

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

*"Building Bright Futures Together"*

**Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – February 18, 2015 – 7:30 PM**

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Media Center, Cherry Hill School, 410 Bogert Road, River Edge, NJ 07661.

**CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE**

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Ms. Dansky read the Mission Statement.

**ROLL CALL**

Present on roll call were: Mr. Busteded, Ms. Dansky, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker. Also present Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Salvati, Mrs. Heitman, and approximately six members of the public.

Mr. DiBella arrived at 8:20 PM  
Ms. Danahy was absent

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Mrs. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

**SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Discussion of the Preliminary 2015-2016 Budget – Dr. Ben-Dov and Mrs. Salvati

Dr. Ben-Dov spoke about the factors affecting the budget including enrollment growth and the need for additional staff and materials. Mrs. Salvati spoke about changes made to the budget since the last presentation and reported that the state increased our tax levy cap due to enrollment growth.

**REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- There was one potential HIB Incident to report. It involved two Roosevelt 5<sup>th</sup> graders (Student A) made verbal comments to another Roosevelt 5<sup>th</sup> grader (Student B). It was investigated and found not to be HIB related.
- Dr. Ben-Dov attended the NJ Commissioner of Education Forum today. The forum was attended by the Bergen and Passaic County Superintendent's, NJSBA, Leadership of Superintendents' Association, the Commissioner and staff from the Commissioner's Office. They spoke about PARCC: The history of PARCC development and prior

assessments. The benefits of reports that will be derived from PARCC results for informed instruction were also discussed. The test refusal movement was discussed and it was restated how, by law, there is no option to “opt out” of the testing for public school students.

- There are two PARCC Parent Presentations scheduled for Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Both meetings will be joint meetings for parents of River Edge and Oradell. The meeting for the 19<sup>th</sup> is in Oradell Public Schools and the meeting for the 24<sup>th</sup> is at Cherry Hill School.

### **PRINCIPAL**

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Mrs. Heitman explained PARCC trials and the upcoming tests to the board. The teachers feel they learned a lot from these trials. We were able to work out the kinks and troubleshoot.
- International Day for Cherry Hill School was on February 5th. It was a huge success. The children really enjoyed it.
- Firefighter Phil came to both schools on February 11<sup>th</sup> and February 12<sup>th</sup>. The children learned a lot about fire safety.
- Cherry Hill's first graders are enjoying the Mayor's Book Club. The Mayor came on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> to read a story to the first graders.
- The 100<sup>th</sup> day of school is on February 19<sup>th</sup>. The children will celebrate with a variety of activities.
- Jump Rope for Heart Health will be celebrated the week of February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### **BOARD SECRETARY**

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- Mrs. Salvati stated State Aid will be announced around February 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Myers had nothing to report at this meeting.

### **COMMITTEES**

- Ms. Walker stated River Dell will not be part of Tri-District with Oradell and River Edge next year. Dr. Ben-Dov and Mr. Wilson, Superintendent of Oradell, will continue to work together.
- Mr. Busted attended and spoke about the Building and Grounds Meeting that took place before the board meeting.
- Ms. Dansky stated there will be a meeting for Bergen County School Boards Presidents' on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at Roosevelt School. On Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a shredding truck available and a truck for collecting donations of plastic toys for less fortunate children, at Cherry Hill School.

**MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON**

**ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

Motion by Mr. Busteed  
Seconded by Mr. DiBella

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes and Confidential Minutes  
January 21, 2015.

Ayes: Mr. Busteed (Abstained on the Confidential Minutes), Mr. DiBella, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker  
Nays: None; Abstained: Ms. Dansky

Motion by Mr. DiBella  
Seconded by Mr. Sim

2. That the Board of Education approve the following class trip:

<b>Date</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Destination</b>	<b>Cost to District</b>
4/15/15	Roosevelt	2	Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ	\$960.00

3. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the  
schedule for February 2015 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)

Ayes: Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker  
Nays: None

**CURRICULUM/EDUCATION** – None

**BUILDING & GROUNDS** – None

**FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS**

Motion by Mr. Sim  
Seconded by Ms. Walker

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated February 2015  
totaling \$793,802.63 including checks #37064 through #37118 claims dated  
February 2015 totaling Payrolls dated January 15, 2015 and January 30, 2015  
totaling \$1,069,565.81 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as  
part of these minutes. (Addendum)

Ayes: Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim  
Nays: None; Abstained: Ms. Walker

Motion by Ms. Walker  
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

2. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2014-2015 as of December 31, 2014. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending December 31, 2014.

Further, we certify that as of December 31, 2014 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 district's financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Addendum)

3. That the Board of Education establish May 6, 2015 as the date for the official Public Hearing of the 2015-2016 School Year Budget.
4. That the Board of Education approve \$3,000 compensation for Chris Armen, as Director of the 2015 summer enrichment Program.

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker  
Nays: None

### **PERSONNEL**

Motion by Ms. Walker  
Seconded by Mr. Busted

1. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of Ann-Marie Calza, Special Education/Resource Teacher, effective July 1, 2015.

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker  
Nays: None

Motion by Ms. Busted  
Seconded by Mr. DiBella

2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Kyle Aug, Part-time Aide, starting on or about February 23, 2015 through June 30, 2015.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Cathleen Raffa, Substitute ABA Aide starting on or about March 2, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker  
Nays: None

**RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION** - None

**REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION**

Motion by Mr. DiBella  
Seconded by Mr. Sim

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated February 2015 totaling \$734,260.74 including checks #63723 through #63896.
2. **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,, approves the following Region V Shared Services Consultants, Psychologists, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants, Social Workers, Speech Language Specialists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, Translators to provide evaluations, direct services and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2014-2015 school year.

Aviva Hamber	Speech and Language Specialist
The Cor Group, LLC	psychologist

3. That the Board of Education approve the 2014-2015 Jointure Transportation Agreement between Region V (Host) and Lakewood B.O.E. (Joiner).

Ayes: Mr. Busteded, Ms. Dansky, Mr. DiBella, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker  
Nays: None

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS** - None

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Jeffrey Gewirtz, River Edge parent, asked about teacher placement for next year and expressed his concern for the possible development in the town and impact on the schools.

Kathy DeSavino, River Edge parent, expressed her concern about the level of testing taking place in the district.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:25 PM made by Mr. Busteded and seconded by Mr. DiBella

Patricia Salvati  
Board Secretary/Business Administrator