

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

**AGENDA**  
**January 5, 2022**  
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 5, 2022 will have a meeting conducted from the Roosevelt School Media Center. 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/87191081846?pwd=U0p0K1BVeUd4dGxVTUNSTHVZcmZUZz09>

Meeting Access Code / ID: 871 9108 1846

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 2, 2021**

Mrs. Napolitano will report on the official results of November 2, 2021 election.

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>Total Votes Cast</u>
Dimitrios Papiris (3 Year Term)	1,564
Eun Kang (3 Year Term)	1,307
Gyuchang Sim (3 Year Term)	948

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

The Board Secretary will administer the Oath of Office to Trustees elect Dimitrios Papiris, Eun Kang, and Gyuchang Sim.

### **2022 Board of Education and Expiration of Terms of Offices**

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Expiration of Terms</u>
Caleb Herbst	2022
Silvija Juskeleiene	2022
Sheli Dansky	2023
Elizabeth Brown	2023
Gyuchang Sim	2024
Eun Kang	2024
Dimitrios Papiris	2024

### **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 5, 2022	Roosevelt School
January 19, 2022	Roosevelt School
February 2, 2022	Roosevelt School
February 16, 2022	Roosevelt School
March 2, 2022	Roosevelt School
March 16, 2022	Roosevelt School
April 6, 2022	Roosevelt School
April 27, 2022	Roosevelt School
May 4, 2022	Roosevelt School
May 18, 2022	Roosevelt School
June 8, 2022	Roosevelt School
June 22, 2022	Roosevelt School
July 27, 2022	Roosevelt School
September 7, 2022	Roosevelt School
September 21, 2022	Roosevelt School
October 12, 2022	Roosevelt School
October 26, 2022	Roosevelt School
November 2, 2022	Roosevelt School
November 16, 2022	Roosevelt School
December 7, 2022	Roosevelt School
December 21, 2022	Roosevelt School
January 4, 2023 (Reorganization Meeting)	Roosevelt 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, 2022.

## 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
- Catherine Danahy, Superintendent of Schools

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, 2022.

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, 2022 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, 2022 at an hourly rate of \$175 Principal, \$165 Senior Associate Architect, and \$140 Project Architect/Engineer until June 30, 2022.

15. Designation Board Insurance Agency

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate MetLife 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, 2022.

17. Custodian of Public Records

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Louise Napolitano as Custodian of Public Records until June 30, 2022.

18. Designation 504 Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Alrick Douglas for Roosevelt School as 504 Coordinator and Janel Blake for Cherry Hill School as 504 Coordinator until the next organization meeting.

19. 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.

20. 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.

21. Designation District Anti-Bullying Coordinator

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

22. 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

23. 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.

24. 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.

25. Designation Treasurer of School Funds

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

26. 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.

27. 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.

28. 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.

29. 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 2021-2022 school year:

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

**SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Public Comments on Agenda Items
- B. 2022 - 2023 School Calendar Discussion
- C. START STRONG Presentation –Mrs. Danahy, Ms. Moran, Mr. Werner

**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 December 15, 2021.
- 2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for January 2022 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)

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

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	December 3, 2021 Fire Drill December 20, 2021 Lockdown
Roosevelt School	December 21, 2021 Fire Drill December 23, 2021 Lockdown

4. That the Board of Education approve the Violence, Vandalism and Harassment Intimidation and Bullying Report and HIB Training and Programs Report for Reporting Period 1 (July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021) .
5. That the Board of Education affirm the HIB report previously reported at the December 15, 2021 Board Meeting.

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

**B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None**

**C. BUILDINGS & GROUNDS**

1. **WHEREAS**, the River Edge Board of Education (“Board”) advertised for bids for a Project entitled “Electrical Upgrade at Cherry Hill Elementary School” (“Project”); and

**WHEREAS**, on November 11, 2021, the Board received bids for the Project, as reflected on the attached bid tabulation sheet; and

**WHEREAS**, TSUJ Corp. (“TSUJ”) submitted the lowest bid for the Project with a base bid in the amount of \$388,707; and

**WHEREAS**, the bid submitted by TSUJ is responsive in all material respects and it is the Board’s desire to award the contract for the Project to TSUJ.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as follows:

The Board hereby awards the contract for the Electrical Upgrades at Cherry Hill Elementary School Project to TSUJ in a total contract amount of \$388,707.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this award is expressly conditioned upon the contractor furnishing the requisite insurance certificate and labor and materials/performance bond as required in the project specifications, together with an AA201-Project Manning Report, an executed A-101-Standard Form of Agreement Between Owner and Contractor, A-201-General Conditions of the Contract for Construction, as prepared by the Board Attorney, within ten (10) days of the date hereof.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board Attorney is hereby directed to draft the agreement with the successful bidder consistent with this Resolution and with the terms contained in the bid documents approved by the Board for the Project. The Board President and the Board Secretary are hereby authorized to execute such agreement and any other documents necessary to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.

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

**D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS**

1. 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 \$75.00

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

**E. PERSONNEL**

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Janine Caruso, Part-time Resource Teacher (.5), starting on or about March 5, 2022 through June 30, 2022, BA Step 7.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Christine Wang, Part-time Aide, starting on or about January 6, 2022 through June 30, 2022.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Christine Wang, Substitute Teacher, for the 2021-2022 school year pending Certification.
4. That the Board of Education approve the following individuals for movement on the step guide effective February 1, 2022 based on educational credentials.

Kismet Bohajian	from	MA+15	to	MA+30
Mary Ann Crudello	from	MA+15	to	MA+30
LeighAnne Kaufmann	from	MA	to	MA+15

5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Steven Luca, for Odyssey of the Mind, not to exceed 10 hours, at his hourly contractual rate, for the 2021-2022 school year.
6. That the Board of Education with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Lara Kane for additional hours to provide classroom coverage from January 3, 2022 through January 21, 2022.

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

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

**G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION - None**

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Upcoming Board Meetings**

January 19, 2022

February 2, 2022