

# RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

*"Building Bright Futures Together"*

## Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – August 26, 2020 – 6:00 PM

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey conducted this meeting through a Zoom Meeting.

### **CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE**

Mr. Herbst called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Mr. Herbst read the Mission Statement.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present on roll call were Mrs. Brown; Ms. Juskeliene; Mr. Sim; Mr. Herbst. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, and approximately 155 members of the public.

Ms. Dansky arrived at 6:45 PM

Ms. Doyle was absent

Ms. Kang was absent

### **OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

### **SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

Presentation of Curriculum, Social/Emotional Learning, and Technology Plans for the 2020-2021 School Year

Dr. Ben-Dov thanked all of the people who participated and worked so hard to bring us to this point where we are almost ready to open our schools. We met a great deal with our task force and at this time we need to know about Curriculum especially in this new format that will be different. She stated Technology and Curriculum go together because Technology becomes the medium through which Curriculum can be delivered in virtual form. We will also pay much attention to the Social/Emotional needs of our students and staff this year because this is a year like no other. Dr. Ben-Dov reviewed the format of the presentation.

Ms. Moran, our Curriculum Supervisor, spoke about Curriculum. She spoke about summer curriculum work, prioritized learning standards, model lessons, adjusting lesson pacing to include Hybrid learning components, diversity in curriculum, instruction, communication of schedules, virtual and Hybrid model, managing the Hybrid classroom, a classroom sample for synchronized learning, instruction for grades k & 1, and assessment. The questions that were asked were:

Gina Cetta (River Edge Resident): what will Wednesdays look like for 2-6? Ms. Moran responded the schedule will have the same structure as any other day of the week except that Wednesday will be virtual for all students.

Scott Levy (235 Kensington Road): will zoom meetings be weekly links expiring on Friday? Will new links be resent weekly for all subjects? Ms. Moran responded the weekly links will be posted every Friday for the upcoming week and the zoom links will be embedded in the weekly schedules.

Angela Searles (23 Kimberly Way): will the schedules be shared in a consistent way by all teachers? In the spring every teacher posted in different places, making it hard to find the correct classroom link. Links were posted at different times, often right before the meeting started. Hopefully there has been sufficient time to coordinate the logistics of this. Dr. Ben-Dov responded: we took great care to make sure that doesn't happen. There was such hard work this summer on scheduling and the consistency of it and over the four days of Professional Development on September 1st – September 4<sup>th</sup> teachers will work on their scheduling. The Principals worked hard on creating the master schedule for each school. The goal is to have a consistent schedule with everything in it in the same format and will be clearly explained to parents.

Miyilyn Parra (5 Jordan Drive): how will math fluency be assessed in grade 2? Mr. Werner responded: we do have an online platform that does assess math fluency online. In everyday math program there is a mental math check for teachers that can immediately check their fluency and they can meet in small groups to check.

Scott Levy (235 Kensington Road): is there a backup for zoom? Google chat? Ms. Moran responded we are looking into different ways. We also have access to Google Meet.

Jen (River Edge Resident): would the virtual webcam sessions for grade 2-6 be recorded? Ms. Moran responded at this point we are not looking to record the webcam sessions.

Monique Akhaabi (92 Elizabeth Street): with regards to Wednesday specifically for a child in resource will they be meeting with their mainstream teacher or resource teacher? Ms. Moran responded on virtual Wednesdays the children in resource will be meeting with both the resource room teacher and attend all sessions with their content area teacher.

Beth Barone (272 Voorhis Avenue): will teachers work out of the classroom or at home when the school year starts virtually? Dr. Ben-Dov responded the teachers will be working from their classrooms in school.

Jen (River Edge Resident): how would you help students who are absent? Ms. Moran responded all assignments and resources will be posted on Google Classroom. We also have office hours for grades 2-6 where a teacher could meet with a student who has been absent to review and go over any lesson the student has missed.

Jenni S (201 Cherry Lane): will related arts zoom sessions remain on the same schedule every week or will it be changing weekly? For families who have children in k-1 and 2-6 will there be some flexibility from the teacher in terms of the start time and the student needing to possibly exit the live instruction to pick up the younger sibling? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we expect the Related Arts zoom to be consistent. We asked the Principals to allow for travel time, but the schedules are complicated. Flexibility for pick-up of different cohorts may not be as efficient as some parents would like.

Aaron (River Edge Resident): will the slides/recording of this presentation be shared? Dr. Ben-Dov responded yes, and it will be shared on our website.

Krishma Dharia Shah (River Edge Resident): what about the Wednesday schedule for grade 1? Ms. Moran responded if your child is in an AM session normally then he/she will receive their instruction for virtual Wednesday during the regular AM session via zoom. If he/she is in the PM session on the regular schedule for grade 1 he/she will continue to receive instruction during the regular PM time in the PM session via zoom on Wednesdays.

Nina (276 Valley Road): will the results of the assessments be communicated to parents? When? Ms. Moran responded this year it will look a little different with handing out of paper assessments. We will be sure to communicate how that will be coming home.

Sherry Arya (River Edge Resident): if my internet isn't working, I worry that my child my fall behind? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we will try our best to catch them up. If the internet fails for a little bit it will not be a permanent status.

Jen (320 Webb Avenue): would webcam sessions be recorded daily? Would that help absent students? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we are not planning on recording them at this time.

Beth Gautier (River Edge Resident): if children cannot attend live zooms during certain times is the zooms being recorded? Can the teachers have a folder for archived zooms? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we do not have an answer right now in regards to the teacher having a folder for archived zooms. Teachers will do their best to catch up the children.

Rosalie De Grezia (228 Howland Avenue): will students who are virtual be able to ask questions while the teacher is teaching? Dr. Ben-Dov responded absolutely. They will be instructed on the different ways they can ask their questions.

Nitika (River Edge Resident): will there be glass separators for student's desks? Dr. Ben-Dov responded no, the students will be seated six feet apart with masks on. If they are in an individual or small group they will be at a long table with Plexiglas between the student and the teacher. We may order some barriers that we are looking into that offer even more separation and protection than we currently arranged.

Jen (320 Webb Avenue): how would you monitor the kids going to use the bathrooms? Especially since you have common bathrooms with stalls? How would you ensure the kids maintain their distance? Dr. Ben-Dov asked her to refer that question to the second public discussion since it does not pertain to curriculum.

Shermina (River Edge Resident): how much live instruction will teachers be delivering per class on all virtual days? Ms. Moran responded the teachers will be live on the zoom sessions for grade 2-6 from 8:25 AM to 1:15 PM. The mini lesson is 10-15 minutes at the beginning of each subject.

Jiwan Yoo (264 Wales Avenue): can the students use google calendar application to manage and look at their daily/weekly schedule to get the reminders of the zoom sessions and to access their correct zoom access information? Students will be easily grouped for the different class and managed by different teachers? Dr. Ben-Dov responded this is not our plan at this point.

Nina (River Edge Resident): if a child who usually attends in person is sick can they join the class virtually? Dr. Ben-Dov responded yes.

Sherry Arya (River Edge Resident) commented: I really think I chose virtually full for my child in 1<sup>st</sup> grade because I worry about the virus out there so it's best for my child to be at home during zoom.

Shah (River Edge Resident): what about Cohort learning? Dr. Ben-Dov responded: cohort is either morning or afternoon for k-1 and Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday for grades 2-6.

Asif Chhipa (River Edge Resident): how long should we expect the virtual classes for? Ms. Moran responded: for grades 2-6 on Wednesday the hours are 8:25 AM -1:15 PM and for k-1 is during their AM/PM regular time slots.

Jiwan Yoo (264 Wales Avenue): are the students expected to stay online via zoom the entire time every day? Dr. Ben-Dov responded there will be breaks and pencil and paper assignments. They will have a schedule from 8:25 AM – 1:15 PM. They do not have to be on the screen the entire time.

Shermina (River Edge Resident): have we given any thought to what happens to 6<sup>th</sup> grade graduates moving to the Middle School in terms of possibly not being prepared for the curriculum given this new form of learning? Dr. Ben-Dov responded everyone is in the same boat. We do not know the expectations of Middle School at this point since everyone is coming from similar situations. We will do the best we can for our students.

Angela Searles (23 Kimberly Way): how will daily attendance be captured? Will the teachers be taking it or will it be done via classroom? Ms. Moran responded teachers will be taking attendance as they normally would and posting it on Genesis.

