

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – April 10, 2019 – 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

Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst) called the meeting to order at 7:28 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky) read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown); Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky); Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle); Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst); Ria Gulati; Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers); Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim). Also present were: Sarvesvaran Vivekanandan (Dr. Ben-Dov), Alessia Tartari (Mrs. Napolitano), Ashish Panicker (Mrs. Heitman), Nelle Madej (Mr. Henzel), Bria Kim (Mrs. Rosen), Abigail Burns (Mr. Stevens), and approximately 45 members of the public.

Ms. Kang was absent

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Alessia Tartari (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

Amy Usatine.....Caleb Herbst	Sarvesvaran Vivekanandan ...Tova Ben-Dov
Sara Jung.....Sheli Dansky	Alessia Tartari Louise Napolitano
Daksh Aggarwal.....Paris Myers	Ashish PanickerDenise Heitman
Michael Andriano.....Gyuchang Sim	Nelle Madej.....Michael Henzel
Brendan Miceli.....Elizabeth Brown	Bria KimBeth Rosen
Isabella Formoso.....Adrienne Doyle	Abigail Burns.....Stan Stevens
Ria Gulati.....Eun Kang	

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

What is the positive and negative impact of social media and how can schools help students understand how to use it?

Sarvesvaran Vivekanandan (Dr. Ben-Dov) spoke about the positive and negative impact of social media to the board. He presented his social media survey that he took. The survey was designed to see if social media is good or bad. He then asked the other members of the board how can schools help students understand how to use it? Ashish Panicker (Mrs. Heitman), Nelle Madej (Mr. Henzel), Sarvesvaran Vivekanandan (Dr. Ben-Dov), Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst), Ria Gulati (Ms. Kang), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), offered some ideas to the group discussion.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Sarvesvaran Vivekanandan (Dr. Ben-Dov) reported on the following:
(See Addendum A)

CHERRY HILL SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Ashish Panicker (Mrs. Heitman) reported on the following:
(See Addendum B)

ROOSEVELT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Nelle Madej (Mr. Henzel) reported on the following:
(See Addendum C)

NEW BRIDGE CENTER ASST. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Bria Kim (Mrs. Rosen) reported on the following:
(See Addendum D)

BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT

Alessia Tartari (Mrs. Napolitano) reported on the following:
(See Addendum E)

BUILDING AND GROUNDS REPORT

Abigail Burns (Mr. Stevens) reported on the following:
(See Addendum F)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst) reported on the following:
(See Addendum G)

COMMITTEES' REPORTS

Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky) spoke about the Pennsylvania Convention Center Workshop she attended in March.

Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim) spoke about the Pennsylvania Convention Center Workshop he attended in March.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

- 1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of March 27, 2019.

Motion by Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown)
Seconded by Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle)

Ayes: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky), Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), Ria Gulati, Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst)

Nays: None

- 2. That the Board of Education approve the completion of the following emergency drills:

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	March 13, 2019 Evacuation Drill March 25, 2019 Fire Drill
Roosevelt School	March 15, 2019 Shelter in Place March 29, 2019 Fire Drill

Motion by Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle)
Seconded by Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers)

Ayes: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky), Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), Ria Gulati, Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst)

Nays: None

- 3. That the Board of Education affirm the HIB reports previously reported at the March 27, 2019 Board Meeting.

Motion by Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers)
Seconded by Ria Gulati

Ayes: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky), Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), Ria Gulati, Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst)

Nays: None

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None

C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

1. That the Board of Education approve for dual use of room 103 in the Roosevelt School for the 2018-2019 school year.

Motion by Ria Gulati

Seconded by Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky)

Ayes: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky), Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), Ria Gulati, Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst)

Nays: None

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. **WHEREAS** the River Edge Board of Education has requested and received a detailed proposal for the replacement of multifunctional copiers; and

WHEREAS the River Edge Board of Education has selected to lease ten (10) new Canon digital copiers from United Business Systems (UBS) under NJ State Contract 40462.

RESOLVED that the River Edge Board of Education approve the lease agreement with Municipal Canon Financial.

Lease terms: \$1,498.00 per month for 60 months

Motion by Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky)

Seconded by Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim)

Ayes: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky), Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), Ria Gulati, Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst)

Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Angela Xhakolli student Field Experience to consist of 20 hours of varied elementary classroom exposure to commence on or about April 11, 2019 through May 31, 2019.

Motion by Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim)

Seconded by Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown)

Ayes: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky), Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), Ria Gulati, Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst)

Nays: None

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the following Renewal Contracts for the 2018-2019 school year:

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
2030	Destiny 23	\$158.09
2418	Destiny 23	\$215.20

Motion by Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown)
Seconded by Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle)

Ayes: Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown), Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky), Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), Ria Gulati, Daksh Aggarwal (Mrs. Myers), Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim), Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst)

Nays: None

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Brendan Miceli (Ms. Brown) asked if we can get a new basketball hoop on the black top at Roosevelt School. Mr. Stevens answered that it was taken care of already.
- Sarvesvaran Vivekanandan (Dr. Ben-Dov) asked if we can get a cooling system for the Cherry Hill School Gymnasium.
- Ashish Panicker (Mrs. Heitman) asked if the water fountains can have a stronger force of water. He also asked if the water filters can be changed more often. Alessia Tartari (Mrs. Napolitano) answered that they have all been changed this school year.
- Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky) stated there was a Second Chance Toys Collection on Saturday, April 6th.
- Nelle Madej (Mr. Henzel) asked if we can have better/softer tissues in the district.
- Ria Gulati (Ms. Kang) and Ashish Panicker (Mrs. Heitman) asked if we can replace the wood chips at the Cherry Hill School playground.
- Sara Jung (Ms. Dansky) asked if we can replace some of the smart boards in the district.
- Michael Andriano (Mr. Sim) asked if we can fix the basketball hoop that needs to be replaced.
- Nelle Madej (Mr. Henzel) stated a basketball hoop at Roosevelt School has a birds nest in it.
- Amy Usatine (Mr. Herbst) asked whether flexible seating is consistent with the New Jersey fire code. Dr. Ben-Dov replied that anything that didn't meet fire code requirement, if it came from donations, was removed and all flexible seating that is purchased by the by the district must meet fire code.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- Brian Specht (Hamburg School District Board Member) commended the sixth graders for an excellent job tonight. He told them how impressed he was with this meeting. He also said he will bring this type of board meeting to his school. He had a great time and is looking forward to his school having a Student Board Meeting.
- 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 asked the students what was the most difficult part of what they did tonight and the most rewarding part and many students answered her question.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Isabella Formoso (Ms. Doyle), seconded by Ria Gulati (Ms. Kang) to adjourn the regular public meeting at 8:44 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Alessia Tartari (Louise Napolitano)
Board Secretary/Business Administrator