

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

***"Building Bright Futures Together"*
Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – October 18, 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

Mr. Sim called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Herbst read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Sim. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, Mrs. Heitman, Mr. Henzel, Mrs. Rosen, Mrs. Kuruc and approximately 20 members of the public.

Mr. Koth arrived at 8:25 PM
Mrs. Myers arrived at 9:10 PM
Ms. Danahy was absent

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Accept PTO Gifts for the 2016-2017 School Year:

Dr. Ben-Dov spoke about the wonderful gifts provided to the Cherry Hill School, Roosevelt School and New Bridge Center by the PTO. She is grateful for all that the PTO has done for the students in all schools. Dr. Ben-Dov highlighted some of the gifts and thanked the PTO and stated she greatly appreciated all that they do for schools.

Honor employees for 25 Years of Service

Dr. Ben-Dov spoke about the careers of Judy Albrizio, Roseanne Graye, and Claudia Levis. She talked about the start of their careers and their hard work and dedication to the River Edge District. Mrs. Heitman, Mr. Henzel, Mrs. Rosen, and Mrs. Kuruc spoke about the staff as well. They were congratulated on their 25 years of excellence in education and flowers and an award were presented to each.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

- Dr. Ben-Dov gave an update on the Superintendent's Round Table meeting she attended. Each school district will need a school security specialist that needs to be appointed by the board. They will need a school administrator certificate in order to be the school security specialist. Dr. Ben-Dov is the only one in this district with this certification therefore, she will be the specialist. She is waiting on additional information.
- Dr. Ben-Dov sent the community a letter with important information about school security drills today. The purpose of the letter was to inform the parents that throughout the school year each school will have eight security drills in addition to the regular fire drills. One of the drills will be a long evacuation to a destination where students need to walk. She said that parents will not be informed about this drill in advance. After the drill, the school principal will send home an email letting the parents know that the drill took place. A faculty drill, without students, will take place at Roosevelt School on Monday October 23rd and at Cherry Hill School on Monday, November 6th.
- Dr. Ben-Dov stated that this year there is a new science test in fifth grade. The NJASK Science test was given in fourth grade for many years. The logic of having this test in fifth grade is the fact that in many districts it is the end of elementary school for most students. It is treated as a field test this year and there will be no penalties for QSAC.
- Report card work is on-going. On October 23rd, at the Second Cup of Coffee meeting, Ms. Moran will present the new Report Card information to the public, as well as the Roosevelt School PTO meeting on November 3rd and the Cherry Hill School PTO on November 17th and the board meeting on November 15th to offer parents an opportunity to learn about the Report Cards.
- November 7th schools are closed and there will be a Professional Development Day for our teachers
- Student Growth Objectives (SGO's) have been written and submitted by all teachers
- There was a School Climate Meeting on October 18th where they spoke on a number of subjects including the new Buddy Bench that was installed over the summer at both schools. They played a video that was created by each school to educate us on the meaning of the Buddy Bench.
- We had an author visit this month. It was a good visit. A student asked the author: "of all the difficult world events that happened lately which one would you write about?" Dr. Ben-Dov has stated that in the same way, many discussions were held to decide about a cause for River Edge students to adopt. It was suggested that the River Edge Schools adopt an elementary school in Puerto Rico due to the horrible disaster that has occurred there. They are in need of many items such as water, toilet paper, food, and cleaning products. A committee will be formed because this is a big undertaking. She is very excited and thrilled about this project and is hoping to get this started right away. She hopes that this will begin a long-term relationship.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Week of Respect was October 2nd to October 6th. It went very well for both schools and many activities were planned.
- Liberty Science Center is going well
- Our fifth grade classes are going on a class trip to Fort Lee Historic Park today. Mrs. Heitman is very excited about this trip. She stated it is a great trip where the students learn to be soldiers.
- Fire safety will start in November. The children will learn a lot about fire safety.
- The Halloween parade at Cherry Hill School is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at 1:15 PM. The PTO has been very busy with planning for the Boo Bash and the mini Boo Bash.
- The rock wall for Cherry Hill School will be installed on or about October 26th

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- There was a negotiations meeting last night at Cherry Hill School
- A Finance and Facilities meeting took place this evening before the board meeting
- Mrs. Napolitano is preparing for the next budget year
- Dinner reservations have been made at The Old Homestead Steak House on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the Borgata Hotel for the board members attending the convention

PRESIDENT

No report for this meeting

COMMITTEES

- Mr. Sim spoke about the Finance and Facilities meeting that took place before the meeting. They spoke about the temporary repairs to the Roosevelt School roof, air conditioning in the Roosevelt School Gymnasium, heating pipes, updating the fire alarm panel at Roosevelt School, fiscal goals, and utilizing the committee or having the whole board involved on projects.
- Mr. Busted stated there was a negotiations meeting held last night at Cherry Hill School

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for October 2017 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve the First Reading of the following policies:

Policy #	Title
3000	Concepts and Roles in Business and Non-Instructional Operations
3100	Budget Planning, Preparation, and Adoption
3160	Transfer of Funds
3220/3230	State Funds; Federal Funds
3240	Tuition
3250	Income from Fees, Fines, Charges
3260/3270	Sale and Disposal of Books, Equipment and Supplies; Sale, Licensing and Rental of Property
3280	Gifts, Grants and Bequests
3290	Funds Management/Investments

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

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
NBC/Cherry Hill	K-6	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$760.00
Cherry Hill and Roosevelt	5-6 Instrumental	NJ PAC Center Newark, NJ	\$1,109.00
Cherry Hill	4	River Edge Cultural Center River Edge, NJ	\$0
Roosevelt	6	Weis Center Ringwood, NJ	\$924.00

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

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mr. Sim
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 October, 2017 totaling \$941,764.64 including checks #40254 through #40392. Payrolls dated September 15, 2017 and September 29, 2017, totaling \$1,099,416.03 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list are attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education accept the Roosevelt, New Bridge Center, and Cherry Hill Schools PTO Gifts for the school year 2016-2017. (Addendum)

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

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

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Mary Pennotti as a Substitute Nurse for the 2017-2018 school year.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Ozen Akdemir, Part-time Aide, starting on or about October 19, 2017 through June 30, 2018.
3. That the Board of Education approve the following staff members for ELA Curriculum Work at a rate of \$50.00 per hour.

Teacher	Hours
Noy Sapir	1.5
Kate Langan	1.5

4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Leigh Anne Kaufmann to commence on or about February 26, 2018 through April 12, 2018, to be followed by a Federal/State Family leave of absence to commence on or about April 13, 2018, through June 30, 2018.
5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the District Lunch Aides to attend a CPR training on November 7, 2018.

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

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

6. **WHEREAS**, a contractor whose name is on file in the Board Office has an individual consultant agreement with a thirty (30) day notice provision; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has recommended that the Board invoke the thirty (30) day notice provision to terminate the independent consultant agreement; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board hereby invokes the thirty (30) day notice provision of the above referenced independent consultant agreement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said contractor shall not be required to continue to perform her duties during the period between the giving of notice and the date of termination of the independent consultant agreement on November 17, 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Secretary/ Business Administrator shall provide the consultant with notice of the Board’s action as set forth in this Resolution forthwith.

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

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, 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 October, 2017 totaling \$780,092.51 including checks #68929 through #69081.
- 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 2017-2018 school year.

Ardor Health Solutions	Occupational and physical therapy
Jacqueline Reyes	Speech and Language specialist
Lauren Lavelle	Behaviorist

- 3. That the Board of Education approve the following new transporters:

Mercer County Special Services School District
Sun Transport
Rise to Shine Transportation

Motion by: Mr. Koth Seconded by: Mr. Busted

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky stated that in the School Board Notes it was indicated that River Edge is in the top 100.

Ms. Dansky spoke about the new appellate decision on OPRA student record request and special education committee request. She said there will be a legal follow up to follow.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Koth to convene into closed session at 9:00 PM.
All Ayes

RECONVENE

Motion made by Mr. Koth, seconded by Mr. Busteed to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:52 PM.
All Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator