

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – September 25, 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 7:33 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Kang read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

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

Dr. Ben-Dov welcomed the new staff to the River Edge School District. Each staff member introduced themselves.

Eric James-New Bridge Center – Assistant Principal
Erik Anderson -Roosevelt School – Physical Education Teacher
Sandy Gerbino-Roosevelt School-5th Grade Teacher
Jessica Jablin-Roosevelt School - Leave Replacement Kindergarten Teacher
Bianca Kim-Cherry Hill School - Leave Replacement Kindergarten Teacher
Megan Lubin-Roosevelt School – 2nd Grade Teacher
Mona Naik–Cherry Hill School – 5th Grade Teacher
Stephanie Repetti-District LDTC
Maritza Vega- New Bridge Center - School Nurse

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Back to School Night was on Thursday, September 19th and it was very well attended. Dr. Ben-Dov has received positive feedback from parents and staff.
- Teachers are now finalizing assessments and creating their Student Growth Objectives (SGO's). This works into our academic district goals. We will have our goals on an agenda in the near future.
- Dr. Ben-Dov spoke about our communication and engagement goal. We have already translated our assessment calendars and Right to Know letter into English, Spanish, and Korean. Our State Coach has asked Ms. Christine Moran and Ms. Anne Marie Spiegel to give a webinar to a new cohort of districts that are becoming the NJ Tiered System of Support about parent engagement.
- Our New Family Reception will be on Thursday, September 26th at Cherry Hill School at 6:30 PM
- Dr. Ben-Dov attended the Roosevelt School 100 Year Anniversary meeting on Tuesday, September 24th. They spoke about refreshments, publicity, programs, artifacts, and speeches. The next meeting for this event will be on Thursday, October 10th and the celebration will be held on Thursday, November 14th.
- There was a meeting with Raymond Poerio, River Edge Borough Administrator, Carolyn Baldanza, Director of Recreation and Cultural Affairs, along with the principals , Mrs. Napolitano, Mr. Stevens and Dr. Ben-Dov. We discussed the use of our buildings, expectations, safety, communications, and special dates.
- Mrs. Heitman and Dr. Ben-Dov attended a ceremony on Monday, September 23rd where River Edge students were awarded certificates for a national competition they attended in Minnesota for Taekwondo.
- There was a 2nd Cup of Coffee Meeting on Tuesday, September 24th. It was a very positive meeting.
- Dr. Ben-Dov shared our development in our social/emotional goal with the board members. She stated we have been implementing Responsive Classroom in grades K-3, Ms. Christine Moran and Dr. Ben-Dov participated in two webinars on how to start a social emotional program and implement it. This was in preparation to their participation in the National AASA cohort on social emotional learning in Washington D.C. The Wingman program has started and many teachers are interested in being teacher champions. We will have training for fifth and sixth grade students from both schools on October 11th and October 16th. 12 students from Roosevelt and 14 students from Cherry Hill will be trained. We will start the training with 26 students for the first round.
- There are two issues being discussed around the State. In Bergen County, there is an app called LiveSafe. We were told that this app will be implemented on January 1st and it's an app where you can anonymously report an accusation. There is no monitoring on this app and the school districts are very concerned about the implications. The other issue is the signed Memorandum of Understanding. This allows our police to view our cameras at any time with unlimited access and they can share the information with others. Some school districts are fighting this. They want the police to be able to view the cameras only in cases of an emergency.

- Dr. Ben-Dov and Mrs. Napolitano have a conference call with DonorsChoose tomorrow. They will update the board at the next meeting.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Back to School Night was very well attended. We had a very large group of parents join us that evening.
- We are excited for our New Family Reception tomorrow evening at Cherry Hill School. The PTO's are working together to prepare some activities for the night.
- Mrs. Heitman and Dr. Ben-Dov attended the Council Meeting and witnessed 23 medalists from both Roosevelt School and Cherry Hill School receive certificates from the Nationals in Minnesota with Master Yoon. Mrs. Heitman stated she is very proud of our students.
- Picture Day for Cherry Hill School is on Friday, September 27th
- Post Dismissal Instructional Academy (PDIA) is starting on Wednesday, October 2nd. Cycle 1 will begin with ELA.
- The Librarians are working on a walking field trip to the River Edge Public Library for the First Grader students so they can learn about the importance of library cards.
- We are looking forward to the Week of Respect which will be October 7-October 11 with many fun filled activities planned
- Lieutenant Walker from the River Edge Police Department spoke to our staff regarding emergency procedures today. The Police will work with our district on an emergency drill this week.

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- Facility Assessment has been completed but they are still completing the roof portion of the report and then we will review
- The HVAC installation is complete. They are finishing up the balancing and control work. We will be using the gym until the end of the month and then we will refinish the gym floors. This project went very smoothly and we were very happy with the contractor that won the bid.
- A discussion with Carolyn Baldanza and Raymond Poerio took place on September 18th. The meeting that was scheduled with them has been cancelled.
- The parking lot at New Bridge Center is being re-stripped next week and some repairs will be done too

PRESIDENT

Mr. Herbst reported on the following:

- Mr. Herbst attended the Dylan's Wings of Hope presentation on Monday, September 23, 2019. He stated this is a great program.

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Dansky spoke about the Finance and Facilities meeting that took place on September 17th. She stated they discussed building assessment, window bids for the new classroom by the Media Center, Interlocal Agreement, the Rec, Sustainable New Jersey, future grants, Columbia Bank, space needs for the future, grants and funding sources.
- Ms. Brown spoke about the Curriculum and Instruction meeting that took place on September 17th. She stated they discussed Artist in Residence, "WIN" period, small group tool kits, social/emotional learning, and Dylan's Wings of Change.
- Mrs. Myers spoke about the Personnel and Management meeting that took place on September 17th. She stated they discussed staff, staffing needs, Supervisor maternity leave, REEA Negotiations, and the necessity of committee meetings.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of September 12, 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 staff development and travel as per the schedules for September 2019 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education approve the list on file in the district office of pupil records maintained in the district for the 2019-2020 school year. (Addendum)
4. That the Board of Education accept the District Nursing Services Plan for the 2019-2020 school year.
5. That the Board of Education approve the following class trips:

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill	5	Fort Lee Historic Park Fort Lee, NJ	\$936.00
Roosevelt	5	Fort Lee Historic Park Fort Lee, NJ	\$445.00
Cherry Hill	3	Meadowlands Environment Center	\$1,725.00
Roosevelt	3	Meadowlands Environment Center	\$975.00

6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the NJDOE School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act completed by each school's safety team.
7. That the Board of Education approve the updated Student Code of Conduct. (Addendum)
8. That the Board of Education approve Dr. Ben-Dov and Ms. Christine Moran to attend the National Social/Emotional Cohort in Washington, D.C., not to exceed \$700.00 per person, October 13, 2019 to October 15, 2019.

Motion by Ms. Doyle
Seconded by Mrs. Myers

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

B. BUILDING & GROUNDS - None

C. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the agreement for the River Edge Board of Education to provide technology services and supplies, security services, and textbooks to the following Non-public Schools for the 2019-2020 school year:

St. Peter's Academy
Yeshiva of North Jersey
Stepping Stone Learning Center

2. That the Board of Education approve the 2019-2020 school year attendance of specific students at Cherry Hill or Roosevelt School which is other than their customary neighborhood school, as on file in the District Office.

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

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated August, 2019 totaling \$791,925.53 including checks #42476 through #42545.
2. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2019 totaling \$644,014.38 including checks #42546 through #42685.
3. Payrolls date July 15, 2019 and July 31, 2019 totaling \$488,933.19 and Payrolls dated August 15, 2019, and August 30, 2019 totaling \$269,196.08 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list to be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
4. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2019-2020 as of July 31, 2019. (Addendum)
5. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2019.

Further, we certify that as of July 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)

6. That the Board of Education accept the \$1,000.00 Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant for the Roosevelt School.
7. That the Board of Education accept the \$1,000.00 Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant for the Cherry Hill School.

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

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Luis Cruz, Cherry Hill and Mark Jentz, Roosevelt as Lead Custodians for the 2019-2020 school year, as per contract.
2. That the Board of Education designate Denise Heitman, Attendance Officer, for a yearly stipend of \$500.00 for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. That the Board of Education approve Rosemary Kuruc, Mental Health Liaison, for the River Edge School District for the 2019-2020 school year.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Rosemary Kuruc, or Designee, as the Division of Child Permanency and Protection Liaison for the 2019-2020 school year.
5. That the Board of Education appoint Michael Henzel as District School Safety Specialist per state law (P.L. 2017 c.162) for the 2019-2020 school year.
6. That the Board of Education approve Eric James, ESL Coordinator, for the River Edge School District for the 2019-2020 school year.
7. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Anne Marie Spiegel to commence on or about February 1, 2020 through March 27, 2020, to be followed by a FMLA leave of absence to commence on or about March 30, 2020 through August 16, 2020.
8. That the Board of Education approve the following for Cycle I of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2019-2020 School Year, as per contract.

Abby Burns Paterson
Lauren Proda
Noy Sapir

9. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Nicole Krapels, Part-time Clerical Assistant, 19.5 hours per week for the 2019-2020 school year. Salary will be substantially funded by IDEA.

10. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Julie Fitzpatrick, ABA Aide, for the 2019-2020 school year pending final paperwork and Criminal History Review.
11. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Trevor McConville, Substitute Custodian, for the 2019-2020 school year.
12. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Maritza Vega, School Nurse, starting on October 10, 2019 through June 30, 2020, BA, Step 3.
13. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Tara Cantatore, Region V Transportation Coordinator, starting on September 30, 2019 through June 30, 2020, pending final paperwork and Criminal History Review.

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

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated August, 2019 totaling \$23,864.88 including checks #72445 through #72548.
2. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2019 totaling \$1,020,923.85 including checks #72549 through #72662 .
3. WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education (the "Board") is the lead education agency ("LEA") for the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education ("Region V"); and

WHEREAS, Region V provides shared services for its member districts such as evaluations, direct services, and consultation; and

WHEREAS, as the LEA, the Board must approve the consultant agreements of the providers that Region V utilizes to deliver shared services to its member districts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, re-approves the consultant agreements of the following Region V Shared Services Consultants, Psychologists, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants, Social Workers, Speech Language Specialists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, and Translators to provide evaluations, direct services, and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2019-2020 school year:

Speech Expressions, LLC	Speech and Language Specialist	Evaluator
Custom Concepts in Education, LLC	Consultant	Non Public
Michal Telem	Consultant	Non Public

4. BE IT RESOLVED, that the Region V Council for Special Education will provide shared services for its member districts and be it further resolved that the River Edge Board of Education, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following Region V Transporters for member districts upon request for the 2019-2020 school year:

Cassidy Transportation, Inc Transporter

5. That the Board of Education approve the following Renewal Contracts for the 2019-2020 school year:

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
2547	Hernandez Medical Transport	\$200.23
2562	Hernandez Medical Transport	\$156.74
1594	Hernandez Medical Transport	\$162.45
2715	Hernandez Medical Transport	\$223.19
S629	Hernandez Medical Transport	\$238.48

6. That the Board of Education approve the following Bid Contract for the 2019-2020 school year:

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
2226	Pro Trans	\$350.00
2736	Pro Trans	\$350.00

7. That the Board of Education approve the following Quote Contract for the 2019-2020 school year:

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
Q2799	Excel	\$189.00
Q2372	Shaddai	\$240.00
Q2797	ACE	\$225.00
Q1563	ACE	\$237.60
Q1611	RC Prime	\$229.50

8. That the Board of Education approve the 2019-2020 Jointure Transportation Agreement between Pascack Valley Council for Special Education, Region II (Host) and Region V, River Edge Board of Education. (Joiner)

9. That the Board of Education approve the 2019-2020 Jointure Transportation Agreement between Pascack Valley Council for Special Education, Region III (Host) and Region V, River Edge Board of Education. (Joiner)

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Dansky had a phone conference with the National School Boards regarding IDEA full funding 2020.

Ms. Dansky reported there is a Bergen County Meeting on Thursday, October 3rd at 6:00 PM at The Clinton Inn in Tenafly.

Ms. Kang asked about Facebook and it being linked to Instagram. She asked if we want to share important things that happen in the district and or at meetings.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION –None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Doyle to adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:15 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator