

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

“Building Bright Futures Together”

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – April 3, 2013

7:30 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

Ms. Di Maulo called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Walker read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were Mrs. Buckley; Ms. Danksy; Ms. Di Maulo; Mrs. Myers; Ms. Walker; also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Trainor and Ms. Rosen.

Mr. Busteed was absent
Mr. Sim was absent

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Trainor read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items - None

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov received a letter from the mayor offering to put a fence around the perimeter of Cherry Blossom Park. Dr. Ben-Dov and Mr. Lyons will have a meeting with the mayor on Thursday, April 11, 2013 to discuss it further.
- State Report Cards still have not been released. It will be released on April 15, 2013. The state is asking for patience as they are working on corrections. River Edge is in the process of making corrections as well.
- Students are linked to their teachers and so are their student growth percentiles with the new Teacher Evaluations. We need to look at this more. The formal process will start next year.
- There was an article published by The Patch on March 30, 2013 regarding Oradell Public Schools ranking 35th in New Jersey Elementary Schools. The article stated that Cherry

Hill and Roosevelt Schools both fell in rankings according to schooldigger.com. The website is a commercial site that is used for parents who are making decisions about purchasing Real Estate. After analyzing the article Dr. Ben-Dov said it is basing its recommendations and rankings on the achievement of Language Arts and Math in grades 3 and 4 only. When we look at our full achievement range grades 3-6, especially for our exiting 6th graders, River Edge students show excellent achievement and scored higher than Oradell in 6th grade.

- The Board of Education should make a decision by April 17, 2013 if they want to hire a permanent Business Administrator or an Interim. We received 28 resumes for the Principal position in Roosevelt School but not many that were good. We expect to receive more. There will be a closed session after the Board Meeting on May 1st to discuss non tenured staff.
- River Edge will have its last edition of Chalk Talk. The last one will be an end of the school year edition. The district is looking to change the format to a social media type of communication and outreach vehicle for next school year.
- In past years Kindergarten Summer Meet and Greet was not well attended and not as successful as people thought it would be. Instead of Meet and Greet, the Kindergarten teachers have offered to open up their classrooms in the afternoon for parents and students. This will take place on the 2nd professional development day for next school year which this year is September 4, 2013. This way students will meet their actual teacher and see their own classrooms which was not the case when done in the summer.

PRINCIPAL

Ms. Rosen reported on the following:

- Cherry Hill's Spring Concert will be on Thursday, April 4, 2013 at 1:30 PM and 7:30 PM
- Building Bridges sponsored a Carnival for Kids on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room. It was well attended and the children had a lot of fun.
- NBC is having a Penguin Assembly on Thursday, April 4, 2013
- Kindergarten orientation will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 and Wednesday, April 17, 2013 and will follow a new format.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Trainor reported on the following:

- Ms. Trainor stated the Board will be voting on entering an agreement to update the Long Range Facility Plan tonight. She said it is a five year plan and it expires on June 30, 2013.

PRESIDENT

Ms. Di Maulo had nothing to report on

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Walker attended a Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, April 1, 2013
- Mrs. Buckley attended a Policy Committee meeting on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 where they spoke about changes in seven policies.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

Motion by Ms. Walker

Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of March 6, 2013 Board Meeting.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Ms. Dansky, Mrs. Myers, Ms. Walker

Nays: None

Abstained: Ms. Di Maulo

Motion by Mrs. Buckley

Seconded by Ms. Dansky

that the Board of Education approve the staff development training as per the schedules for April 2012 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)

that the Board of Education approves the following emergency drills:

School	Dates
Cherry Hill School	March 27, 2013 Fire Drill March 28, 2013 Lockdown Drill
Roosevelt School	March 18, 2013 Fire Drill March 27, 2013 Evacuation Drill

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 2012-5 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.

that the Board of Education authorizes the Business Administrator to enter an agreement with Dicara and Rubino Architect to update the Long Range Facility Plan that expires on June 30, 2013.

that the Board of Education, approve Family Leave of Absence for Diana Maurice from September 3, 2013 to October 1, 2013.

that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Brittany Bright, Part Time Aide, effective April 23, 2013.

that the Board of Education approve the 2013-2014 Joint Transportation Agreement between SBJC (Host) and Region V (Joiner). (Addendum)

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

Nays: None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Myers

Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

that the Board of Education adjourns the regular public meeting at 8:35 PM.

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

Nays: None

Deborah Trainor
Board Secretary/Business Administrator