

**RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
"Building Bright Futures Together"

**REVISED AGENDA**  
**January 6, 2021**  
7:30 PM Public Meeting

In response to the COVID-19 public health emergency and the emergency orders and directives at the federal, State and local levels, the meeting of the River Edge Board of Education scheduled for Wednesday, January 6, 2021 will now be held by remote means. Details for how to access and participate through remote means are listed herein and will be posted on the District website at [www.riveredgeschools.org](http://www.riveredgeschools.org). You will be able to fully participate in this meeting including, providing public comment.

The Public may observe and participate in the meeting only via the methods listed below.

Please click the link below to join the Zoom Meeting:

Meeting Access URL

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81710001157?pwd=aEJySVV1SjFOVHJSRmp2RGNrYWVOZz09>

Meeting Access Code / ID: 817 1000 1157

Password: 410711

The Meeting Agenda will be available on the District Website at [www.riveredgeschools.org](http://www.riveredgeschools.org)

**CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The River Edge School District is a partnership of students, parents, staff, and community members. We are dedicated to providing a supportive environment in which all students can reach their maximum academic potential, while developing as responsible citizens who respect individuality. Our goals will be achieved because:

- curriculum and instruction are aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
- all decisions reflect the academic, social/emotional and physical needs of pre-K to sixth grade students
- cooperation and on-going communication exist between the school district and the community
- school administrators and the Board of Education work together to assess and adjust procedures in response to new mandates and the changing needs of the community

**ROLL CALL**

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting, its date, time and place have been delivered to the Post Office, the Municipal Building, Town News, The Record and posted on the District website, at least 48 hours prior to the time of this meeting.

## **REORGANIZATION**

### **Certification of Election Results – November 3, 2020**

Mrs. Napolitano will report on the official results of November 3, 2020 election.

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Total Votes Cast</u>
Sheli Dansky (3 Year Term)	3,515
Elizabeth Brown (3 Year Term)	3,745

### **Oath of Office to Newly Elected Trustees**

The Board Secretary will administer the Oath of Office to Trustees elect Sheli Dansky and Elizabeth Brown.

### **2020 Board of Education and Expiration of Terms of Offices**

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Expiration of Terms</u>
Gyuchang Sim	2021
Adrienne Doyle	2021
Eun Kang	2021
Caleb Herbst	2022
Silvija Juskeliene	2022
Sheli Dansky	2023
Elizabeth Brown	2023

### **Nomination and Election of President**

The Board Secretary will ask for nominations for the election of President of the Board.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Nomination and Election of Vice-President**

The Board Secretary will receive nominations for the election of Vice-President of the Board.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**President, \_\_\_\_\_ assumes Chair.**

## **REORGANIZATION MOTIONS**

### 1. Meeting Time & Location

Motion by  
Seconded by

That the Board of Education continues to hold regular public meetings at 7:30 p.m. as follows:

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>School</u></b>
January 6, 2021	Cherry Hill School
January 20, 2021	Cherry Hill School
February 3, 2021	Cherry Hill School
February 24, 2021	Cherry Hill School
March 3, 2021	Cherry Hill School
March 24, 2021	Cherry Hill School
April 14, 2021	Cherry Hill School
April 28, 2021	Cherry Hill School
May 5, 2021	Cherry Hill School
May 19, 2021	Cherry Hill School
June 2, 2021	Cherry Hill School
June 16, 2021	Cherry Hill School
July 28, 2021	Cherry Hill School
September 1, 2021	Cherry Hill School
September 22, 2021	Cherry Hill School
October 6, 2021	Cherry Hill School
October 27, 2021	Cherry Hill School
November 10, 2021	Cherry Hill School
November 17, 2021	Cherry Hill School
December 1, 2021	Cherry Hill School
December 15, 2021	Cherry Hill School
January 5, 2022 (Reorganization Meeting)	Cherry Hill School

FURTHER, provision is also made for closed meetings immediately following each regular meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel matters or any other private matters if necessary.

FURTHER, the Secretary of this Board is hereby authorized and directed to give at least 48 hours advance notice of all the aforesaid meetings, and said notice shall (a) be delivered to the municipal building and the post office; (b) be delivered to the Board's officially designated newspapers; (c) circulated in the School District; and (d) filed with the clerk of the Borough of River Edge, all as provided for the pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of the State of New Jersey 1975.

## 2. School Ethics

FURTHER, that the Board of Education abide by the School Ethics Act and the Code of Ethics for School Board Members, pursuant to N.J.S.A.18A:12-21 et seq.

## 3. Parliament Procedure

FURTHER, that the Board of Education meetings be governed by parliamentary procedure of Robert's Rules of Order.

## 4. Official Public Notice Newspapers

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate the *Suburban/Town News* and *The Record* as the Official Newspapers for the Board of Education until the next organization meeting.

## 5. Designation Board Secretary

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Louise Napolitano as Board Secretary until June 30, 2021.

## 6. Rules, Regulations and Policies

FURTHER, that all rules, regulations and policies adopted in previous years, and not rescinded by the River Edge Board of Education be continued in full force and effect until altered, amended, modified or repealed by other resolutions of this Board, including board policy on student records.

## 7. Curricula

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve all current curricula, textbooks, and programs that have been developed in accordance with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards until the next organization meeting.

## 8. Mission Statement

FURTHER, that the Board of Education adopt the Mission Statement as follows:

The River Edge School District is a partnership of students, parents, staff, and community members. We are dedicated to providing a supportive environment in which all students can reach their maximum academic potential, while developing as responsible citizens who respect individuality. Our goals will be achieved because:

- curriculum and instruction are aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards
- all decisions reflect the academic, social/emotional and physical needs of pre-K to sixth grade students
- cooperation and on-going communication exist between the school district and the community
- school administrators and the Board of Education work together to assess and adjust procedures in response to new mandates and the changing needs of the community

9. Designation of Depositories & Signature Authorizations

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate the Columbia Bank as the depository for funds for the Board of Education.

FURTHER, that the Board Secretary/Business Administrator and the Treasurer of School Monies be authorized and directed to maintain accounts for and on behalf of the Board in Columbia Bank and

FURTHER, that the Board of Education official warrants be signed by three of the following five:

President, Vice President, Board Secretary/Business Administrator, Treasurer of School Monies, Superintendent of Schools

10. Signature Authorization – Taxes, Payroll, Insurance

FURTHER, that the President or Vice President in his/her absence, and the Board Secretary/Business Administrator or Superintendent in his/her absence, and the Treasurer of School Monies, be authorized and directed to execute warrants without further action on the part of the Board of the payment, when due, for salaries of all employees of the Board and for withholding taxes, pension funds, medical insurance plans, property insurance, Social Security and New Jersey Unemployment Insurance.

11. Office Account Signatures

FURTHER, that the Board of Education authorize the following individuals to approve the Petty Cash Reimbursements:

- Louise Napolitano, Custodian of Petty Cash
- Louise Napolitano, Board Secretary/Business Administrator
- Dr. Tova Ben-Dov, Superintendent of Schools (until March 1, 2021)

FURTHER, that the maximum allowable amount per warrant be established at \$125.00 providing all necessary claims are found to be in order according to law.

12. Designation of Board Auditor, and

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Lerch Vinci & Higgins, as Board Auditor until June 30, 2021.

13. Designation Board Attorney

WHEREAS, the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs., has the expertise and experience to provide professional services to the River Edge Board of Education; and,

WHEREAS, the Board is desirous of appointing the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs, to provide professional services to the Board;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board of Education appoints the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs., as the Board Attorney until June 30, 2021 at the following rates: \$175.00 Partner and \$155.00 Associate.

14. Designation Board Architect

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate DiCara Rubino Architects, as Architect of Record until June 30, 2021 at an hourly rate of \$175 Principal, \$165 Senior Associate Architect, and \$140 Project Architect/Engineer until June 30, 2021.

15. Designation Board Insurance Agency

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Brown and Brown Advisors of Lambertville, New Jersey as the Broker of Record for Dental Benefits.

16. Designation Bond Attorney

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Wilentz, Goldman, and Spitzer as Board Bond Attorney until June 30, 2021.

17. Designation School District Consulting Physician

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Dr. Christopher Nicpon as Board School Physician until the June 30, 2021 at a rate of \$3,500.

18. Custodian of Public Records

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Louise Napolitano as Custodian of Public Records until June 30, 2021.

19. Designation 504 Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Alrick Douglas until June 30, 2021 and Tara Malkowski from September 1, 2021 until the next organization meeting as 504 Coordinators for Roosevelt School and Janel Blake for Cherry Hill School as 504 Coordinator until the next organization meeting.

20. Designation Attendance Officer

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Denise Heitman, Attendance Officer, for a yearly stipend of \$500.00 until the next organization meeting.

21. Designation Homeless Student Liaison

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve Eric James, Homeless Student Liaison, for the River Edge School District until the next organization meeting.

22. Designation District Anti-Bullying Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Eric James, District Anti-Bullying Coordinator, until the next organization meeting.

23. Designation District School Safety Specialist

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve Michael Henzel, District School Safety Specialist, for the River Edge School District until the next organization meeting

24. Designation District Pest Management Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Stan Stevens as the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator until the next organization meeting.

25. AHERA Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Environmental Design, Inc. to become the designated party to ensure compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) until the next organization meeting.

26. Designation Treasurer of School Funds

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Antoinette Kelly as Treasurer of School funds until the next organization meeting.

27. Designate Purchasing Agent

WHEREAS, the recent changes to the Public School Contracts Law gave Boards of Education the ability to increase their bid threshold up to \$44,000; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3A, permits an increase in the bid threshold if a Qualified Purchasing Agent is appointed as well as granted the authorization to negotiate and award such contracts below the bid threshold: and

WHEREJ.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq. establishes the criteria for qualifying as Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, Louise Napolitano possesses the designation of Qualified Purchasing Agent as issued by the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq.: and

WHEREAS, River Edge Board of Education desires to increase the bid threshold as provided in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-3; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the governing body of the River Edge Board of Education in the County of Bergen, in the State of New Jersey hereby increases its bid threshold to \$44,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the governing body hereby appoints Louise Napolitano as the Qualified Purchasing Agent to exercise the duties of a purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-2b, with specific relevance to the authority, responsibility, and accountability of the purchasing activity of the Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.2 the Board of Education Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution and a copy of Louise Napolitano's certification to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

28. Move to authorize the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to seek sealed bids, Educational Data Services, county contract, and/or state contract for all goods and services until the next organizational meeting.

