advance notice of all the aforesaid meetings, and said notice shall (a) be delivered to the municipal building and the post office; (b) be delivered to the Board's officially designated newspapers; (c) circulated in the School District; and (d) filed with the clerk of the Borough of River Edge, all as provided for the pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of the State of New Jersey 1975.

2. School Ethics

FURTHER, that the Board of Education abide by the School Ethics Act and the Code of Ethics for School Board Members, pursuant to N.J.S.A.18A:12-21 et seq.

3. Parliament Procedure

FURTHER, that the Board of Education meetings be governed by parliamentary procedure of Robert's Rules of Order.

4. Official Public Notice Newspapers

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate the *Suburban/Town News* and *The Record* as the Official Newspapers for the Board of Education until the next organization meeting.

5. Designation Board Secretary

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Louise Napolitano as Board Secretary until June 30, 2018.

6. Rules, Regulations and Policies

FURTHER, that all rules, regulations and policies adopted in previous years, and not rescinded by the River Edge Board of Education be continued in full force and effect until altered, amended, modified or repealed by other resolutions of this Board.

7. Curricula

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve all current curricula and programs that have been developed in accordance with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards until the next organization meeting.

8. Mission Statement

FURTHER, that the Board of Education adopt the Mission Statement as follows:

The River Edge School District is a partnership of students, parents, staff, and community members. We are dedicated to providing a supportive environment in which all students can reach their maximum academic potential, while developing as responsible citizens who respect individuality. Our goals will be achieved because:

- curriculum and instruction are aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
- all decisions reflect the academic, social/emotional and physical needs of pre-K to sixth grade students
- cooperation and on-going communication exist between the school district and the community
- school administrators and the Board of Education work together to assess and adjust procedures in response to new mandates and the changing needs of the community

9. Designation of Depositories & Signature Authorizations

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate the Columbia Bank as the depository for funds for the Board of Education.

FURTHER, that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Treasurer of School Monies be authorized and directed to maintain accounts for and on behalf of the Board in Columbia Bank and

FURTHER, that the Board of Education official warrants be signed by three of the following five:

President, Vice President, Board Secretary/Business Administrator, Treasurer of School Monies, Superintendent of Schools

10. Signature Authorization – Taxes, Payroll, Insurance

FURTHER, that the President or Vice President in his/her absence, and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator or Superintendent in his/her absence, and the Treasurer of School Monies, be authorized and directed to execute warrants without further action on the part of the Board of the payment, when due, for salaries of all employees of the Board

and for withholding taxes, pension funds, medical insurance plans, property insurance, Social Security and New Jersey Unemployment Insurance.

11. Office Account Signatures

FURTHER, that the Board of Education authorize the following individuals to approve the Petty Cash Reimbursements:

- Louise Napolitano, Board Secretary/Business Administrator
- Dr. Tova Ben-Dov, Superintendent of Schools

FURTHER, that the maximum allowable amount per warrant be established at \$125.00 providing all necessary claims are found to be in order according to law.

12. Designation of Board Auditor, and

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Lerch Vinci & Higgins, as Board Auditor until June 30, 2018.

13. Designation Board Attorney

WHEREAS, the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs., has the expertise and experience to provide professional services to the River Edge Board of Education; and,

WHEREAS, the Board is desirous of appointing the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs, to provide professional services to the Board;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board of Education appoints the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs., as the Board Attorney until June 30, 2018 at the following rates: \$175.00 Partner and \$155.00 Associate.

14. Designation Board Architect

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate DiCara Rubino Architects, as Architect of Record until June 30, 2018 at an hourly rate of \$175 Principal, \$165 Senior Associate Architect, and \$140 Project Architect/Engineer until June 30, 2018.

15. Designation Board Insurance Agency

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Brown and Brown Advisors of Lambertville, New Jersey as the Broker of Record for Dental Benefits.

16. Designation Bond Attorney

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Wilentz, Goldman, and Spitzer as Board Bond Attorney until June 30, 2018.

17. Designation School District Consulting Physician

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Dr. Christopher Nicpon as Board School Physician until the next organization meeting at a rate of \$3,500.

18. Custodian of Public Records

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Louise Napolitano as Custodian of Public Records until June 30, 2018.

19. Designation 504 Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Tara Benevento for Roosevelt School and Janel Blake for Cherry Hill School as 504 Coordinators until the next organization meeting.

20. Designation Attendance Officer

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Denise Heitman, Attendance Officer, for a yearly stipend of \$500.00 until the next organization meeting.

21. Designation Homeless Student Liaison

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve Beth Rosen, Homeless Student Liaison, for the River Edge School District until the next organization meeting.

22. Designation District Anti-Bullying Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Beth Rosen, District Anti-Bullying Coordinator, until the next organization meeting.

23. Designation District Pest Management Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Stan Stevens as the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator until the next organization meeting.

24. AHERA Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Environmental Design, Inc. to become the designated party to ensure compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) until the next organization meeting.

25. Designation Treasurer of School Funds

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Antoinette Kelly as Treasurer of School funds until the next organization meeting.

26. Designate Purchasing Agent

WHEREAS, the recent changes to the Public School Contracts Law gave Boards of Education the ability to increase their bid threshold up to \$40,000; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3A, permits an increase in the bid threshold if a Qualified Purchasing Agent is appointed as well as granted the authorization to negotiate and award such contracts below the bid threshold: and

WHEREJ.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq. establishes the criteria for qualifying as Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, Louise Napolitano possesses the designation of Qualified Purchasing Agent as issued by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq.: and

WHEREAS, River Edge Board of Education desires to increase the bid threshold as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the governing body of the River Edge Board of Education in the County of Bergen, in the State of New Jersey hereby increases its bid threshold to \$40,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the governing body hereby appoints Louise Napolitano as the Qualified Purchasing Agent to exercise the duties of a purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2b, with specific relevance to the authority, responsibility, and accountability of the purchasing activity of the Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.2 the Board of Education Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution and a copy of Louise Napolitano's certification to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

27. Move to authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to seek sealed bids, Educational Data Services, county contract, and/or state contract for all goods and services until the next organizational meeting.

28. Membership in Bergen County Region V

FURTHER, that the Board of Education continue its membership in the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education, does hereby accept, adopt and agree to comply with the Region V by-laws; designates the District Superintendent as its representative to Region V; and empowers her to cast all votes and take all other actions necessary to represent its interest in Region V; until the next organization meeting and

FURTHER, approve the Joint Transportation Agreement for all River Edge students who are transported through Region V.

29. Tax Shelter Annuity Sales Companies

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve the following to solicit sales to district employees for 403b and 457 retirement plans for the 2017-2018 school year:

Aspire Financial Services
AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company
Security Benefit
Unum Life Insurance Company of America

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

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

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comments on Agenda Items – None

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- The year ended with excellent celebrations, concerts, and a special class trip to the Liberty Science Center to participate in the opening of the largest planetarium in the Western Hemisphere which was amazing!
- Over the winter break, there was a lot of work being done in our STEAM Labs. Dr. Ben-Dov was hoping to have the labs completed before the students came back from break, however it will take a few more weeks. Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, and Mr. Stevens were here over the break to monitor the work being done. There will be a dedication to our STEAM LABS at Open House in June.
- There was a meeting with Joshua Koen on sustainability of our technology. It was a very informative and comprehensive meeting. We will follow up on his suggestions and we may ask him for his guidance again, in the future.
- A 2018-2019 tentative school year calendar was uploaded with the agenda for your review. There will be a discussion on this calendar at the January 17th board meeting.
- There is a 2018 Committee Meeting Dates list in your packet tonight. The policy review continues with the 4000 series. Dr. Ben-Dov will schedule a committee meeting to review the series before the first reading.
- The weather is always a concern this time of year and the forecast is predicting snow for tomorrow. We have added texting notifications to our Swift Reach System and sent a test text yesterday. The test was pretty successful and the board office is correcting numbers in the system for anyone who had a problem with the test.

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Henzel reported on the following:

- We're back from Winter Break. The teachers and kids all are excited to be back.
- The Fourth grade students took a class trip on December 8th to the Liberty Science Center. They were very excited to preview the new planetarium which is the largest in the Western Hemisphere.
- Our winter concert took place the week before break. The students did a fabulous job. Ms. Cuadra and Mr. Urban both deserve to be complimented for their hard work in preparing the students.
- Second grade held their character day. Each second grade student dressed up as his or her favorite book character. There was a strong turnout from the second grade families.

