

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – April 25, 2018 – 7:30 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers) called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky) read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown); Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted); Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky); Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst); James Chen (Mr. Koth) Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers); Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim). Also present were: Heehyun Kwen (Dr. Ben-Dov), Jenna Ziegler (Mrs. Napolitano), Grace Gebhardt (Mrs. Heitman), Marguerite Danahy (Mr. Henzel), Ashley Chang (Mrs. Rosen), Logan Foster (Mr. Stevens), and approximately 65 members of the public.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Jenna Ziegler (Mrs. Napolitano) read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

STUDENT BOARD MEETING

6th Grade Students from Roosevelt and Cherry Hill Schools will serve as Trustees and Administrators

Student Board Members

Melinda Mo.....Paris Myers	Heehyun Kwen.....Tova Ben-Dov
Shea Kepple.....Gyuchang Sim	Jenna Ziegler..... Louise Napolitano
Hannah Clancy.....Sheli Dansky	Grace Gebhardt.....Denise Heitman
Melissa Yee.....Colin Busted	Marguerite Danahy.....Michael Henzel
Matthew Cardentey.....Elizabeth Brown	Ashley Chang.....Beth Rosen
James Chen.....Michael Koth	Logan Foster.....Stan Stevens
Jack Silane.....Caleb Herbst	

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Students' Responsibility to Improve Safety in our Schools

Heehyun Kwen (Dr. Ben-Dov) spoke about Students' Responsibility to Improve Safety in our Schools. She stated that we are constantly hearing in the news about unfortunate situations when shootings take place in schools. We said we know our school administration is doing a lot to improve safety in River Edge Schools. The Board of Education, principals, and teachers are doing everything they can to make sure we are safe but students have responsibilities too. She then asked what is the responsibility students have to improve safety in our schools? Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers), Marguerite Danahy (Mr. Henzel), Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Logan Foster (Mr. Stevens), Grace Gebhardt (Mrs. Heitman), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), Ashley Chang (Mrs. Rosen), and Heehyun Kwen (Dr. Ben-Dov) offered some ideas to the group discussion.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Heehyun Kwen (Dr. Ben-Dov) reported on the following:
(See Addendum A)

CHERRY HILL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Grace Gebhardt (Mrs. Heitman) reported on the following:
(See Addendum B)

ROOSEVELT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Marguerite Danahy (Mr. Henzel) reported on the following:
(See Addendum C)

NEW BRIDGE CENTER ASST. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ashley Chang (Mrs. Rosen) reported on the following:
(See Addendum D)

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jenna Ziegler (Mrs. Napolitano) reported on the following:
(See Addendum E)

BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT

Logan Foster (Mr. Stevens) reported on the following:
(See Addendum F)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers) reported on the following:
(See Addendum G)

COMMITTEES' REPORTS

No Committee Reports at this Meeting

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of April 11, 2018.

Motion by Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky)
Seconded by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

2. That the Board of Education approve the Confidential Minutes of April 11, 2018.

Motion by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)
Seconded by James Chen (Mr. Koth)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

3. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for April 2018 including relevant mileage reimbursement.

Motion by James Chen (Mr. Koth)
Seconded by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

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

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill & Roosevelt	Symphonic Band Members	Mahwah High School Mahwah, NJ	\$105.00

Motion by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst)
Seconded by Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

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

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill	5th&6th Artistically Talented	American Folk Art Museum New York, NY	\$180.00

Motion by Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim)
Seconded by Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky),
Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
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 April 2018 totaling \$605,883.85 including checks #40908 through #40987 (Addendum).

Motion by Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted)
Seconded by Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky),
Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

2. Payrolls dated March 15, 2018 and March 29, 2018, totaling \$1,144,930.33, issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as part of these minutes (Addendum).

Motion by Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky)
Seconded by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky),
Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

3. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2017-2018 as of February 28, 2018 (Addendum).

Motion by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)
Seconded by James Chen (Mr. Koth)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky),
Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

4. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending February 28, 2018 (Addendum).

Further, we certify that as of February 28, 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 districts financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Motion by James Chen (Mr. Koth)
Seconded by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky),
Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Lisa Minasian, BA, Step 3 as Leave Replacement Teacher on or about April 26, 2018 through June 30, 2018.

Motion by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst)
Seconded by Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Jacqueline Perry, Part-time Aide, starting on or about April 26, 2018.

Motion by Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim)
Seconded by Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

3. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Lauren Guida, Teacher, effective April 16, 2018.

Motion by Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted)
Seconded by Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

4. That the Board of Education approve \$3,500 compensation for Chris Armen, as Director of the 2018 summer enrichment Program.

Motion by Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky),
Seconded by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

5. That the Board of Education approve June Karpowich, Clerical Assistant, at a stipend of \$1,250 for the Summer Enrichment 2018 Program.

Motion by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)
Seconded by James Chen (Mr. Koth)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busted), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

6. That the Board of Education approve the Summer Enrichment Program teacher hourly rate to be \$33.00 for Summer 2018.

Motion by James Chen (Mr. Koth)
Seconded by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)

Nays: None

7. That the Board of Education approve the 2018 Summer Enrichment Program with a tuition rate of \$75.00 per enrichment class.

Motion by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst)
Seconded by Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)

Nays: None

8. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as Student Teachers (180 hours during the fall and 550 hours in the spring), to commence on September 10, 2018 through May 3, 2019.

Nicole Chagachbanian
Natalia Sampedro

Motion by Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim)
Seconded by Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)

Nays: None

9. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as a Substitute Teachers for the 2018-2019 School Year.

Nicole Chagachbanian
Natalia Sampedro

Motion by Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed)
Seconded by Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)

Nays: None

10. That the Board of Education authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to hire the following summer custodial helpers to commence on July 2, 2018 through August 10, 2018 for a maximum of 40 hours per week.

Kevin Brady	\$9.50/hr.
Faith D'Ulisse	\$9.25/hr.
Kevin Monahan	\$10.00/hr.
Matt Moroney	\$9.50/hr.
Dylan Shirk	\$9.50/hr.

Motion by Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky)
Seconded by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION

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

Motion by Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown)
Seconded by James Chen (Mr. Koth)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated April 2018 totaling \$1,034,752.88 including checks #69936 through #70164 (Addendum).

Motion by James Chen (Mr. Koth)
Seconded by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst)

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst) asked if the black top at Roosevelt School can be re-paved.
- Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers) and Marguerite Danahy (Mr. Henzel) spoke about our wonderful C.R.E.A.T.E program at River Edge and asked about the gender inequality within the program at Roosevelt School. Heehyun Kwen (Dr. Ben-Dov) shared a very different gender distribution for Roosevelt School and for Cherry Hill School but also promised to analyze deeply with Ms. Hafers over the summer.
- Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst) asked why cursive writing is not in our curriculum. Grace Gebhardt (Mrs. Heitman) answered his question.
- Marguerite Danahy (Mr. Henzel) wished Ms. Lauren Guida all the best.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- Mark Drapkin (River Edge Parent) asked if we can incorporate the Gun Safe Program into our curriculum.
- Dr. Ben-Dov thanked the sixth graders for a fantastic job with this Board Meeting. She told them she was very proud of them. She explained the selection process of picking the students. She then reported the students met with their designated board member or school administrator to discuss their role, their responsibilities, and items on the agenda. She asked the students what was the most difficult part of what you did tonight. A few students answered her question.

Motion by Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst) Seconded by Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim) to recess the Regular Meeting for a reception at 8:40 PM.

Ayes: Matthew Cardentey (Ms. Brown), Melissa Yee (Mr. Busteed), Hannah Clancy (Ms. Dansky), Jack Silane (Mr. Herbst), James Chen (Mr. Koth), Shea Kepple (Mr. Sim), Melinda Mo (Mrs. Myers)
Nays: None

RECONVENE

Reconvene the regular public meeting at 8:57 PM and the policy regarding the voting on the budget was discussed.

The budget was discussed including the various scenarios and fulfilling our district goals. The board agreed to use the full health waiver but not use the banked cap and the budget will be presented and decided at the public hearing on May 2nd.

Bruce Julien, River Edge Parent, was happy to hear that the board is struggling with these hard budget decisions. He said that we need to use the full health care waiver and provide collaborative teaching for our Special Education students.

Sharon Valcarcel, River Edge Parent, asked for an explanation of the scenarios with health care waiver and banked cap. She said if we don't do it this year we will end up with higher special education numbers next year.

Ken Neben, River Edge Parent, spoke about his experience and his child's experience and the need for additional support.

Paul Lee, River Edge Parent, stated he recently moved to River Edge for the school district even though the taxes are high. He said that families will leave town after children leave home if taxes keep being raised.

Mr. Koth said value is added to your home because of the good school system.

Ms. Dansky said we all care about your children and have sincere respect for each other and all of you.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Mr. Herbst to convene into closed session at 10:00 PM.

RECONVENE

Motion made by Ms. Dansky, seconded by Mr. Koth to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 10:18 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Jenna Ziegler (Louise Napolitano)
Board Secretary/Business Administrator