

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – March 14, 2018

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, Roosevelt School, 711 Summit Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

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

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Herbst read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

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

Mr. Busteed arrived at 7:45 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A moment of silence took place in memory of Vito Acquafredda

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

New Jersey School Performance Reports

Dr. Ben-Dov and Ms. Moran presented to the board the 2016-2017 New Jersey School Performance Reports for the River Edge School District grades PK-6. They reviewed the areas of focus and gave a summary report on the students track for success and how much are students learning for Math and English. An area of focus for one subgroup was Chronic Absenteeism. Dr. Ben-Dov also reviewed the Enrollment and demographic make-up of each school. Ms. Moran discussed English Language Arts/Literacy Assessment Participation, Performance, and Performance Trends as well as Mathematics Assessment Participation, Performance, and Performance Trends. Student Growth, and Absenteeism for both Roosevelt and Cherry Hill Schools were reviewed. They also reviewed the 2016-2017 Performance interventions to improve performance during 2017-2018, and parent resources. All questions asked were answered by Dr. Ben-Dov and Ms. Moran.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov thanked Mr. Stevens and all the custodians for the major cleanup with the snow for the last few weeks. She was thrilled the district was able to have a regular day on March 13th since it was a 12:45 dismissal for the students and half a Professional Day for the teachers.
- Dr. Ben-Dov thanked and complimented Ms. Moran for organizing our Professional Development Day that took place on March 13th. It was a great Professional Development Day using internal expertise. Sessions were conducted by our teachers and administrators. Some of the areas included: mindfulness, flexible seating, STEAM, math, reading, science, mental health, and technology.
- There was a meeting with the Police and staff regarding safety on March 5th. Staff members were able to submit questions prior to the meeting. Dr. Ben-Dov stated that at every administrative meeting there is a security component. She stated that the money for security upgrades can come from three sources: capital reserve for the 2018/2019 school year, allocated money from capital reserve from the 2017/2018 school year that is repurposed, and the governor's budget.
- Dr. Ben-Dov has been approached by many people regarding elections in our buildings. People are concerned about so many strangers walking through our buildings when students are there. She said that over the years we have tried to move the elections out of the schools. She believes we should try again with the Mayor and Council to move the elections out of our school buildings and into a different town facility.
- There will be a meeting for parents, organized by Mrs. Chinigo, with an organization called Moms Demand Action. The meeting will be with River Edge, Oradell, and River Dell parents. The meeting will be held in the River Dell High School. The date is being finalized.
- The River Edge Educational Foundation (REEF) has tried to stay active for as long as possible. They have benefited our students over the years by providing equipment that was needed and stipends for the teachers. However, Dr. Ben-Dov was informed that they do not have enough active members to sustain the organization and it will dissolve at the end of the school year. She asked the board members if they had any ideas to keep REEF alive.
- Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, March 22nd. This change has been made to the revised calendar. Dr. Ben-Dov is hoping for one more change to the calendar which is to give back one snow day at the end of the year.
- There was an HIB Incident to report. It involved three Roosevelt School sixth grade students having conflicts with each other. It was investigated and found not to be HIB related. Consequences were given in accordance with the River Edge Code of Conduct.
- Governor Murphy's address was well received. We expect to know state aid within the next 48 hours. He stated that 94% of schools will see an increase in state aid. He also stated within the next four years he will restore the funding formula for school districts to its entirety.

- There will be a Teacher of the Year selection committee meeting on Wednesday, March 21st, an initial Q-SAC meeting on Tuesday, March 27th and board committee meetings Wednesday, March 28th.

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Henzel reported on the following:

- Mr. Henzel congratulated Scott Moody and his wife on the birth of their baby girl
- Mr. Henzel thanked Mr. Sim for going to Roosevelt School today to speak to the sixth grade students about the upcoming Student Board Meeting
- The Roosevelt School Student Council had their Valentine's Day Dance. The money raised at this dance went to a River Edge family who recently lost their home when a tree destroyed their house.
- This Friday, the fourth grade and Ms. Fox, will hold their first annual Native American Exhibit. Students researched, prepared artifacts, wrote paragraphs, and created slideshows to go along with their specific tribe.
- Tomorrow morning will be our second "Roosevelt Family Meeting." We will recognize about 15 students who put others before themselves. The students will receive a Roosevelt pride pin and certificate.

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- Mrs. Napolitano reminded the board members that the Ethics and Financial Disclosure forms are due to the county before April 30th.
- Mrs. Napolitano went over the amount we have in our banked cap. We have \$249,150 in the 2015-2016 school year and \$5,425 in the 2016-2017 school year. Our total in our banked cap is \$254,575.
- There is no enrollment adjustment this year but there is a healthcare adjustment available. The amount is \$282,971. These funds can be used in all or part.
- There will be a budget presentation and adaptation of the budget at the March 21st board meeting

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- The Sixth Grade Board of Education Meeting will be held at the April 25th meeting

COMMITTEES

No committees reported at this meeting

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of February 27, 2018.

Motion by Ms. Dansky
Seconded by Ms. Brown

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

2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for March 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	February 21, 2018 Fire Drill February 28, 2018 Lockdown
Roosevelt School	February 17, 2018 Lockdown February 21, 2018 Fire Drill

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

4. That the Board of Education affirm the HIB report previously reported at the February 27, 2018 board meeting.

Motion by Mr. Koth
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

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

5. That the Board of Education approve the Revised River Edge Elementary School Calendar for the 2017-2018 school year. (Addendum)

Motion by Mr. Herbst
Seconded by Mr. Sim

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

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None

C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

1. **WHEREAS**, the River Edge Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") advertised for bids for the Partial Roof Replacement Project at Roosevelt Elementary School (hereinafter referred to as the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2018, the Board received 5 bids for the Project; and

WHEREAS, Galia Construction, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Galia") submitted a base bid in the amount of \$150,000, together with Alternate No. 1 in the amount of \$37,000, and Alternative No. 2 in the amount of \$165,000, for a total sum of \$352,000; and

WHEREAS, the bid submitted by Galia is responsive in all material respects and it is the Board's desire to award the contract for the Project to Galia.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. The Board hereby awards the contract for the Project to Galia in a total contract amount of \$352,000.
- B. This award is expressly conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and labor and materials/performance bond as required in the project specifications, together with an AA201-Project Manning Report, an executed A-101-Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor, A-201-General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, as prepared by the Board Attorney, within ten (10) days of the date hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Attorney is hereby directed to draft the agreement with the successful bidder consistent with this Resolution and with the terms contained in the bid documents approved by the Board for the Project. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

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

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

- 1. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending January 31, 2018.

Further, we certify that as of January 31, 2018 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 district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Addendum)

- 2. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2017-2018 as of January 31, 2018. (Addendum)
- 3. That the Board of Education accept the \$140.00 donation from Jennifer Wong-Hernandez for general use at Roosevelt School (Addendum).

Motion by Mr. Busted
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

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 accept, with regret, the retirement of Rosanne Graye, Kindergarten Teacher, effective July 1, 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 – None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** That the River Edge Board of Education desires to enter into Joint Purchasing Agreement and will participate as a full member of the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education for the 2018 - 2019 school year; does hereby accept, adopt and agree to comply with the Region V Bylaws; designates Dr. Tova Ben-Dov, Superintendent, as its representative to Region V; and empowers her to cast all votes and take all other actions necessary to represent its interests in Region V.

The Board further approves the joint bidding and transportation agreements for all River Edge students who are transported through Region V; The Board further approves the joint bidding and/or shared services agreement; including but not limited to student evaluations, student therapies and other student support services; The Board further approves the joint bidding and/or shared services for non-public school services; and The Board further approves the joint bidding and/or shared services for other services as requested to be provided by Region V component districts on as needed basis.

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Herbst to convene into closed session at 8:55 PM.

RECONVENE

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Busteed to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:31PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator