

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

*“Building Bright Futures Together”*

**Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – April 1, 2015**

**7:00 PM PUBLIC MEETING**

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Media Center, Roosevelt School, 711 Summit Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661.

**CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE**

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Mr. DiBella read the Mission Statement.

**ROLL CALL**

Present on roll call were Mr. Busteed; Ms. Danahy; Ms. Danksy; Mr. DiBella; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Salvati Mrs. Rosen, and one member of the public.

Ms. Walker was absent.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

**SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Ethics Training with Alfred Annunziata

Alfred Annunziata, from NJ School Boards Association, met with the Board for Ethics Training. Mr. Annunziata gave a PowerPoint presentation on the School Ethics Act and board member responsibilities. He reviewed the School Ethics Commission (SEC), SEC Jurisdiction, Conflicts of Interest, the Nepotism Policy and the Code of Ethics. He concluded the training with some practice questions and answered any questions that the board members had.

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

**REPORTS**

**SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- PARCC is completed including make-up testing. Dr. Ben-Dov thanked all those who helped with PARCC for all of their hard work. She is very pleased with where we ended up. Reports will be available in October. The total number of refusals for the district was 17 students. 11 students from Roosevelt and 6 from Cherry Hill School. Dr. Ben-Dov is establishing a format for gathering structured feedback from teachers.

- REACH winter edition is online tonight. There is a segment of Dr. Ben-Dov interviewing a few students from grades 4, 5, and 6 regarding PARCC and their experience of the test. Dr. Ben-Dov encourages everyone to watch it.
- There are two HIB Incidents to report on. On Monday, March 9, 2015 one Roosevelt 6<sup>th</sup> grader (Student A) made verbal comments to another Roosevelt 6<sup>th</sup> grader (Student B). It was investigated and found to be HIB related. The families were notified and action against Student A took place. Student A had one week recess detention and has to have sessions with the Pupil Assistance Counselor. On Tuesday, March 24, 2015 an incident was reported on a case that happened about a month ago. Three Roosevelt 6<sup>th</sup> graders (Students A, B, and C) made verbal comments to another Roosevelt 6<sup>th</sup> grader (Student D). It was investigated and found to be HIB related. The families were notified and action against Students A, B, and C took place. The Students have sessions with the Pupil Assistance Counselor.
- Dr. Ben-Dov attended the Superintendent's Roundtable and Achieve New Jersey was discussed. In Morris County modifications were approved based on the Equivalency Application. There are evaluation modifications by the Commissioner for tenured teachers who are effective and highly effective. The modifications are for one long (40 minutes) observation and one short (20 minutes) observation. This will reduce the number of observations for our tenured teachers. There will be a Board resolution for Achieve New Jersey at our next board meeting.
- Dr. Ben-Dov spoke about Interdisciplinary Curriculum. Most curricula must be modified and re-submitted to the Board for approval after July 2014. There will be a meeting tomorrow to discuss this with the Administrators, Supervisors, and Mr. Bill Feldman
- Dr. Ben-Dov attended a Technology Committee Meeting on Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. A vendor was brought in to discuss our need for teacher devices. Various options were discussed and there are many factors to be considered such as managing an additional operating system and possibly servers. Dr. Ben-Dov will work with administrators to formulate a plan and report at a future Board Meeting.
- All of our leave replacement positions have been filled for this year. Dr. Ben-Dov is currently working on interviews and setting up demos for the 2015-2016 school year.
- Teacher of the Year Committee Meeting was held on Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, and the Teachers were selected. The winners will be announced tomorrow at the schools.

## **PRINCIPAL**

Mrs. Rosen reported on the following:

- On Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> the district will be sponsoring "Light It up Blue" for Autism awareness. Students and staff are encouraged to wear blue that day.
- NBC will have a Penguin Assembly on Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Building Bridges will be sponsoring a Carnival for Kids on Thursday, April 16th from 6PM to 8PM in the Multi-Purpose Room.
- Roosevelt's Spring Concert will be held Tuesday, April 21st and Cherry Hill's Concert will be held on Thursday April 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- The Cherry Hill and Roosevelt Art Show will be held on Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>
- Arbor Day celebrations will be held on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup> in both schools.

## **BOARD SECRETARY**

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- Ms. Salvati is working with the County to approve the budget.
- The camera and buzzer are installed at the Roosevelt School Library for the Board Meetings. Our district cameras are back up and running with the River Edge Police Department.
- The Roosevelt steps to the old gym are deteriorating quickly due to the amount of salt used over the winter. Ms. Salvati met with Rodney Watkins (DiCara Rubino Architects) today. There was temporary patch work done on the steps for now but they should not be used as a regular means of egress. Ms. Salvati will have the welder come out next week to look at the steps to see what can be done to secure them better, but she will need to go out to bid for a complete replacement. The structural engineer will go to Roosevelt tomorrow to assess and also to look at the steps on June Court. The Borough requested the engineer's evaluation. We also need to identify the property lines on June Court.
- Ms. Salvati reminded the board members that the online Disclosure Statements must be submitted to the County by April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Salvati explained Governor Chris Christie's Pension and Health Benefits Reform to the board. She stated a board resolution will be on the April 22<sup>nd</sup> board agenda for their approval.

## **PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- On Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup> three boys will be honored as Eagle Scouts. Mrs. Myers volunteered to attend to represent the Board of Education.
- Mrs. Myers asked the Board Members for any volunteers to be a liaison for the Mayor and Council meetings. Mr. DiBella and Ms. Danahy volunteered.
- Mrs. Myers stated the Board Self Evaluations are open
- There will be a committee meeting Wednesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> before the regular board meeting.

## **COMMITTEES**

There were no reports at this meeting

## **MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON** **ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

Motion by Mr. Busteed  
Seconded by Mr. DiBella

1. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for April 2015 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)

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

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	March 11, 2015 Lock Down March 25, 2015 Fire Drill
Roosevelt School	March 17, 2015 Fire Drill March 25, 2015 Lock Down

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

Policy #	Title
5120	Assessment of Individual Needs
6171.4	Special Education

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

Date	School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
6/5/15	Roosevelt	4	Museum Village Monroe, NY	\$750.00

**CURRICULUM/EDUCATION** - None

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS** - None

**FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS** - None

**PERSONNEL**

1. That the Board of Education approve the Job Description of the Bi-Borough Supervisor of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Ashley Cannata, Leave Replacement Teacher, effective on or about May 18, 2015 through June 30, 2015, MA, Step 1-2.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as Substitute Teacher for the 2014-2015 School Year.

Ashley Cannata

**RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION** – None

**REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION**

1. That the Board of Education approve the 2015-2016 Jointure Transportation Agreement between S.B.J.C. (Host) and Region V (Joiner).

2. That the Board of Education approve the following Bid Contract with Ace Transportation.

Route #	Transporter	Per Diem
2081	Ridgefield Memorial H.S.	\$166.00 (w/aide)

3. **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.

Patricia London	LDTC
We Care School Trans Inc.	Transporter
Mala Datta	Psychologist
Sofia Trujillo-Arcieri	Speech and Language Specialist
Bernadette Marques-Pinto	Workshop Consultant

4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Janice Hubbard, Region V Transportation Coordinator, starting, April 1, 2015 through June 30, 2015.

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

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Dansky thanked John Lyons and the custodians for all of their help with the Bergen County School Boards Presidents' Breakfast she hosted on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Busted thanked Denise Heitman and Victor Tee for all of their hard work on PARCC.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION** - None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

Patricia Salvati  
Board Secretary/Business Administrator