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- Mrs. Napolitano showed the board members the thank you cards that the fourth grade students made. They thanked the board for allowing them to visit the Liberty Science Center in December.
- There is a resolution on tonight’s agenda to approve the River Edge School District to become an A41 District.

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mr. Lee will attend the January 17th board meeting to perform Ethics training
- Dario Chinigo is the new liaison for the River Edge Board of Education
- Mrs. Myers will have the 2018 Committee list for the board soon

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Dansky stated there was a Curriculum/Instruction meeting on December 13th. They discussed curriculum, Liberty Science, and collaborative teaching for Special Education.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of December 6, 2017.

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

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

Nays: None, Abstained: Ms. Brown, Mr. Koth

2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for January 2018 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)

3. That the Board of Education approve the completion of the following emergency drills:

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	December 6, 2017 Fire Drill December 18, 2017 Shelter in Place
Roosevelt School	December 15, 2017 Lockdown December 19, 2017 Fire Drill

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

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

Nays: None

4. That the Board of Education affirm the HIB report previously reported at the December 6, 2017 board meeting.

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

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

Nays: None Abstained: Ms. Brown, Mr. Koth

5. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policies:

Policy #	Title
3320	Purchasing Procedures
3326	Payment for Goods and Services
3327	Relations with Vendors
3400	Accounts
3440	Inventories
3450	Money in School Buildings
3451	Petty Cash Funds
3453	School Activity Funds
3510	Operation and Maintenance of Plant
3514	Equipment
3515	Smoking Prohibition Policy
3515	Smoking Prohibition Exhibits
3515	Smoking Prohibition Regulation
3516	Safety
3530	Insurance Management
3541.1	Transportation Routes and Services
3541.31	Privately Owned Vehicles
3541.32	District Owned Vehicles
3541.33	Transportation Safety
3542.31	Free or Reduced Price Lunches, Milk

3570	District Records and Reports
3571.4	Audit
3600	Evaluation of Business and Noninstructional Operations

6. That the Board of Education approve the River Edge School District to become an A41 District.
7. That the Board of Education approve the Revised NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Statement of Assurance for the 2017-2018 school year.

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

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

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated December 2017, totaling \$873,816.50 including checks #40509 through #40633. Payrolls dated November 15, 2017 and November 30, 2017, totaling \$1,156,256.56 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve a donation from Joy and Jan Holmstrup to be used towards the purchase of children books for the mobile cart in memory of Erika Steinbauer in the amount of \$100.00.

Motion by: Mr. Sim Seconded by: Mr. Brown

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

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following for student Field Experience to consist of 25 hours of literacy exposure over a period of 13 weeks to commence on or about January 22, 2018 through May 1, 2018

Natalia Sampedro

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Natalia Sampedro as a Substitute Teacher for the 2017-2018 School Year.
3. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Patricia Rizzo-Campesi, Part-time Aide, effective January 15, 2018
4. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Ericah Ligsay, Part-time Aide, effective January 16, 2018

5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following River Dell High School students to intern one day per week as part of a School Sponsored Structured Learning Experience to commence on or about February 6, 2018 through June 2018.

Fathia Balgahoom
Gianna Placa

6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Christine Beverin as a Student Teacher, from January 22, 2018 through May 4, 2018.
7. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Christine Beverin as a Substitute Teacher for the 2017-2018 School Year.

Motion by: Mr. Busted 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 December 2017 totaling \$1,015,867.42 including checks #69249 through #69414.

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

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Koth stated the Bergen County Election Calendar has a Cherry Hill School student second place winner for the month of February. He congratulated her.

Mr. Koth stated Mr. Dario Chinigo reached out to him and said he could not make tonight's board meeting and that he is looking forward to working with the River Edge Board of Education.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Kathleen Murphy, River Edge Resident, asked the board what an A41District is. Mrs. Napolitano answered her question. She also asked if the district can teach the students the danger of vaping because a lot of students are doing it in the Middle School.

Naomi Gewirtz, River Edge Resident, suggested to the board to have the public discussion at the beginning of the board meeting to allow more parents to attend the meeting. She also asked the status of negotiations. Mrs. Myers answered her question.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Busted to adjourn the regular public meeting at 8:33 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator