

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

"Building Bright Futures Together"

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – September 17, 2014

7:30 PM Public Meeting

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

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Ms. Dansky called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Walker read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were; Mrs. Buckley; Mr. Busteed; Ms. Dansky; Mr. DiBella; Mr. Sim; Ms. Walker; also present were Ms. Salvati, Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Rosen and approximately twenty members of the public.

Mrs. Myers arrived at 8:00 PM.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Dr. Ben-Dov welcomed the new staff to the River Edge School District. Each staff member introduced themselves.

Michelle Baragona – Cherry Hill School-6th Grade
 Sharon Cardia– District-Instructional Technology Coach
 Whitney Castellvi – Roosevelt School -2nd Grade
 Caroline Church – Cherry Hill School Leave Replacement – 3rd Grade
 Nichol DelRosso – Roosevelt School Leave Replacement – 2nd Grade
 Rebecca DelPriore – Cherry Hill School Leave Replacement – Librarian
 Sharon Fadini – Cherry Hill School- .5 Resource Teacher
 Maria Garcia – District-World Language Teacher
 Noy Sapir – Cherry Hill School-2nd Grade
 Leah Taylor– Cherry Hill School Leave Replacement – 2nd Grade
 Elizabeth Taylor-Fox– Roosevelt School – Librarian
 Beth Unanue– Roosevelt School-6th Grade

Summary of Community Planning and District Goals- Alfred Annunziata

Mr. Alfred Annunziata, New Jersey School Boards Association, reviewed the process of the Superintendent's evaluations with the board. He explained the two changes of the evaluation: the date change and the Superintendent's Professional Development Plan. He then went over the highlights of the Community Planning meeting held in June. During this meeting they worked on three goals. He also spoke to the board regarding various committee structures. He explained the three different options with the board. Mr. Annunziata answered all questions that were asked by the board.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- The 2014-2015 school year is off to a great start and has been busy.
- Back to School Night for New Bridge Center was held on Monday, September 15 and Roosevelt's and Cherry Hill's was held on Tuesday, September 16th. All three were well attended and very informative. There was a lot of positive feedback from all. Teachers covered the Common Core State Standards in their presentations.
- On the evening of Tuesday, October 7th there will be an ESL Meeting planned by Ms. Schnee and on Monday, October 13th there will be a Character Education Program planned by Ms. Rosen. On Tuesday, September 23rd, there will be a 2nd Cup of Coffee Meeting with Dr. Ben-Dov.
- There are some small revisions to the gifted and talented program. Ms. Kossoy will be the administrator of the program, Ms. Diminich will be in charge of the literacy portion, Ms. Crawford will be in charge of math and Mr. Corcoran for science. Both librarians will be helping with the research and there will be a part-time per diem teacher for this program too.
- The Supervisors have started implementing Professional Development for staff. Ms. Crawford started last week with Math and Ms. Diminich started this week with Social Studies. Dr. Ben-Dov is very pleased with this as it will give teachers resources early in the school year.
- On October 1st, there will be a Tri-District Committee Meeting before the board meeting. The architects will come to the October 1st board meeting to report their findings for the districts space challenges.
- Dr. Ben-Dov is hoping to present the NJ ASK Results at the October 22nd board meeting and there will be a negotiations meeting on September 29th.

PRINCIPAL

Ms. Rosen reported on the following:

- The 2014-2015 school year is off to a smooth start. The children are adjusting beautifully and the traffic control is going well.
- There was a Welcome Tea Meeting held on Friday, September 12th. There was a nice attendance for this meeting.
- New Bridge Center had a wonderful Back to School night. It was nicely attended and Ms. Rosen received great feedback.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- The audit started on September 2nd. All of the onsite testing is completed and Ms. Salvati is waiting to hear when the exit interview will be. Mr. Higgins may attend the October 22nd Board Meeting for the Audit presentation.
- Ms. Salvati stated she is planning for a deposit of \$200,000 into the Capital Reserve Account and \$25,000 into the Maintenance Reserve Account.
- Ms. Salvati spoke about the public hearing Bond Re-funding and responded to the request for information on shortening the maturity.
- The Bond Counsel will attend the October 1st Board Meeting for the Public Hearing.

PRESIDENT

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers stated the board members can look online and register for classes that will be held at the 2014 NJSBA Convention.
- Mrs. Myers asked the board if they want to stay at the Taj Mahal for the convention since they will be closing in the month of November. The board will let Pat know of their decision.

COMMITTEES

- Mr. Sim and Mr. DiBella attended the County Meeting on Monday, September 15, 2014.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

Motion by Mr. Busted
Seconded by Mr. DiBella

1. That the Board of Education approve the staff development training as per the schedules for September 2014 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education approve the list on file in the district office of pupil records maintained in the district for the 2014-2015 school year. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education approves the following class trips:

| Date | School | Grade | Destination | Cost to District |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--|-------------------------|
| 10/8/14 | Roosevelt | 3 | Sterling Mine Ogdensburg, NJ | \$770.00 |
| 10/8/14 10/9/14 10/10/14 | Roosevelt | 5 | Fort Lee Historic Park Fort Lee, NJ | \$460.00 |

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

CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

Motion by Mr. DiBella
 Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

1. That the Board of Education approve the 2014-2015 school year attendance of specific students at Cherry Hill or Roosevelt School which is other than their customary neighborhood school, on file in the District Office.
2. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and St. Peter's Academy to provide Non-public Technology Services for the 2014-2015 school year.
3. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Sinai School at RYNJ to provide Non-public Technology Services for the 2014-2015 school year.
4. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Yeshiva of North Jersey to provide Non-public Technology Services for the 2014-2015 school year.
5. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Stepping Stone Learning Center to provide Non-public Technology Services for the 2014-2015 school year.

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

BUILDING & GROUNDS

FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

Motion by Mrs. Buckley
 Seconded by Ms. Walker

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2014 totaling \$384,290.45 including checks #36550 through #36602. Payrolls dated August 15, 2014 and August 29, 2014 totaling \$220,694.87 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, 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 July, 2014. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending July 31, 2014.

Further, we certify that as of July 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 districts financial obligation for the remainder of the fiscal year. (Addendum)

4. That the Board of Education approve the Capital Project Bill List totaling \$1,234.04 issued therefore, and a copy of such warrant list be attached as part of these minutes.

| | | September 17, 2014 | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Service | Vendor | Amount | PO# |
| Cherry Hill Roof Replacement | DiCara /Rubino | \$1,234.04 | 14000247 |

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

PERSONNEL

Motion by Ms. Walker
Seconded by Mr. Sim

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Gianna Apicella to commence on, or about February 5, 2015 through March 5, 2015, to be followed by a State Family leave of absence effective March 6, 2014 through June 5, 2015 followed by a child rearing leave of absence to extend through June 30, 2015.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Stan Stevens, Cherry Hill and Mark Jentz, Roosevelt as Lead Custodians for the 2014-2015 school year, as per contractual stipend.
3. That the Board of Education designate Marisa Kossoy, Affirmative Action Officer, for the River Edge School District for the 2014-2015 school year.
4. That the Board of Education designate Denise Heitman, Attendance Officer, for a yearly stipend of \$500.00 for the 2014-2015 school year.

5. That the Board of Education approve Beth Rosen, Homeless Student Liaison, for the River Edge School District for the 2014-2015 school year.
6. That the Board of Education approve Rosemary Kuruc, Mental Health Liaison, for the River Edge School District for the 2014-2015 school year.
7. That the Board of Education approve Maria Pepe as the Primary Project Aide for the 2014-2015 School Year.
8. That the Board of Education approve Dawn Iannantuano, Part-Time 504 Aide, for the 2014-2015 school year for a maximum of 23 hours per week.
9. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as an Intern, from September 22, 2014 to November 21, 2014.

Erica Colombini

10. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve the following as Substitute Teachers for the 2014-2015 School Year.

Erica Colombini
Ron Laxamana

11. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Nancy Hafers, Part-time Teacher, Per Diem, starting, September 18, 2014 through June 30, 2015, at an hourly rate of \$39.26.

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

RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Mr. Busteed

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2014 totaling \$476,884.39 including checks #63084 through #63168.
2. That the Board of Education approve the following Renewal Contract for F.S. Transportation.

| Route # | Transporter | Per Diem |
|---------|-------------------------|----------|
| 1987 | Little Red School House | \$195.16 |

3. That the Board of Education approve the 2014-2015 Jointure Transportation Agreement between P.C.E.S.C. (Host) and Region V (Joiner).
4. That the Board of Education approve River Edge as LEA for Region V.

5. 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.

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Eva Pnina Kaplan | Vision consultant |
| Beth Levitown | Speech and Language Specialist |
| Karen Louk | Nonpublic consultant |
| Lisa Milun | Teacher |
| Lisa Houben | Speech and Language Specialist |
| Sara Engel | Speech and Language Specialist |
| Michelle Pappas | Occupational Therapist |
| Sherry Schwartz | Social Worker |

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

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Walker explained how the Continuing Certificate of Occupancy, (CCO), can be beneficial to the town. She reported that the Borough of River Edge's Attorney will be drafting an ordinance for consideration by the council.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Ms. Dansky
Seconded by Ms. Walker

that the Board of Education convened into closed session at 9:55 PM to discuss contractual matters.

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

RECONVENE

Motion by Mr. Busteed
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

that the Board of Education reconvenes the regular public meeting at 10:55 PM.

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

Motion by Mr. DiBella
Seconded by Mr. Busteed

12. That the Board of Education approve the submission of the following Superintendent Merit Goals to the Executive County Superintendent for the 2014 - 2015 school year

Quantitative:

1. To Re-register or account for and address 100% of River Edge Students who are registered in River Edge Schools for the 2014-15 school year.
2. At the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year, 75% of River Edge students in grades 4 through 6 will increase their *Reading Informational Text* assessment score by 20%, as compared to the Fall Assessment.
3. At the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year, 80% of students in grades Kindergarten through two will increase their assessment score in fluency of adding and subtracting by 30%. Expectations for each grade level are skill specific:
 - Kindergarten will increase fluency in adding and subtracting within the number five by 30% improvement compared to the fall assessment
 - Grade one will increase fluency in adding and subtracting within the number ten by 30% improvement as compared to the fall assessment.
 - Grade two will increase fluency in adding and subtracting within the number twenty by 30% improvement as compared to the fall assessment.

Qualitative

1. To augment and improve district communications with stakeholders and provide easy access to district information for the users of social media by creating and maintaining a Superintendent's Facebook page during the 2014-15 school year. School Principals will also share school-specific information through their own Facebook pages.
2. To develop a strategic plan for the use of River Edge Facilities. This will include an interim plan for the 2015-16 School Year and the exploration of a long-term plan of use or development for the next five years.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Dansky
Seconded by Ms. Walker

that the Board of Education adjourn the regular public meeting at 10:58 PM.

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

Patricia Salvati
Board Secretary/Business Administrator