29. Membership in Bergen County Region V

FURTHER, that the Board of Education continue its membership in the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education, does hereby accept, adopt and agree to comply with the Region V by-laws; designates the District Superintendent as its representative to Region V; and empowers her to cast all votes and take all other actions necessary to represent its interest in Region V; until the next organization meeting and

FURTHER, approve the Joint Transportation Agreement for all River Edge students who are transported through Region V.

30. Tax Shelter Annuity Sales Companies

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve the following to solicit sales to district employees for 403b and 457 retirement plans for the 2020-2021 school year:

- Aspire Financial Services
- Equitable Financial
- Security Benefit
- Union Central Life Insurance Company

**SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Public Comments on Agenda Items
- B. Presentation of Staff and Parent Survey Results

**REPORTS**

- 1. SUPERINTENDENT
- 2. PRINCIPAL
- 3. BOARD SECRETARY
- 4. PRESIDENT
- 5. COMMITTEE

**MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON**

**A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

- 1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of November 18, 2020.
- 2. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes of December 2, 2020.



3. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for January 2021 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
4. That the Board of Education approve the completion of the following emergency drills:

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	December 11, 2020 Fire Drill December 14, 2020 Shelter in Place December 15, 2020 Fire Drill December 21, 2020 Shelter in Place
Roosevelt School	December 7, 2020 Shelter in Place December 11, 2020 Fire Drill December 15, 2020 Fire Drill December 18, 2020 Shelter in Place

5. That the Board of Education approve the Violence, Vandalism and Harassment Intimidation and Bullying Report and HIB Training Report for Reporting Period 1. (July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020)
6. That the Board of Education approve the Health and Safety Evaluation of Schools Buildings Checklist Statement of Assurance for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION** - None

**C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS** - None

**D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS**

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated December 2020 totaling \$782,253.27 including checks #44014 through #44076. Payrolls dated November 13, 2020 and November 30, 2020, totaling \$1,248,039.04 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 2020-2021 as of November 30, 2020. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending November 30, 2020.

Further, we certify that as of November 30, 2020 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 a donation from Joy and Jan Holmstrup to be used towards the purchase of children books for the mobile cart in memory of Erika Steinbauer in the amount of \$100.00.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **E. PERSONNEL**

1. That the Board of Education, with recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Meagan Yorio, Literacy/Social Studies Instructional Coach & Supervisor, effective on or about February 16, 2021 through June 30, 2021, as per employment contract on file in the Board Office.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Beth Rosen to continue as the Leave Replacement for the Literacy/Social Studies Instructional Coach & Supervisor through on or about February 12, 2021 at an agreed upon per diem rate.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve an extended child care leave of absence for Kaitlyn DeVasto to commence on February 4, 2021 through June 30, 2021.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Jason Funabashi, BA, Step 1 to continue as a Leave Replacement Teacher through June 30, 2021.
5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Harrison Mashig, MA, Step 1 to continue as a Leave Replacement Teacher through March 12, 2021.
6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Christine Morales as a Leave Replacement Teacher, MA, step 2 to commence on February 1, 2021 through April 1, 2021.
7. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Kevin Monahan, School Custodian, Step 3, from January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021.
8. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Alice Buttery to commence on or about June 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021
9. That the Board of Education approve the following for Cycle II of the Post Dismissal Instructional Academy for the 2020-2021 School Year, as per contract.

### **Roosevelt**

Katelyn Mills  
Christine Morales  
Lauren Proda

### **Cherry Hill**

Jason Funabashi  
Nancy Jencsik  
Kelsey Lapp  
Harrison Mashig  
Tiffany Petzinger

10. That the Board of Education approve the Job Description for the Literacy/Social Studies Instructional Coach & Supervisor. (Addendum)
11. That the Board of Education approve the Job Description for the Math/Science Instructional Coach & Supervisor. (Addendum)
12. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as Substitute Teachers for the 2020-2021 School Year:

Diane Forster  
 Michael Gallo  
 Wendy McGinley  
 Christine Morales  
 Danielle Scher

- \*13. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Steven Luca as a Student Teacher to commence on January 11, 2021 through May 7, 2021.
- \*14. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request for a medical leave of absence to an employee whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office to commence on or about January 20, 2021 through March 24, 2021.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION**

1. That the Board of Education approve the Parent Training Agreement between Region II and Non-member Districts for the 2020-2021 school year.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION**

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated December 2020 totaling \$744,367.89 including checks #74135 through #74232.

**Motion by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upcoming Board Meetings

January 20, 2021  
 February 3, 2021