

# RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

*"Building Bright Futures Together"*

## Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – November 28, 2018

**7:30 PM**

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 7:43 PM.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Mr. Koth read the Mission Statement.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

### **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

### **SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Public Comment on Agenda Items** – None

**Summer Enrichment Program Report** - Chris Armen

Chris Armen, the Director of the program, thanked the Board of Education, Ms. Karpowich, the secretaries, Mr. Stevens and the custodians, volunteers, students and their families, Corinne Gubb, who did a volunteer internship, and the teachers that contributed to the success of this program. This was Mr. Armen's fourteenth year of directing this program. He reviewed the enrollment, financial data and gave some recommendations for next year's success.

### **REPORTS**

#### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Interviews and demos have taken place to fill the positions of our mid-year leaves. We will continue to interview and have demo lessons for a few other positions we need to fill.
- Dr. Ben-Dov reported on our bus drills. Bus drills were conducted for all students. Building Bridges/Building Connections students used our district bus for the drills on October 25<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>. Students that take field trips used a bus that we hired and all students were part of these drills. Roosevelt School conducted the drills on November 7<sup>th</sup> and Cherry Hill conducted the drills on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

- QSAC work continues. There is a resolution on tonight's agenda to approve the District Performance Review. Dr. Ben-Dov explained what this was to the board members.
- Budget discussions have started. Dr. Ben-Dov and the Administrators are taking about the bare bones and the wish lists for the district.
- There is an HIB Incident to report. A complaint was made by a Roosevelt School parent that involved two boys. One student is a fourth grader and the other student is a fifth grader. The incident happened at the Monster Mash Party. It involved kicking and spitting. It was investigated and found not to be an HIB Incident. Consequences were given in accordance with the River Edge Code of Conduct. The River Edge Police are aware of this incident because the parents of the accused filed a complaint. The Police met with Mr. Henzel and will continue to communicate on this incident.
- There was a Parent Academy on Mindfulness on the evening of November 26<sup>th</sup>. It was decently attended. Ms. Christine Moran gave the presentation along with Ms. Kayla Moran on Flexible Seating, Ms. Wendy Naimaister on Brain Breaks and Relaxation Techniques, and Ms. Kristen Lauber, from CarePlus, on Stress and Childhood Anxiety, What Can Parents Do? Parental feedback was positive.
- There was an ESL meeting this afternoon. The staff met with ESL parents in hopes of learning what can we do better on how to improve any help we can give to ESL families.
- Legislators/elected officials are coming to our district for a visit on December 12<sup>th</sup>. We will take them on a tour of our buildings and let them know of our concerns. Dr. Ben-Dov stated she is looking forward to their visit.

## **PRINCIPAL**

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- We had our first delayed opening and it ran very smooth. I would like to thank the custodians for a great job with cleaning the snow.
- Parent/teacher conferences were well attended at both Cherry Hill School and New Bridge Center. They were held on November 19<sup>th</sup> and November 20<sup>th</sup>.
- On December 3rd, Mrs. Dent and her Music Club will sing for the Senior Center at Temple Avodat Shalom in River Edge.
- Today was our last session for our Post Dismissal Academy for English Language Arts. Our next cycle will begin on December 5<sup>th</sup> for eight sessions in Math.
- The students started shopping at our Holiday Shop that is sponsored by the PTO. The students are very excited for this.
- Report cards will be ready on the Parent Portal on December 10<sup>th</sup> for marking period one
- The plans are coming together for the holiday concert
- The phones are up and running in all of the classrooms. The teachers really appreciate this.

## **BOARD SECRETARY**

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- The phones are set up in the classrooms. They have outside lines to dial the main office, other classrooms, and 911. One issue we are experiencing is the connection with the Roosevelt School data line that goes between both schools. This is being rectified quickly and may be our internet provider issue.
- There is a motion on tonight's agenda to approve a tuition agreement for a student who moved out of district before the Thanksgiving break.
- Mrs. Napolitano thanked the town for their help with the snow removal on November 16th

## **PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers attended a Drug Alliance Meeting on Monday evening. The meeting was a positive one.
- Mrs. Myers has reached out to the Mayor at least six times regarding the Interlocal Agreement and she has not received a response back. She may reach out to Mr. Dario Chinigo, the liaison for the River Edge Board of Education, in hopes of getting an answer.

## **COMMITTEES**

- Ms. Dansky spoke about the Bergen County Meeting she attended. They spoke about Student Mindfulness and gave a legislative update.

## **MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON**

### **A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of November 14, 2018.

Motion by Ms. Dansky  
Seconded by Ms. Brown

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

2. That the Board of Education approve the 2019 Board of Education Meeting Dates as follows:

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>School</u></b>
January 7, 2019 (Monday) January 23, 2019	Roosevelt School (Re-Organization Meeting) Cherry Hill School
February 6, 2019 February 27, 2019	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School
March 13, 2019 March 27, 2019	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School (Tentative Budget Adoption)
April 10, 2019 April 24, 2019	Roosevelt School Cherry Hill School (Public Hearing for Budget)

May 8, 2019  
May 22, 2019

Roosevelt School  
Cherry Hill School

June 12, 2019  
June 26, 2019

Roosevelt School  
Cherry Hill School

3. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policies:

<b>Policy #</b>	<b>Title</b>
1120	Board of Education Meetings
2130	Principal Evaluation
2130	Principal Evaluation Regulation
3320	Purchasing Procedures
4111	Recruitment, Selection and Hiring - Certificated Staff
4119.22	Conduct and Dress
4119.26	Electronic Communication by School Staff
4131/4131.1	Staff Development, Inservice Education, Visitation, Conferences
4231/4231.1	Staff Development, Inservice Education, Visitation, Conferences (Support Staff)
5141.8	Sports Related Concussions and Head Injury
6142.4	Physical Education and Health
6142.6	Academic Support
6142.9	Arts
6142.13	HIV Prevention Education
6143	Curriculum Guides
6143.1	Lesson Plans
6144	Controversial Issues
6145.3	Publications
6147.1	Evaluation of Individual Student Performance
6164.2	Guidance Services
1313	Gifts to School Personnel

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

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill	6	River Edge Swim Club River Edge, NJ	\$0
Roosevelt	6	River Edge Swim Club River Edge, NJ	\$0
Roosevelt	1	Turtle Back Zoo West Orange, NJ	\$672.00
Roosevelt	1	Memorial Park River Edge, NJ	\$0
Cherry Hill	4	Museum Village Monroe, NY	\$1,464.00
Roosevelt	4	Museum Village Monroe, NY	\$1,092.00
Cherry Hill	2	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$1,670.50
Cherry Hill	6	River Dell HS Oradell, NJ	\$0

5. That the Board of Education approve the following bus evacuation drills for Cherry Hill School:

Class	Date	Time
Grade K	November 19, 2018	8:45 AM
Grade K	November 19, 2018	9:00 AM
Grade K	November 19, 2018	9:15 AM
Grade 1	November 19, 2018	9:15 AM
Grade 1	November 19, 2018	9:30 AM
Grade 1	November 19, 2018	9:45 AM
Grade 2	November 19, 2018	10:00 AM
Grade 2	November 19, 2018	10:15 AM
Grade 2	November 19, 2018	10:30 AM
Grade 3	November 19, 2018	10:30 AM
Grade 3	November 19, 2018	10:45 AM
Grade 3	November 19, 2018	11:00 AM
Grade 4	November 19, 2018	11:00 AM
Grade 4	November 19, 2018	11:15 AM
Grade 4	November 19, 2018	11:30 AM
Grade 5	November 19, 2018	11:45 AM
Grade 5	November 19, 2018	12:00 PM
Grade 6	November 19, 2018	12:15 PM
Grade 6	November 19, 2018	12:30 PM

6. **WHEREAS**, the River Edge Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, is undergoing evaluation under NJQSAC for the 2018-2019 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.A.C. 6A:30-3.2(f) requires participating school districts to hold a public meeting to approve the submission of the district's DPR responses with respect to this process; and

**WHEREAS**, the River Edge Board of Education, in the County of Bergen, have reviewed the districts DPR responses and hereby approves these documents; now

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the River Edge Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to submit the attached DPRs to the Commissioner of Education in compliance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 6A:30-3.2(f).

7. That the Board of Education approve, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the Stronge Model to be used as the District Evaluation Rubrics for Teachers, Principals, and other Certified Staff for the 2018-2019 school year.

Motion by Ms. Brown  
Seconded by Mr. Koth

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

## **B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION**

1. That the Board of Education approve the following updated Curricula:

- ELA - Reading K-6
- ELA - Writing K-6
- Math K-6
- Science K-6
- Social Studies K-6
- World Language K-6
- Physical Education K-6
- Health & Wellness K-6
- Visual & Performing Arts - Music K-6
- Visual & Performing Arts - Art K-6
- Visual & Performing Arts - Dance K-6
- Visual & Performing Arts - Theatre K-6

2. That the Board of Education approve the appropriation of 2018-2019 increased state aid in the amount of \$7,175 to 9-11-000-221-104 Curriculum Work-Salaries

Motion by Mr. Koth  
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

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

## **C. BUILDING & GROUNDS** - None

**D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS**

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated November 2018 totaling \$671,044.06 including checks #41611 through #41726. Payrolls dated October 15, 2018 and October 31, 2018, totaling \$1,157,987.49 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list are attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2018-2019 as of September 30, 2018 and October 31, 2018. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending September 30, 2018 and October 31, 2018.

Further, we certify that as of September 30, 2018 and October 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 over expended 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. (Addendum)

4. That the Board of Education approve the Summer Enrichment Program Report for the 2018 Summer Program.
5. That the Board of Education accept the \$140.00 donation from Jennifer Wong Hernandez for general use at Roosevelt School (Addendum).
6. That the Board of Education approve the agreement for payment of tuition for a student that became a nonresident student during the existing school year.

Motion by Mr. Herbst  
Seconded by Mr. Sim

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

**E. PERSONNEL**

1. That the Board of Education approve the following teachers for Cycle II of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2018-2019 School Year, as per contract:

**Roosevelt**

Cassandra McGovern  
Alexandra McNeil  
Lauren Proda  
Courtney Sweet

**Cherry Hill**

Gabrielle Dalmar  
Andrea Siclari  
Kristen Corcoran  
Noy Frasciello  
Maribel Torres  
Katherine O'Reilly

2. That the Board of Education approve that the following people will staff the Wellness Committee for the 2018-2019 School Year:

Kristin Karam	Wendy Naimaister
Tara Malkowski	Leah Taylor
Janel Blake	Greg Kupchak
Andrea Friedlander	Rosemary Kuruc
Denise Heitman	Christine Moran
Michael Henzel	Tara Vernieri
Beth Rosen	Kelly McCabe
Sabrina Johnston	Eva Visperas

3. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Briana Rizzi, Part-time Teacher, effective November 29, 2018.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Grace Behrens, Leave Replacement Teacher, MA, Step 1, effective on December 6, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

Motion by Mr. Sim  
Seconded by Mr. Busted

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mrs. Myers, 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 November 2018 totaling \$1,180,097.03 including checks #71058 through #71190.
2. That the Board of Education approve RC Prime Transportation, LLC as a new transporter.
3. That the Board of Education approve the correction in name for a Occupational Therapist from LRG Corp to LRG7 Corp.

Motion by Mr. Busted  
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

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

#### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS-**

Ms. Brown asked about feedback on report cards. Dr. Ben-Dov explained that surveys regarding the report card workshops were all positive and all verbal feedback since has been positive from staff and parents. Following the opening of the Parent Portal on December 10<sup>th</sup> it will be assessed whether the timing of conferences prior to report cards was useful. This will inform us for next year's calendar.

Ms. O'Keefe, River Edge Teacher, also commented that the standards are very specific and she has not had any parental complaints.

Mr. Sim asked about the school bus certification and safety checks and discussed the procedures for both.



Mr. Sim asked about our sexual abuse training and on-line training classes and how they are monitored. The district uses Safeschools which is assigned and must be completed through a testing process to get a certificate.

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Mrs. Heitman thanked Mr. Busteed and Mr. Koth for serving on the River Edge Board of Education.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Herbst, seconded by Mr. Sim to adjourn the regular public meeting at 8:54PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano  
Board Secretary/Business Administrator