

**RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661**

***“Building Bright Futures Together”*
Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – October 16, 2019**

7:30 PM Public Meeting

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

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Herbst called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mrs. Myers read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim and Mr. Herbst. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, Mrs. Heitman and approximately 20 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

New Jersey Student Learning Assessment Results Presentation- Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Moran, Mrs. Spiegel, and Mr. Werner

Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Moran, Mrs. Spiegel, and Mr. Werner presented the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA) results for the Spring of 2019. It was stated that 2019 marks the first administration of the NJSLA. Students in grades 3-6 took the NJSLA in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. Grade 5 took the NJSLA in Science. It was also stated there are five levels of achievement for this assessment. They looked at the number of students tested in Spring 2018 and Spring 2019 in ELA and Mathematics and a comparison of test refusals from 2016-2019 which were significantly fewer in 2019. They went over the percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations in ELA and Mathematics, River Edge School District grade level outcomes in ELA and Mathematics, four year comparison of grade level results in ELA and Mathematics, comparison of same cohort students Spring 2015-Spring 2019 in ELA and Mathematics, River Edge School District's subgroups in ELA and Mathematics, and Roosevelt and Cherry Hill Schools percentage of students who met or exceeded expectations in ELA and Mathematics. They also spoke about data analysis, highlights and successes, interventions, next steps, Access 2.0 for English language learners, Dynamic Learning Maps, and resources for parents. All questions from the board were answered.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

- There was an ESL meeting on the evening of October 10th. They discussed connecting with the families and their cultures and encouraged them to continue to speak to their children in their home languages. It was well attended.
- On October 12th there was a memorial service held for Mrs. June Karpowich at St. Peter's Church in River Edge. Many people and a great number of River Edge staff attended this well done, respectful, and touching service. It was a great dedication to the memory and life of Mrs. Karpowich.
- There have been Wingman trainings held on October 11th and October 16th. Twenty-six students from Cherry Hill School and Roosevelt School were trained. Two champion teachers were present from each school along with our Pupil Assistance Counselor and our leave replacement Pupil Assistance Counselor. Mr. James did a good job organizing the trainings. They were involved in team activities to process and recognize what the activities meant. They were able to practice the trainings they learned in small groups and they will be implementing it with young students.
- Dr. Ben-Dov and Ms. Christine Moran attended a social/emotional cohort in Washington, D.C. from October 13th through October 15th. They visited a school in D.C. that is dedicated to social/emotional learning. They had a parent/teacher advisory to ask questions and questioned the kids. They admired the common language of the entire school. Dr. Ben-Dov and Ms. Moran were extremely impressed with this. Dr. Ben-Dov shared two things she learned while visiting Washington D.C. She said she learned that social/emotional learning is "the plate on which everything else should be served." Dr. Ben-Dov was referring to the saying we can't put more on our plate. She also learned that schools that have been doing this for years now say their biggest regret was they didn't start with the adults in their schools. Dr. Ben-Dov would like to implement a lot of what they learned here in River Edge. This was one of the more successful workshops she attended.
- Tomorrow is our pre-survey conference call with our Administrators regarding Youth Truth

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- We had a nicely attended SEPAG Meeting last night where Ms. Maritza Vega, the New Bridge Center Nurse, came and introduced herself
- There was a Professional Development Day on Monday, October 14th. This was very successful and teachers were able to collaborate across the district. Some of the related arts staff visited River Dell and other neighboring districts to view lessons and engage in vertical articulation.
- Week of Respect was from October 7th to October 11th. It went very well and there were many activities and assemblies that took place.
- First graders took a walking field trip to the River Edge Public Library to learn about the River Edge Library and students were able to get library books
- We are working on the Mini Boo Bash for students in grades K-1, the Boo Bash for grades 2-6, and the Halloween Parades. The River Edge Police will talk to the students regarding Halloween safety.

- Wingman trainings have started and have been very successful in both schools. The students are very excited for this.
- The fifth graders went to Fort Lee Historic Park for their field trip this year. The students love this trip and get to participate in a lot of fun activities.
- Next week we will have our fire prevention assembly

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- The basketball backboards at Cherry Hill School have been replaced this week and the scoreboard at Roosevelt School is looking at being repaired
- Discussions have continued with Raymond Poerio, Borough Business Administrator, and we will speak about this in closed session tonight
- We need to discuss our board meetings for the month of November. We need to decide if we will have two meetings that month or one.

PRESIDENT

- Mr. Herbst apologized to the board members for not compiling a list of PTO and Council meetings and creating a calendar of meetings for the board members.
- Mr. Herbst asked the board members if we should eliminate the November 20th board meeting or keep our meeting dates as is. The board discussed and decided to eliminate the November 20th meeting.
- Mr. Herbst stated he decided to postpone the voting on policy #5145.7, Gender Identity and Expression, until the November 13th board meeting. There were many questions on this policy and Mr. Steve Fogarty will come to the November 13th meeting to discuss it.

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Dansky asked a question regarding the Region V bills. She is concerned on the timeliness of the bills coming from Region V. She asked when the deadline to not sign the Region V bills is. The board discussed this and Dr. Ben-Dov stated she will bring this up at her Region V Superintendents Advisory Council Meeting tomorrow morning.
- Mr. Sim stated there was a County Meeting on October 3rd where they spoke about the current issue with the Westwood School District and the Westwood Police Department viewing the school's cameras.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of September 25, 2019.

Motion by Ms. Brown
Seconded by Ms. Doyle

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None, Abstained: Ms. Brown

2. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of October 2, 2019.

Motion by Ms. Doyle
Seconded by Mrs. Myers

Ayes: Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None, Abstained: Ms. Brown, Mrs. Myers

3. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for October 2019 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
4. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policies:

Policy #	Title
1200	Participation By the Public
5200	Nonpublic School Students
6161.1	Guidelines For Evaluation and Selection of Instructional Materials
6171.5	Independent Educational Evaluation
6172	Alternative Education Programs
6178	Early Childhood Education/Preschool

Motion by Mrs. Myers
Seconded by Ms. Kang

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

5. That the Board of Education approve to postpone the First Reading of the following policy until the November 13, 2019 Board Meeting:

Policy #	Title
5145.7	Gender Identity and Expression

Motion by Ms. Doyle
Seconded by Mr. Sim

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

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

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill	2	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$1,468.75
Roosevelt	2	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$927.50
Cherry Hill and Roosevelt	6	National Museum of Math New York, NY	\$343.75
Roosevelt	3	River Edge Cultural Center River Edge, NJ	\$0

Motion by Ms. Dansky
Seconded by Mr. Sim

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
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 October, 2019 totaling \$977,330.91 including checks #42686 through #42808. Payrolls dated September 13, 2019 and September 27, 2019, totaling \$1,202,038.87 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 2019-2020 as of August 31, 2019. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31, 2019.

Further, we certify that as of August 31, 2019, 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. (Addendum)

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Ms. Brown

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Nancy Fiore, Part-time Resource Teacher (.6), starting October 23, 2019 through June 30, 2020, MA, Step 4.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Alrick Douglas, Leave Replacement Pupil Assistance Counselor, effective on October 30, 2019 through June 30, 2020, MA, Step 2.
3. That the Board of Education approve Sandy Gerbino for Morning Supervision Duty as per Article XIII Section 13.3 of the River Edge Education Association Contract Agreement.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Jamie Woods, Substitute Teacher, for the 2019-2020 school year.

Motion by Ms. Brown
Seconded by Ms. Doyle

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION

1. That the Board of Education approve a River Edge Preschool student be placed out of district for the 2019-2020 school year in the Bergen County Board of Special Services Hearing Impaired Program in the Godwin School in Midland Park at a tuition rate of \$67,080.00 plus transportation as needed.

Motion by Mrs. Myers
Seconded by Ms. Kang

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated October, 2019 totaling \$1,048,402.33 including checks #72663 through #72782.
2. That the Board of Education approve the following Quote Contracts for the 2019-2020 school year

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
1855	Sun Transportation	\$149.00
2800	Sun Transportation	\$194.00
2801	Sun Transportation	\$ 98.00

3. That the Board of Education approve the following Bid Contracts for the 2019-2020 school year

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
1132	We Care	\$221.00
1133	We Care	\$251.00
2235	We Care	\$280.00
2225	Swift Medical Services	\$225.00
2692	Swift Medical Services	\$234.00

Motion by Ms. Kang
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Doyle, Ms. Kang, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst
Nays: None

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

The NJSBA Fall Conference in Atlantic City is next week. The board members will have a board dinner on Tuesday, October 22nd. Mr. Herbst, Ms. Dansky, and Dr. Ben-Dov will present at the convention on October 22nd.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Dansky to convene into closed session at 9:23 PM.
All Ayes

RECONVENE

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Brown to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:48 PM.
All Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator