

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – March 22, 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, Cherry Hill School, 410 Bogert Road, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Brown read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

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

Mr. Koth arrived at 7:35 PM
Mr. Busteed arrived at 7:45 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

2018-2019 Budget Presentation – Dr. Tova Ben-Dov and Mrs. Napolitano

Mrs. Napolitano and Dr. Ben-Dov presented the 2018-2019 budget updates from the February board meeting. Mrs. Napolitano spoke about the Revenue Projection, state aid, and the six scenarios of the Proposed Budget. Mrs. Napolitano and Dr. Ben-Dov offered the board members two additional scenarios for the budget which allows for more accommodations. It was stated that the Public Hearing will be on May 2nd. Mrs. Napolitano and Dr. Ben-Dov answered all questions the board had on the budget.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov thanked the custodians for the snow cleanup yesterday and for the cleanup today which allowed us to have a delayed opening. There are a few things that need to be re-scheduled with parent teacher conferences being one of them. A memo was sent to parents today stating that parents who had conferences planned today between 3:00 and 4:00 PM will be contacted to keep them as scheduled. For parents who had conferences planned for today between 1:30 and 3:00 PM they will be contacted by the teachers in the very near future to be rescheduled.
- Our first initial Q-SAC committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 27th. Ms. Dansky will represent the board and will attend that meeting. Our local County educational specialists told us what needs to be done to be in compliance. The state will start training in July for the new Q-SAC process. We will start right away, with our sub-committees, to accomplish what we need to do to be ready for monitoring next year.
- The Teacher of the Year selection committee meeting was rescheduled for Wednesday, March 28th, at 3:00 PM
- Both schools had their Family Math Night Carnivals. Roosevelt School held theirs on March 20th and Cherry Hill had theirs tonight. Dr. Ben-Dov said it was very rewarding to see these events.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Mr. Freedman, River Dell Middle School Principal, and guidance counselors visited the sixth graders to speak about transitioning to Middle School
- There was a parent orientation for the sixth grade parents at River Dell Middle School on Thursday, March 8th
- A Fire Safety presentation from Firefighter Phil was presented to our primary grades at Cherry Hill School on March 13th
- We had a PI Digit contest on Wednesday, March 14th. We had a third grader memorize a record breaking number of up to 811 digits!
- Mrs. Heitman thanked Mr. Sim for going to Cherry Hill School to speak to the sixth grade students about the upcoming Student Board Meeting
- Family Math Carnival Night is tonight at Cherry Hill School. Roosevelt School had a very successful Family Night Carnival Night on Tuesday, March 20th.
- There will be a benefit International concert at Roosevelt School on Monday, March 26th to benefit music in our schools. The proceeds will go to the music departments in both schools.
- The Odyssey of the Mind competition was last Saturday. They made improvements from last year and were able to have a score in every category.
- The Cherry Hill fourth graders skyped with Denali, Alaska in the Project Room on Thursday, March 1st

- We are working on having the PARCC infrastructure trial at the end of March
- We are getting ready for a lot of fun events to take place in the month of April

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- Mrs. Napolitano reminded the board members that the Public Hearing for the 2018-2019 budget will be on May 2nd.

PRESIDENT

- Mrs. Myers thanked Stan Stevens, the custodians, the DPW, Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, and all of the staff for the great clean-up of the snow removal this winter and for having a lot of patience during these storms.

COMMITTEES

No Committees reported at this meeting

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

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

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Roosevelt	4	Museum Village Monroe, NY	\$847.00

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

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None

C. BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. **Motion to approve the purchase of natural gas services through the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services “ACES” Bid - Cooperative Pricing System ID#E8801-ACESCPS.**

WHEREAS, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as “ACES”), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as “NJSBA”), the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the Effective Period as defined below solicit bids from natural gas suppliers for retail natural gas supply services including interstate transportation to the local natural gas distribution utility company (Natural Gas Supply Services) through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the “Public School Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 *et seq.*, and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 *et seq.* (“EDECA”) and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the River Edge School District is a Participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain natural gas services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to natural gas suppliers following said bids for natural gas services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through May, 2023, hereinafter referred to as "Effective Period") issue one or more Requests for Bids for natural gas services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

WHEREAS, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale natural gas market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Natural Gas Supply Service in each service territory to one or more natural gas suppliers that submits bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous natural gas usage and utility provided Basic Gas Supply Service rates; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said Natural Gas Supply Services to natural gas suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic gas supply service; and

WHEREAS, the District agrees to purchase all Natural Gas Supply Services for its own use during the Effective Period through any natural gas supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall be subject to the provisions of Public School Contracts Law; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs' Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for natural gas supply services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids.

NOW, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System ##E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all natural gas supply services needed for its own use during the Effective Period from the natural gas supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for natural Gas supply services by the Lead Agency; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase natural gas at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the districts relative to the price charged for basic gas supply service by the natural gas public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain natural gas services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.) shall be valid until May, 2023 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

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

2. Motion to approve the purchase of electric generation services through the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services “ACES” Bid - Cooperative Pricing System ID#E8801-ACESCPS.

WHEREAS, the Alliance For Competitive Energy Services (hereinafter referred to as “ACES”), an alliance composed of the New Jersey School Boards Association (hereinafter referred to as “NJSBA”), the New Jersey Association of School Administrators, and the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials, will from time to time during the Effective Period as defined below solicit bids from electric power suppliers for electric generation services through an energy aggregation program in which NJSBA will act as Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS in accordance with the “Public School Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 *et seq.*, and the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 *et seq.* (“EDECA”) and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the River Edge School District is a Participating member of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System and is eligible thereby to obtain electric generation services for its own use through one or more contracts to be awarded to electric power suppliers following said bids for electric generation services pursuant to the aggregation program; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will from time to time during the Effective Period (from date of adoption through May, 2023 hereinafter referred to as “Effective Period”) issue one or more Requests for Bids for electric generation services on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System pursuant to the Public School Contracts Law and EDECA; and

WHEREAS, due to significant volatility and the potential for price increases in the wholesale electric market, Participating Members will preauthorize the Lead Agency to award contracts for Electric Generation Service in each service territory to one or more electric power suppliers that submit bids which are reasonably forecasted to provide estimated savings to the Participating Member based upon its previous electric usage and utility provided Basic Generation Service rates; and

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will only award contracts for said electric generation services to electric power suppliers that submit bids with pricing reasonably estimated to be lower than the utility-provided basic generation service; and

WHEREAS, the District agrees to purchase all electric power needed for its own use (exclusive of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period through any electric power supplier(s) awarded a contract, it being understood that the term of any one contract shall be subject to the provisions of Public School Contracts Law;

WHEREAS, the Lead Agency will notify the Department of Community Affairs' Division of Local Government Services by mail prior to the issuance a Request for Bids for electric generation services, with the understanding that if the Division of Local Government Services does not respond within 10 business days, it will be deemed to have approved the issuance of the Request for Bids or the Request for Rebids.

NOW, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the District binds itself to the ACES Cooperative Pricing System ##E8801-ACESCPS to purchase all electric power needed for its own use (exclusive of on-site electric generation sources) during the Effective Period from the electric power supplier or suppliers awarded a contract for electric generation services by the Lead Agency; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lead Agency of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System is hereby authorized to execute a master performance agreement that obligates the district to purchase electricity at the terms and conditions stated therein with a third-party supplier or suppliers who have been awarded the contract or contracts by the Lead Agency on behalf of the participating members of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System #E8801-ACESCPS (or any CPS number to be assigned in the future), and provided further that all such contracts shall be at prices reasonably forecast and estimated by the Lead Agency to provide savings to the Districts relative to the price charged for basic generation service by the electric public utility that would otherwise provide such service; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that ACES is authorized to continue to bid to obtain electric generation services at any time during the Effective Period on behalf of the ACES Cooperative Pricing System including, for example, a rebid if energy market conditions do not initially lead to a successful bid, on additional dates to be determined by the Lead Agency; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage. The authorization provided to the NJSBA pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Laws (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5)), and the Local Public and Public School Contracts Laws Administrative Code (N.J.A.C. 5:34-7.1 et seq.) shall be valid until May, 2023 (the Effective Period) at which time the Cooperative Pricing System will be subject to renewal. Any rescission or expiration of this resolution shall not affect any Agreements entered into prior to such rescission or expiration.

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

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

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated March 2018 totaling \$494,030.24 including checks #40828 through #40907. Payrolls dated February 15, 2018 and February 28, 2018, totaling \$1,147,366.17 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education request the approval of a Maintenance Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$5,182.00 to 11-000-261-420-10-96 in order to complete the sewer repairs to the Cherry Hill Elementary School as set forth in the district using the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan.

Motion by Mr. Herbst
Seconded by Mr. Sim

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

3. That the Board of Education tentatively adopt the 2018-2019 School Year Budget for submission to the Executive County Superintendent as follows:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
Total General Fund	\$18,401,630	\$15,741,844
Total Special Revenue Fund	\$1,027,959	N/A
Total Debt Service	\$1,412,800	\$1,200,358
Total	\$20,742,389	

Be It Resolved, that the River Edge Board of Education include in the proposed budget an adjustment in the amount of \$282,971 for increases in healthcare costs.

Be It Further Resolved, to approve the use of Banked Cap in the amount of \$50,000 for the 2018-2019 school year for the purpose of purchasing STEAM equipment and services, which must be completed by the end of the 2018-2019 budget year and cannot be deferred in accordance with NJSA 18A:7F-39 and NJAC 6A:23A-10.3 (b), and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board of Education requests the approval of a Capital Reserve Withdrawal in the amount of \$452,000. The District intends to utilize \$352,000 for the Roof Replacement at Roosevelt Elementary School. The District intends to utilize \$100,000 for Security Upgrades at Roosevelt School, Cherry Hill School, and New Bridge Center.

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Mr. Busted

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

4. **WHEREAS**, River Edge School District Policy and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2 (b) provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement for 2018-2019 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the River Edge Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum for the 2018-2019 school year at an amount not to exceed \$35,000.

Motion by Mr. Busted
Seconded by Ms. 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 approve the following teachers for the Cycle IV of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2017-2018 School Year at the REBOE/REEA CBA hourly rate:

Cherry Hill

Debbie Auriemma
Kristen Corcoran
Noy Frasciello
Katie O'Reilly
*Andrea Siclari

Roosevelt

Kate Langan
Nevin Werner
*Cassandra McGovern

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Family/Child Care Leave of Absence for Laura Lombardi for the 2018-2019 school year.
3. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Jennifer Novegrad, Part-time Aide, effective March 14, 2018.

Motion by Ms. Dansky
 Seconded by Ms. Brown

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Mr. Busteded, 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 March 2018 totaling \$1,109,908.16 including checks #69761 through #69935.
2. That the Board of Education approve the following bid results from the March 1, 2018 bid.

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
2547	Hernandez Medical Transport	\$195.00
2548	Destiny 23	\$197.00
2550	Destiny 23	\$132.00
2551	Alpha Care	\$170.00
2552	Prime Transportation	\$138.00
2553	Destiny 23	\$197.00
2554	We Care School Trans	\$129.00
2555	8 Transportation	\$128.00
2556	We Care School Trans	\$151.00
2557	Town & Country	\$215.90
2559	Prime Transportation	\$250.00
2560	We Care School Trans	\$138.00
2561	Town & Country	\$236.90
2562	Hernandez Medical Transport	\$155.00
2563	Alpha Care	\$225.00
2564	John Leckie Inc.	\$242.96
2565	Destiny 23	\$122.00
2566	Destiny 23	\$172.00
2567	Time Line	\$290.00
2568	Destiny 23	\$82.00
2569	Destiny 23	\$172.00

3. That the Board of Education approve the following transportation companies that are new to Region V.

Madison Invalid Coach, Inc.
 Prime Transportation LLC
 Time Line Transportation

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky welcomed a new granddaughter on March 17th.

Ms. Dansky stated there will be a Second Chance Toys Collection on Saturday, April 21st at the Cherry Hill School parking lot.

Mr. Sim stated there will be a Bergen County School Boards Meeting on Thursday, March 29th at Maggiano's Restaurant in Hackensack.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Christine O'Keefe, River Edge Teacher, asked questions about the budget, increase in the state aid, and areas of possible cuts in the budget.

Mr. Krikelis, River Edge Parent, asked about the benefits increase and additional revenue sources, grants, donations, etc.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Koth, seconded by Mr. Busteed to convene into closed session at 9:43 PM.

RECONVENE

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

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator