

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – February 7, 2018

7:30 PM Public Meeting

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Project Room, New Bridge Center, 410 Bogert Road, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Koth read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Ms. Brown; Ms. Dansky; Mr. Herbst; Mr. Koth; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Henzel and approximately 45 members of the public.

Mr. Busteed arrived at 8:20 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Honor Retirees:

Claudia Levis
Joe Magueri

Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Heitman, and Mr. Henzel all commented on the retiree’s hard work, loyal service and dedication to the students and families of River Edge. Dr. Ben-Dov presented flowers to Mrs. Levis and Mrs. Myers presented her with a framed resolution. Mrs. Levis thanked everyone for their kind words and appreciation. Mr. Magueri could not attend the meeting due to the inclement weather.

RESOLUTIONS TO RECOGNIZE OUR HONOREES

Honor Retiree Claudia Levis

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

WHEREAS, Claudia Levis has announced that she is retiring from Roosevelt School after twenty-five years of dedicated service to the River Edge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, she has demonstrated a nurturing and caring attitude towards all of the students, families and colleagues who passed through the main office by always making them feel respected and loved; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Levis has worked with over 10,000 students, Board of Education staff, administrators, and families to make them feel welcomed in our Roosevelt community; and

WHEREAS, she made her presence known over the PA system in a loud and commanding way, she devoted her time as the Roosevelt PTO president, and she spearheaded the Tournament of Champions

WHEREAS, her efficiency in running the Roosevelt School office, her knack for having things done yesterday, and her dedication to the children, staff, and the community of River Edge, and

WHEREAS, she has served as a member of the River Edge Association Negotiations Committee, participated in numerous workshops for the REEA, and provided faithful leadership within the district, and

WHEREAS, her professional efforts have always been focused on establishing a professional, comfortable, pleasant, and well managed environment for all, provided her assistants the opportunity to grow and learn; and

WHEREAS, after her years of faithful service to the River Edge Schools, she wishes to pursue her retirement; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of River Edge on this Seventh Day of February, Two Thousand Eighteen spread upon its Minutes this Resolution of Appreciation for her valued service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the River Edge community offers its best wishes to Mrs. Claudia Levis for many happy, healthy and productive years ahead and its gratitude for her years of service to the school.

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

Honor Retiree Joe Magueri

Motion by Ms. Dansky
Seconded by Mr. Koth

WHEREAS, Joseph Maugeri has announced his retirement on his Ninety -Fifth Birthday after twenty-one years of dedicated service to the River Edge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, he crossed thousands of children, families and staff keeping them safe in all types of weather; and

WHEREAS, he has shared his life's lessons, his patriotism, and stories as a serviceman across buildings and classrooms in the River Edge District

WHEREAS, he shared his bright smile, and dedication with the staff, children and families at Roosevelt and Cherry Hill Schools; and

WHEREAS, he has gone beyond his responsibility as the Cherry Hill Crossing Guard to recognize teachers and students on behalf of the Veterans' of Foreign War; and

WHEREAS, after his faithful service to River Edge schools, he wishes to retire as the Cherry Hill Crossing Guard from his post at "Maugeri Crossing;" and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Borough of River Edge on this Seventh day of February, Two Thousand Eighteen spread upon its Minutes this Resolution of Appreciation for his valued service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the River Edge community offers its best wishes and its gratitude to Joseph Maugeri for a long, happy, healthy and relaxing retirement for his years of service to the school.

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

Nays: None

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Everyone is completing mid-year review assessments to inform their progress on the Student Growth Objectives. People are beginning to prepare for the second term report cards in early March.
- STEAM Lab activities are ongoing with Liberty Science and our staff. Dr. Ben-Dov has observed grade level workshops that were very productive and inspiring.
- The custodians are working hard cleaning and disinfecting our buildings for the children and staff. The number of flu cases reported in Cherry Hill School is 58 (8%) and the number of cases reported in Roosevelt School is 21 (4%).
- The Twelfth Annual Young Artists Exhibition opened on January 30th. It was well attended and the students displayed diverse work. The show will be open for two weeks.
- Dr. Ben-Dov met with the Roosevelt PTO on Friday, February 2nd. They discussed Adopt a school in Puerto Rico. They decided to send a box of clothes per grade level per school for the students. They await more information about the costs of shipping.
- Pastor Sweet from Grace Lutheran Church has requested to rent space at Roosevelt School for his summer camp. We told him it might not be possible this year due to the partial roof replacement at Roosevelt School over the summer.
- Dr. Ben-Dov announced Roosevelt School will celebrate 100 years of existence next year. There will be a committee to plan something grand for this special occasion.

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Henzel reported on the following:

- Roosevelt School had their Geography Bee earlier in January. Mr. Henzel congratulated Maaya Hori in the fifth grade on winning the bee.

- Starcase was a huge success. It was a fun night. A very special thank you to Ms. Lombardi and Ms. Cuadra for hosting.
- Mr. Henzel is thrilled to have Ms. Blute as the new Roosevelt Secretary. The next step is to find a replacement for the clerical aide as Ms. Traynor has become the new secretary at New Bridge Center.

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- Mrs. Napolitano reminded the board members the Ethics and Financial Disclosure forms are now available online. They are due to the county before April 30th.
- The bid opening for the Partial Roof Replacement at Roosevelt School will be on Friday, February 23rd
- The Governor's proposed speech is anticipated for March 13th. State Aid numbers will be released two days after that.
- There is a resolution on tonight's agenda to approve the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program Waiver for the 2018-2019 school year

PRESIDENT

- Mrs. Myers received a thank you letter from Matthew Haggerty thanking the Board Members for the letter of accomplishment for attaining the rank of Eagle Scout
- Mrs. Myers had a meeting with the Mayor that had to be cancelled. They did exchange emails of the status of the Interlocal Agreement.

COMMITTEES

- Mr. Sim attended the Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting on Tuesday, January 30th. They spoke about the projected revenue for 2018-2019, special education tuitions, capital projects-roof, and the number of classroom sections for Cherry Hill and Roosevelt Schools.
- Mr. Sim, Ms. Brown, and Ms. Dansky attended the Bergen County School Boards Meeting on Wednesday, January 31st. They spoke about new board member information, governmental relations update, school law, and school finance. Ms. Brown enjoyed the break out session for new board members. She said it was a good experience. Ms. Dansky reported on girls who code. She wants us to explore and learn about the pilot.
- Ms. Dansky attended the Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on Tuesday, January 30th. They spoke about the first reading for the 4000 series of the policies. The second reading will be on the February 27th board meeting.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of January 3, 2018 and January 17, 2018.

Motion by Ms. Dansky
Seconded by Ms. Brown

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

2. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of January 17, 2018.

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

3. That the Board of Education approve the Confidential Minutes of January 30, 2018.

Motion by Mr. Koth
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

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

4. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for February 2018 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
5. That the Board of Education approve the completion of the following emergency drills:

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	January 10, 2018 Fire Drill January 22, 2018 Lockdown
Roosevelt School	January 29, 2018 Fire Drill January 30, 2018 Lockdown

6. **WHEREAS**, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2018-19, and

WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board Of Education hereby authorized the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2018-2019 school year.

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

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Roosevelt / Cherry Hill	6	River Edge Swim Club Graduating Class Picnic	\$0

8. That the Board of Education approve the First Reading of the following policies:

Policy #	Title
4112.2	Certification
4112.6/4212.6	Personnel Records
4113/4213	Assignment Transfer
4115	Supervision
4117.4/4217.4	Reduction in Force/Abolishing a Position
4117.41	Nonrenewal
4119.21/4219.21	Conflict of Interest
4121	Substitute Teachers
4122	Student Teachers/Interns
4123	Classroom Aides (Paraprofessionals)
4132/4232	Publication
4135.4/4235.4	Staff Grievance
4138/4238	NonSchool Employment
4138.2	Private Tutoring
4147/4247	Employee Safety
4148/4248	Employee Protection
4151/4251	Attendance Patterns
4151.1/4251.1	Personal Illness and Injury/Health and Hardship
4211	Recruitment, Selection and Hiring
4215	Supervision
4221	Non-Instructional Substitutes
3517	Electronic Surveillance (Regulation)

Motion by Mr. Herbst
 Seconded by Sim

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 establish the tuition rates per pupil for the 2018-2019 school year:

Integrated Pre-School Program 3 half days per week \$2,650.00

Integrated Pre-School Program 4 half days per week \$3,275.00
2. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2017-2018 as of December 31, 2017. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending December 31, 2017.

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Mr. Busted

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 as substitute nurses for the 2017-2018 School Year:

Janene Ziegler
Karen Roberts
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Flor Quintanar, Part-time Aide, effective on or about February 8, 2018.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Shabnum Qureshi, Part-time Aide, effective on or about February 9, 2018.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Federal/State Family leave of absence for Caitlin Holmes to commence on or about September 4, 2018 through November 27, 2018, to be followed by a Child Care Leave of Absence to commence on or about November 28, 2018 through December 21, 2018.
5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Donna Lindsay to commence on or about May 4, 2018 through June 15, 2018, to be followed by a Federal/State Family leave of absence to commence on or about June 18, 2018 through June 30, 2018.
6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Julie Kim, MA, Step 2* as Leave Replacement Teacher on or about February 26, 2018 through June 30, 2018.
7. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Lindsay Comer, BA, Step 3* as Leave Replacement Teacher on or about February 26, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

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

8. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Jamie Woods for a Family and Child Studies Internship to work up to 30 hours per week from February 8, 2018 to May 4, 2018.

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

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION

1. That the Board of Education approve Westwood Ophthalmology for evaluation purposes for the 2017-2018 school year, not to exceed \$500.00.

Motion by Ms. Brown
Seconded by Mr. Koth

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

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. 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, re-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:

Revised and Updated List of Consultants

H&M Occupational Therapy
Radiant Pearl Yoga LLC
MWTT LLC
Evolve Enterprises
SRP Optimal Learning
Jessica Lazarus
Handle with Care
Burlington County Special Services
Claire L. Geveke
Priority Nursing
West Bergen Mental Health
Cindy Pendergraft (Evaluator)

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Herbst asked when Health and Wellness will meet again.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Mr. Koth to convene into closed session at 9:05 PM.

RECONVENE

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Busted to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 10:05 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator