

RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661

"Building Bright Futures Together"

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – January 2, 2013 – 7:30 PM

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

Ms. Di Maulo called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Sim read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Mrs. Buckley; Mr. Busted; Ms. Dansky; Ms. Di Maulo; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim; Ms. Walker; also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Trainor; Mr. Vouvalides; Mrs. Kelly and approximately four members of the public.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Trainor read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

REORGANIZATION

Administer Oath of Office to Newly Elected Trustees

the Board Secretary administered the Oath of Office to Trustees elect Wendy Walker, Colin Busted and Gyuchang Sim.

Appointment of Temporary Chairperson

Motion by Ms. Walker

Seconded by Mr. Busted

that the Board of Education appoint Deborah Trainor, Board Secretary/Business Administrator as temporary chairperson of the Reorganization Meeting.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim,
Ms. Walker

Nays: None

Election Results – November 6, 2012

Ms. Trainor will read the official results of the School Election held November 6, 2012.

Board of Education candidates for three full three year terms:

| <u>Candidate</u> | <u>Total Votes Cast</u> |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Wendy Walker | 1645 |
| Colin Busteed | 1323 |
| Gyuchang Sim | 1024 |
| Personal Choice | |

2013 Board of Education and Expiration of Terms of Offices

| <u>Trustee</u> | <u>Expiration of Terms</u> |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| Mary Kay Buckley | 2014 |
| Sheli Dansky | 2014 |
| Colin Busteed | 2015 |
| Wendy Walker | 2015 |
| Gyuchang Sim | 2015 |
| Lucy Di Maulo | 2013 |
| Paris Myers | 2013 |

Nomination and Election of President

Motion by Ms. Dansky

Seconded by Ms. Walker

The Board Secretary received nominations for the election of President of the Board. If there is more than one nomination the Board Secretary will call for a vote on the nominees. Since there was one nomination the Board Secretary cast one unanimous ballot for the election of Lucy Di Maulo as President of the Board.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim,
Ms. Walker

Nays: None

Nomination and Election of Vice-President

Motion by Mrs. Buckley

Seconded by Mr. Busteed

The Board Secretary received nominations for the election of Vice-President of the Board. If there is more than one nomination the Board Secretary will call for a vote on the nominees. Since there was one nomination the Board Secretary will cast one unanimous ballot for the election of Sheli Dansky as Vice-President of the Board.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim,
Ms. Walker

Nays: None

President, Lucy Di Maulo assumes Chair

Meeting Time & Location

Motion by Mrs. Walker

Seconded by Mr. Busteed

that the Board of Education continues to hold regular public meetings as follows:

First Regular Public Meeting of the Month – First Wednesday of the month –
Roosevelt School – 7:30 PM

Second Regular Public meeting of the Month – Third Wednesday of the month -
Cherry Hill School – 7:30 PM

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 circulated in the School District; and (c) 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.

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.

Parliament Procedure

FURTHER, that the Board of Education meetings be governed by parliamentary procedure of Robert's Rules of Order.

Rules, Regulations and Resolutions

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.

Curricula

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve all current curriculum guides that have been developed in accordance with NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards and the Common Core State Standards until the next organization meeting.

Mission Statement

FURTHER, that the Board of Education adapt 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 Core Curriculum Content Standards and the Common Core State 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

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.

Designation of Depositories & Signature Authorizations

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate the Capital One 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 Capital One 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

Designation of Savings and Depositories and Investment Authorization

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Capital One Bank and any other New Jersey Bank certified for municipal deposits under the Governmental Unit Depository Protection Act as official primary depositories for the River Edge Board of Education, and

FURTHER. that the Board of Education authorize the Board Secretary to invest available cash balances permissible according to the terms of the laws dealing with the Board of Education Municipal Investments, and

Approval of Legal Depositories – Bank for Deposits/Withdrawals/Safe Deposit Box

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education authorize the Business Administrator to invest school district funds within statutory limitations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the district's participation in the Bergen County Banking Consortium (BCBANC) and authorize the School Business Administrator to serve as a trustee until the next organization meeting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the designated signatures on the above accounts as outlined in the attached document. Board President and Vice President names will be added following election by the Board at tonight's meeting, as recommended by the Superintendent.

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, New Jersey Unemployment Insurance, and

Office Account Signatures

FURTHER, that the Board of Education Office Account Warrants be signed by any two of the following three signatures:

- Deborah Trainor, Board Secretary/Business Administrator
- Dr. Tova Ben-Dov, Superintendent of Schools
- Dawn Maccaquano, Alternate

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, and

Designation of Board Auditor, and

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Gary Higgins, Lerch Vinci & Higgins, as Board Auditor until the next organization meeting.

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,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board of Education appoints the law firm of Fogarty & Hara, Esqs. as the Board Attorneys until the next organization meeting at the following rates: \$165.00 Partner and \$145.00 Associate.