Adam Del Corral (River Edge Resident): since there was no kindergarten orientation and therefore no baseline and no office hours for k-1 when will the kindergarten children be assessed? Dr. Ben-Dov responded Kindergarten orientation is tomorrow and information was sent home. Questions can be asked tomorrow at orientation.

Heather (River Edge Resident): thank you again for this informational meeting. What supports and modes of differentiation are in place for younger students who refuse to attend virtual zoom meetings for both related arts and Wednesday instruction? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we will look at each situation individually and work with students, as needed..

Surya (River Edge Resident): for those who chose virtual, how long will we be given the option to continue to choose? Dr. Ben-Dov responded after no less than 4 weeks in that mode. Everyone needs to stay in that mode for four weeks once school starts and then apply for a transfer to a different mode.

Sherry Arya (20 Richard Court): can teachers check that kids come in the morning by clicking attendance via virtual? Can my child speak only English and not Spanish because my child doesn't speak Spanish well. Dr. Ben-Dov asked if she could send us her question individually.

Aaron (River Edge Resident): given the amount we pay in property taxes for a regular school session, I would hope the school district can afford to provide all possible PPE equipment to provide a safe learning environment? Dr. Ben-Dov responded the district invested a lot of money dedicated to the health and safety to our students and staff. We are doing all that we can. We ask that parents bring their child to school with a mask. If there are issues, please speak to us privately and we will provide a mask for someone who cannot afford it.

Jenni S (201 Cherry Lane): has it been decided if students will receive grades for the first marking period or will it be a modified report card as we had last year? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we have not discussed that yet but she expects that we will have a regular report card. We will communicate with parents about this closer to report card time.

Brianne Etter (River Edge Resident): how many minutes will the related arts classes be for 1<sup>st</sup> grade? Dr. Ben-Dov responded 30 minutes.

Shah (River Edge Resident): my son was in cohort B as we moved him from hybrid, but the rest of his batch mates are hybrid. How will this work? Mrs. Heitman responded all cohort B students will remain cohort B and the teachers will be doing live streaming so they will follow the teacher live via zoom.

Patti (River Edge Resident): what do you have planned for those students who need to participate in the continued W.I.N. program and who have a 504 plan? Ms. Moran responded our W.I.N. program will be continuing. The first few weeks will be devoted to Social/Emotional learning and the classroom teachers will be administering the assessments the first few weeks of school. The Interventionists will be helping with administering the assessments and we will be using the data from the assessments that are given at the beginning of the year. Those assessments will be used to form our groups for W.I.N. so it would start a few weeks into the beginning of the school year. In the meantime, the Interventionists will be supporting the classroom teachers with administering the assessments and collecting and analyzing the data.

John Jang (308 Woodland Avenue): will the W.I.N. program still be applied this year? Will testing and assessment for W.I.N. programs work? Ms. Moran responded our W.I.N. program will be continuing. The first few weeks will be devoted to Social/Emotional learning and the classroom teachers will be administering the assessments the first few weeks of school. The Interventionists will be helping with administering the assessments and we will be using the data from the assessments that are given at the beginning of the year. Those assessments will be used to form our groups for W.I.N. so it would start a few weeks into the beginning of the school year. In the meantime, the Interventionists will be supporting the classroom teachers with administering the assessments and collecting and analyzing the data.

Jina Park (River Edge Resident): when can we expect to be back in school for 5 full days? Dr. Ben-Dov responded if the 6 foot social distancing mandate is lifted, the pandemic is over, and the Governor no longer requires us to be in this condition we can be in for five days a week.

Sherry Arya (20 Richard Court): my child will be in the PM session, will she need to be in the AM via virtual or have to wait PM? Dr. Ben-Dov responded no, it is whatever session your child is assigned to. They do not need to be in both.

Beth Gautier (River Edge Resident): last year we had to print lots of paper for worksheets. Are teachers sending out packets for materials? Ms. Moran responded yes, teachers will be handing out materials and there will be less printing involved for parents at home.

Surya (River Edge Resident): my son receives special education services via resource room and speech how will his schedule be? Dr. Ben-Dov responded please wait until you receive the schedule. This will come to you from the teachers.

Dariusz (River Edge Resident): is the CREATE program going to be offered? Dr. Ben-Dov responded it will be offered and you will receive information about it. We do not send out this information this early in the school year.

Monique Akhaabi (River Edge Resident): I was a little confused with the letter I received. My daughter is a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade resource student. It stated she would be with her mainstream teacher Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. How will we know when she goes to the Resource Room or Mainstream Room? Dr. Ben-Dov responded you receive that specific information soon. If the letter you received already was not clear, please write to Mrs. Kuruc for clarity.

Dana Andriano (River Edge Resident): why are students in grade 5 not switching classes anymore? I thought the kids would stay put and the teachers would be switching classes? Is it so the teachers are exposed to fewer students? I feel like this provides the teachers with a lot more work being that for many years they have not had to teach all subjects. Mrs. Heitman responded the teachers of 5th and 6th grade will be switching classes, not the students.

Laptop (River Edge Resident): Will Mr. Al still be available to the students and have separate zoom sessions with them? Dr. Ben-Dov responded yes.

Shah (River Edge Resident): how will they select kids who are on virtual learning for CREATE? Virtual students won't impact the teacher's judgement compare to in person student? Dr. Ben-Dov responded there will be previous data to relate to. Virtual students will have an opportunity to express themselves during lessons and teachers can make a recommendation based on their participation.

Beth Barone (272 Voorhis Avenue): stated thank you for the extensive time and preparation dedicated to getting our kids back to school.

Asif Chhipa (River Edge Resident): my son is in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and we have opted virtual. When will we get textbooks and study materials? Dr. Ben-Dov responded the principals are working very hard on establishing those dates for pick up. You should be receiving information from your child's principal shortly.

John Jang (308 Woodland Avenue): stated that he was extremely grateful for your hard work and preparation. Hopefully everything goes as planned. You guys are very dedicated. Please stay safe.

Sherry Arya (20 Richard Court): will homework books be mailed out so that 1<sup>st</sup> graders can read and write via zoom? Mrs. Heitman responded they are going to try to get as many supplies as possible that the students will need, especially for the start of school to distribute to students.

Asif Chhipa (River Edge Resident): stated thank you so much. You are all giving your best.

Everlin Kim (River Edge Resident): stated that she was truly grateful for your hard work. Thank you so much! It's so well thought out.

Dana Andriano (River Edge Resident): thank you for your response. I am so happy to hear they will be switching! My letter stated that there would only be one teacher. When do we find out who the other teacher will be? Thank you for your hard work during this time. Mrs. Heitman responded that the letters indicate who the homeroom teachers are. Once you get the schedule, you will be able to see who the other teachers are.

Mrs. Heitman, Principal of Cherry Hill School, spoke about Technology which reinforces much of what was said in the Curriculum presentation. Technology supports our Curriculum. She spoke about the Technology survey that was sent to help the district understand the needs of our families and students in terms of devices and connectivity. She discussed the upgrades of the RE technology and connectivity, student devices, interface, professional development, and parent academies for technology. The questions that were asked were:

Julia Diminich (River Edge Resident): last spring parent-teacher conferences were cancelled. At a time of extreme upheaval in an elementary student's life, the home school connection was more important than ever. Many surrounding districts not only held virtual parent-teacher spring conferences, but also scheduled consistent check in zooms or call with students, parents, teachers, and/or pupil counselors. Has the district considered hosting virtual parent-teacher conferences this year? Dr. Ben-Dov responded yes, absolutely for conferences. Our communication with parents will continue to be on going and strong.

Brianne Etter (River Edge Resident): last year the Chromebooks kept dropping the home internet at random times, sometimes even during zooms. Has anything been done to the Chromebooks security to stop this from happening? Mrs. Heitman responded when the Chromebooks are at school they are linked to our safe features we put in place at school. When a Chromebook goes home it picks up the Wi-Fi/internet at the home and we do not have control of the school piece at your home. We will discuss some safe guards at our Parent Academy. Some of the older Chromebooks may drop a little easier than our newer ones. If you continue to experience this, please send us an email and we will get you a newer one.

Farah (River Edge Resident): what is Parent Academy and what will the kindergarten parent training entail? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we have had Parent Academies over the last few years on different topics. If you are an incoming kindergarten parent please attend the Orientation. Dr. Ben-Dov will ask Ms. Miele to explain what she will offer at the Parent Academy and the timing of it. She will explain how she will help the parents navigate the technology their children will need.

Rob Traina (183 Concord Drive): is the student required to use a Chromebook or is a windows laptop okay to use for virtual learning? Mrs. Heitman responded that as long as your child can get Google and Google Classroom it will be totally fine.

Scott Levy (235 Kensington Road): if my child does not need a Chromebook at home for virtual learning, will they have their own in the classroom? Mrs. Heitman responded yes, absolutely. Each Chromebook is assigned to a child and it will be their Chromebook for the school year.

Linda You (River Edge Resident): I understand there are parent academies, but will the kids learn how to use the platforms (classroom/class link) and typing? Mrs. Heitman responded absolutely; we do have a typing program for those that are ready.

Asif Chhipa (River Edge Resident): can a student take all virtual class from outside of the USA in case of a family emergency and traveling? Dr. Ben-Dov responded we will not allow a Chromebook to leave the country.

Lauren D'Alessandro (292 Woodland Avenue): as a kindergarten student, are they bringing their Chromebooks to school the four days they are in school in their backpack? Mrs. Heitman responded if they are Hybrid they probably won't bring it home every day. Only when needed, it will go home. They will have packets to bring home for reading and writing.

Rosalie De Grezia (228 Howland Avenue): will an in school Chromebook be provided for in school classes? Dr. Ben-Dov responded yes, absolutely.

Tammy (River Edge Resident) commented: I had a student who was out of the Country and our system would not allow him to use any school programs due to security.

Asif Chhipa (River Edge Resident): if a Chromebook is not allowed outside of the Country can we still take virtual classes from outside the USA in case of emergency traveling? Dr. Ben-Dov will need to refer this question to the County Superintendent. We will find the answer and respond back to you.

Jess Doo (210 Webb Avenue): thank you so much for the hours on end you have all put into planning. Slow connections and quiet voices were some of the repeated issues that were extremely distracting during zoom meetings. Can the school provide a list of home technology minimum requirements and or recommendations? Maybe have each class do a brief tech test sessions. This could reduce the influx of technology questions all at once and allow the classroom time to be more efficiently. Mrs. Heitman and Dr. Ben-Dov responded we will consider this. We will look into this and see if we can give some helpful support.

Heather (River Edge Resident): Genesis was not working earlier and I was not able to see the new forms that were posted. Has there been an updated privacy contract with regards to webcams and zoom sessions to ensure student privacy? Mrs. Heitman responded: Genesis was in and out all afternoon on their end. We sent out something similar to what we sent in the spring. We are not recording anything on the webcams. We were successful last spring with student privacy and we hope to be more successful this school year with it.

Mr. James, the Assistant Principal of Cherry Hill School, spoke about the Social/Emotional Learning that is planned for students and some activities being planned for teachers. He spoke about what Social/Emotional Learning is, the Hybrid and virtual environment, morning meeting/community time, frequent check-ins, peer mediation, calm down corners, mood tracking journals, virtual spirit week, WINGMAN, Meet and Greets, Professional Development Days, staff's mental health, Mindfulness, Adult Self-Care, River Edge Parent Academy Sessions, check in with families, distribution of information and resources connected to Social/Emotional Learning. The questions that were asked were:

Everlin Kim (River Edge Resident): thank you so much Mr. James. I see from my daughter's schedule that there is 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies, would you let me know what this covers. Ms. Moran responded it includes the work and social habits of students within the classrooms on the report cards.

Julia Diminich (River Edge Resident): the district offered many group sessions with the Pupil Counselors during lunch, without lunch in the schedule will activities be worked into small group opportunities? Thank you for making SEL a priority Mr. James. Dr. Ben-Dov responded absolutely. We are planning on doing that.

Jenni S (River Edge Resident): love your energy and the information you presented Mr. James. I love that both students and teachers are being supported for SEL. In the past the guidance counselors have run small groups for students. Will that be offered this year for students who may need some additional support on the SEL side? Dr. Ben-Dov responded yes, it will be offered.

Heather (River Edge Resident): Mr. James, thank you. Fynn looks forward to giving you a HUGE socially distant air hug. Will the big buddy program/primary project/social club be offered outside of the 2.5 hours of in-person instruction? Dr. Ben-Dov responded she will speak with the counselors and see what can be done. She needs to assess how the students are coming in and what their needs are.

Miyilyn Parra Innocent (River Edge Resident): I would like to know how anti-bias components would be incorporated into SEL. Dr. Ben-Dov responded we have a whole diversity program and literature to develop this area of our curriculum. It will be implemented right from the start.

Saratheresa Bartelloni (River Edge Resident) commented: thank you for holding this Town Hall. Wishing all of River Edge Staff members our very best for a successful year!

## **REPORTS**

### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov gave a special shout out to our custodians. She cannot thank them enough. They have done so much to get our buildings ready. It's endless work for them and they have been fantastic.
- New Teacher Orientation has been ongoing for the past three days. We have given them intensive trainings. They had presentations for three days, and it will continue with monthly meetings and with all of our coaches. They are a wonderful group and a great addition to our program and staff.
- Kindergarten Orientation will be different this year. Orientation could not happen in May so this orientation will be a combination of orientation and an informational session with the Principals. It will take place virtually at 11:00 AM tomorrow for Cherry Hill School and at 2:00 PM tomorrow for Roosevelt School. We have numerous presenters during this for Curriculum/Instruction and Technology. We are also planning a short introductory session with teachers at a different date.

- We are planning Professional Development for teachers. It will be four full days with differentiated training in small groups. There will be socially distanced meet and greet gatherings in each school. The workshops will be virtual for the teachers on safety protocols, trauma in students, technology, diversity curriculum, curriculum for different grade levels, hybrid and virtual teaching and learning models, safety drills, social emotional learning, and articulation from one grade to another.
- The Principals are organizing the pick-up of materials for parents next week. We also need to establish regular pick up and drop off of materials for parents throughout the year.
- Dr. Ben-Dov expressed her gratitude for Ms. Faustini, our Public Health Nurse in River Edge, she came to our buildings, walked around, and established what we feel are comfortable solutions for our Isolation Rooms.
- Parents should expect a lot of communication from their respective schools within the next week.
- We expect to be ready on September 8<sup>th</sup> to start the phasing in of our students. Dr. Ben-Dov is excited to see our hard work being implemented. Her gratitude has no end and she is eager to start. The positive attitudes have been fantastic and she thanked everyone for that.

### **PRINCIPAL**

No Principal report at this meeting

### **BOARD SECRETARY**

Ms. Napolitano reported on the following:

- The Governor spoke yesterday and gave the budget statement. He gave clarification that the proposal says that aid amounts won't include any further cuts for grades K-12 than we were already given. The legislature must approve this by September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Our custodians have been doing an incredible job. They started drills to see how fast they can clean the classrooms in between classes and to make sure it's thoroughly cleaned. The Cherry Hill School pavement has been repaved, we had work done on the fire alarms, we have orders for additional dividers, we are continuing to receive our PPE, and the air purifiers are being ordered.
- Ms. Napolitano answered one of the questions that were in the Zoom chat regarding bathrooms being social distant. She stated we hung curtain dividers between the sinks that are side by side and placed soap dispensers and paper towels on both sides. This way, we have no close contact. The urinals in the boy's bathroom middle stalls were blocked off for use so social distancing will be maintained. We also have our hallways marked to be socially distant and we have posted signs. We are confident that we are ready to start and bring everyone in safely. We also have our former lunch aides who will now be able to monitor our hallways.

## **PRESIDENT**

Mr. Herbst reported on the following:

- Mr. Herbst thanked everyone that called into tonight's board meeting. He thanked them for being involved and asking questions. He thanked all of the presenters, Dr. Ben-Dov, and all who worked on the committees who worked on the Task Force.

## **COMMITTEES**

No committees reported at this meeting

## **MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON**

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

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

<b>Policy #</b>	<b>Title</b>
3510	Operation and Maintenance of Plant
6173.1	Remote Learning
5141.2	Illness

2. That the Board of Education approve the First Reading of the following policies:

<b>Policy #</b>	<b>Title</b>
3541.33	Transportation Safety
5141.3	Health Examinations and Immunizations

**B. BUILDING & GROUNDS** - None

**C. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION** - None

### **D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS**

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated August, 2020 totaling \$784,271.16 including checks #43610 through #43682.
2. That the Board of Education approve the payrolls date July 15, 2020 and July 31, 2020 totaling \$419,575.77.

### **E. PERSONNEL**

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Kristina Aramanda, Leave Replacement Teacher, effective on September 1, 2020 through December 23, 2020, MA, Step 2.

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Kelsey Lapp, Leave Replacement Teacher, effective on September 1, 2020 through December 23, 2020, BA, Step 1.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Janet Cohen, Leave Replacement Teacher, effective on September 1, 2020 through November 25, 2020, BA+15, Step 5.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Kevin Monahan, Leave Replacement School Custodian, effective on September 21, 2020 through December 31, 2020, Step 3.
5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as Substitutes for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Kerri Bartnicki  
 Cara Kossuth  
 Aileen Norton  
 Jacqueline Trobiano (Nurse)

6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the following as Part Time Aides for the 2020-2021 school year.

<p style="padding-left: 40px;">Arjarasumpun, Thippawon          Best, Nicole          Chamberlain, Gina          Chamberlain, Kimberly          Cho, Nancy          Deckler, Tara          Frontauria, Jacqueline          Iannantuano, Dawn</p>	<p style="padding-left: 40px;">McGinley, Wendy          Meyer, Donna          Murtha, Kathleen          Noel, Eleanor          Perry, Jacqueline          Prestigiacomo, Keri          Rodriguez, Patricia          Sanzari, Amanda          Smith, Nerissa</p>
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7. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following, 504 Aides, for the 2020-2021 school year.

<p style="padding-left: 40px;">Sharon Bene          Mary Ellen Cameron          Gina Chamberlain          Sharon Francin          Lisa Guinta</p>	<p style="padding-left: 40px;">Patricia Higgins          Megan Lai-Chan          Elaine Pepi          Danielle Scher          Eugenia Tavarez</p>
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8. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the employment of the following lunch aides for Cherry Hill School and Roosevelt School for the 2020-2021 school year.

Alycia Campisi  
 Ann Marie Como

9. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the request for a medical leave of absence by an employee whose name is on file in the Superintendent's office effective on or about October 7, 2020 through November 25, 2020.
10. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Jason Funabashi, Leave Replacement Teacher, effective on September 1, 2020 through February 3, 2021, BA, Step 1.

**F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None**

**G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION**

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated August, 2020 totaling \$8,285.60 including checks #73899 through #73900.
2. 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 2020-2021 school year:

Helen Adler LLC	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant/Teacher of Handicapped	Nonpublic Consultant
Jessica Landa OT Services	Occupational Therapist	Direct Services

**Motion by: Ms. Brown Seconded by: Mr. Sim**

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Juskeliene, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst

Nays: None

**OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Dansky stated the CAL (Community Association Leadership) Meetings have been happening weekly. Last week the topic was on safety regarding PPE use and the Coronavirus. It was related to school safety. Mr. Jeffrey Gale and Dr. Thomas Gambino were the presenters. They are the directors with the school preparedness and emergency planning department at the Department of Education. They met with board members across the state to discuss the drill law. Anytime anyone is in the buildings we are obliged to have emergency drills. They would like to have the Governor issue an executive order to suspend the drills for our Hybrid model like they did for March 2020 through June 2020. They do not want staff and students learning how to do the drills differently than they have learned to do them in the past. They also spoke about having a teacher or another adult at multiple entrances and exits with a walkie talkie.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Danny Bolobanic (229 Dorchester Road): if my child is in the PM session what time would they have to log in for the extra activities? Dr. Ben-Dov responded that will be in the schedule that will be provided to each class. You will receive that no later than next Friday.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Dansky to convene into closed session at 8:46 PM.

**Motion by: Mr. Sim Seconded by: Ms. Dansky**

Ayes: Ms. Brown, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Juskeliene, Mr. Sim, Mr. Herbst  
Nays: None

**RECONVENE**

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Ms. Kang to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:10 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano  
Board Secretary/Business Administrator