Designation Board Architect

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate DiCara Rubino Architects, as Board Architect until the next organization meeting.

Designation Board Insurance Agencies

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Parsells Agency, Inc. of Closter, New Jersey as the Broker for NESBIG Insurance Fund.

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate LDP Consulting Group, Inc. of Lambertville, New Jersey as the Broker of Record for the Dental Benefits.

Designation School District Consulting Physician

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Dr. Yvonne Driscoll as Board School Physician for a fee of \$3,500 until the next organization meeting.

Designation Board Secretary

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Deborah Trainor as Board Secretary until the next organization meeting.

Designation Affirmative Action Officers

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Denise Heitman, Affirmative Action Officer, for the River Edge School District until the next organization meeting.

Designation 504 Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Tara Benevento as 504 Coordinator until the next organization meeting.

Designation Attendance Officer

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Anthony Vouvalides, Attendance Officer, until the next organization meeting.

Designation Homeless Student Liaison

FURTHER, that the Board of Education approve Anthony Vouvalides, Homeless Student Liaison, for the River Edge School District until the next organization meeting.

Designation Psychologist

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate MaryAnn Durante, Psychologist, until the next organization meeting.

Designation District Anti-Bullying Coordinator

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

Designation Treasurer of School Funds

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

Tri-District Interlocal Agreement

FURTHER, that the Board of Education renew the Interlocal Agreement with the River Dell School District for the coordination of curriculum services between River Dell, Oradell and River Edge School Districts until the next organization meeting.

Ball Field Maintenance Interlocal Agreement

FURTHER, that the Board of Education renew the Interlocal Agreement with the Borough of River Edge for Ball Field Maintenance.

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 \$36,000; 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

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq. establishes the criteria for qualifying as Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, Deborah Trainor 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 \$36,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the governing body hereby appoints Deborah Trainor 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 Deborah Trainor's certification to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

Travel and Expense Reimbursement

WHEREAS, River Edge School District Policy and NJAC 6A:23B-1.2 (b) provides that the Board of Education shall establish in the annual school budget a maximum expenditure amount that may be allotted for such travel and expense reimbursement until the next organization meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board of Education hereby establishes the school district travel maximum at the sum of \$25,000.00 until the next organization meeting and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School Business Administrator shall track and record these costs to insure that the maximum amount is not exceeded.

AHERA Coordinator

FURTHER, that the Board of Education designate Environmental Design, Inc. to become the designated person to ensure compliance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) until the next organization meeting.

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.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim,
Ms. Walker

Nays: None

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comments on Agenda Items – None

Presentation of the Elements of the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Report
Debbie Trainor-Business Administrator and Antoinette Kelly-Treasurer

Ms. Trainor and Mrs. Kelly explained the breakdown of the Board Secretary and Treasurer's Report. Ms. Trainor explained that Mrs. Kelly's job is to reconcile the cash the district has in the bank to the numbers that are in the general ledger. They gave an overview of the Balance Sheet, Interim Statements, Statement of Appropriations, Budget Transfers, Monthly Transfer Report and the Report of the Treasurer. Ms. Trainor and Mrs. Kelly answered questions the Board had on the presentation.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Today was the first day back from the Holiday Recess. The children looked eager and ready to learn and enjoyed being back at school.
- Dr. Ben-Dov met with the chief of police on Thursday, December 20, 2012 to receive recommendations for the physical needs in the building and protocols of safety. Dr. Ben-Dov stated there needs to be a balance between normalcy and being safe. The Building and Grounds committee will meet on January 8, 2013. Estimates of the proposed safety features will be discussed. The Building and Grounds Committee will then make recommendations to the full Board.
- Training for administrators for Stronge Model is January 28, 2013 and February 5, 2013. Training for pilot teachers will be held in early February. Technology needs to implement this model will be evaluated and possibly provided by River Dell personnel.

- The Student Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 27, 2013.
- Mid-year review for Non-Tenured Personnel will take place during a closed session at the January 23rd Board Meeting.

PRINCIPAL

Mr. Vouvalides reported on the following:

- The Roosevelt Winter Concert was held on Wednesday, December 19, 2012 at 2:00pm
- Mr. Vouvalides thanked and commended the staff on how they handled the crisis situation with the children regarding the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Trainor had nothing to report on

PRESIDENT

Ms. Di Maulo reported on the following:

- Ms. Di Maulo informed the board they need to pick a date for Ethics Training. The board picked March 6, 2013, April 3, 2013, April 17, 2013, and May 1, 2013 as some possible dates. Ms. Di Maulo will speak with Mr. Annunziata to see what works best with him.
- The Board needs to pick a date to meet with Mr. Feldman, the Tri-District Supervisor, to learn about the discussions at the Tri-District meetings.

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Dansky informed the Board on New Jersey School Board Association's Special Education Task Force

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

Motion by Mr. Busted

Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

that the Board of Education approve Tova Ben-Dov, Superintendent, and Denise Heitman, Principal, to attend NJASA TECHSPO Conference in Atlantic City, NJ, January 31- February 1, 2013.

WHEREAS, The New Jersey School Boards Association and the National School Boards Association have declared January 2013 to be School Board Recognition Month, a time that all residents might acknowledge the contributions made by our local school board members; and

WHEREAS, The River Edge Board of Education is one of more than 600 local school boards in New Jersey that sets policies and oversees operations for public school districts; and

WHEREAS, The River Edge Board of Education embraces the goal of high-quality education for all New Jersey public school students; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's local school boards help determine community goals for the education of 1.4 million children in Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's 4,800 local school board members, who receive no remuneration for their services, act as advocates for public school students as they work with administrators, teachers and parents for the betterment of public education; and

WHEREAS, School boards strive to provide the resources necessary to meet the needs of all students, including those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, Boards of Education provide accountability to the public; they communicate the needs of the school district to the public; and they convey to school administrators the public's expectations for the schools; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey can take pride in its schools, which rank among the nation's best in indicators such as high school graduation rates, class size, college entrance exam participation, and Advanced Placement offerings and test scores. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the River Edge Board of Education, does hereby recognize the services of local school board members throughout New Jersey as we join communities statewide in observing January 2013 as SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the River Edge Board of Education urges all New Jersey citizens to work with their local boards of education and public school staffs toward the improvement of our children's education.

that the Board of Education approve the following fire and evacuation drills:
(Addendum)

| School | Dates |
|--------------------|---|
| Cherry Hill School | December 18, 2012 Fire Drill December 19, 2012 Lock Down Drill |
| Roosevelt School | December 5, 2012 Fire Drill December 13, 2012 Bomb Threat |

that the Board of Education approve the staff development training as per the schedules for January 2013 including relevant mileage reimbursement.
(Addendum)

that the Board of Education approves the following class trip:

| Date | School | Grade | Destination | Cost to District |
|---------|-------------|-------|---|------------------|
| 4/24/13 | Cherry Hill | 4 | Liberty Science Center Jersey City, NJ | \$1,925.00 |

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker

Nays: None

Motion by Mrs. Buckley

Seconded by Mr. Sim

BE IT RESOLVED that the River Edge Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") hereby affirms the Superintendent's decision in HIB Investigation Number 2012-3 and 2012-4 for the reasons set forth in the Superintendent's decision to the students' parents, and directs the Business Administrator/Board Secretary to transmit a copy of the Board's decision to the affected students' parents forthwith.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mr. Sim

Nays: None

Abstained: Mrs. Myers, Ms. Walker

CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

Motion by Mr. Sim

Seconded by Ms. Dansky

that the Board of Education authorize the Board Secretary to place a legal advertisement in The Record on January 10, 2013 for sealed bids for the Bathroom Renovations at Cherry Hill School. The bids are to be opened and read on January 31, 2013 at 10:30 AM at the River Edge School Board of Education office, 410 Bogert Road, River Edge, New Jersey.

that the Board of Education approve tuition at \$75.00 per enrichment class for the 2013 Summer Enrichment Program.

WHEREAS, NJAC 6A:23A-5.3 provides that a school district may request a waiver of compliance with respect to the district's participation in the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program for the 2013-14, and

WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education desires to apply for this waiver due to the fact that it projects having fewer than 40 Medicaid eligible classified students.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the River Edge Board Of Education hereby authorized the Chief School Administrator to submit to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools in the County of Bergen an appropriate waiver of the requirements of NJAC 6A23A-5.3 for the 2013-2014 school year.

that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Lucia Moran, part-time Instructional Aide, effective January 15, 2013.

that the Board of Education approve the 2012-2013 Joint Transportation Agreement between Northern Valley Regional School District (Host) Region V/ River Edge (Joiner). (Addendum)

that the Board of Education approve the following Quote Contracts for ABC Transporters. (Addendum)

| Route # | Transporter | Per Diem |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 2009 | Tenaflly Middle School | \$78.00 |
| 2010 | Bryan School | \$87.00 |

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker

Nays: None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Ms. Dansky

Seconded by Mr. Busteed

that the Board of Education convene into closed session at 9:35 PM to discuss contracts.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker

Nays: None

RECONVENE

Motion by Mrs. Myers

Seconded by Ms. Walker

that the Board of Education reconvene the regular public meeting at 10:15 PM.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteed, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker

Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Busted

Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

that the Board of Education adjourn the regular public meeting at 10:20 PM.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Ms. Di Maulo, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim,
Ms. Walker

Nays: None

Deborah Trainor
Board Secretary/Business Administrator