

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

"Building Bright Futures Together"

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – September 19, 2012

7:30 PM Public Meeting

The Board of Education, Borough of River Edge, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey met in the Project Room, New Bridge Center, 101 Greene 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. Busted read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

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

Mrs. Buckley arrived at 7:45 PM
Mrs. Myers arrived at 7:45 PM
Ms. Dansky left at 8:35 PM
Mrs. Myers left at 9:30 PM

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Ms. Trainor read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Honor Retiree - Judith Hunter

Dr. Ben-Dov and Ms. Kuruc commented on Judy's hard work, loyal service and dedication to the River Edge Board of Education. They thanked her for all she has done and her commitment to the school district. Dr. Ben-Dov presented Judy with a bouquet of flowers and Ms. Di Maulo presented her with a framed resolution.

Judy thanked everyone for their kind words and appreciation.

RESOLUTIONS TO RECOGNIZE OUR HONOREE

Honor Retiree Judith Hunter

Motion by Ms. Dansky

Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

WHEREAS, Judith Hunter has announced her retirement after thirty eight years of dedicated service to the River Edge Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, her years of experience and knowledge of speech and language development have enabled the River Edge district to provide exceptional service to our students and valuable support to parents and teachers, and

WHEREAS, she has been an essential part of the Special Services department and a valuable resource for the entire school community, and

WHEREAS, her dedication, patience, gentle and compassionate instructional style will be remembered by those lives she has touched for years to come, and

WHEREAS, after her many years of faithful service to education and the River Edge community, she wishes to retire;

***NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Board of Education of the Borough of River Edge on this Nineteenth Day of September, 2012 spread upon its minutes this Resolution of Appreciation for her valued service, and*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the River Edge community offers its best wishes to Judith Hunter for a long, happy, healthy and productive retirement and its gratitude for her years of service to the district.*

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

Nays: None

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

Julia Diminich – District Literacy Coach
 Emma Halik – .5 Resource (K-3) – Not able to attend
 Karla Idunate – Spanish
 Christina Jennings – P/T Spanish
 Kate Langan – Roosevelt School – 1st Grade
 Risa Louda – Speech Teacher
 Maureen Martin – Roosevelt School Leave Replacement – 3rd Grade
 Kevin McGrath – Interim Assistant Principal - Not able to attend
 Kathryn O' Brien – .5 G&T/.5 Resource (3rd & 4th)
 Katherine O' Reilly – NBC – Kindergarten
 Keri Rehns – Cherry Hill School-5th Grade
 Laura Ruggiero – Roosevelt School Leave Replacement – 2nd Grade
 Stephanie Seigel – District CST School Psychologist

Stacy Socha – New Bridge Center-Learning Consultant
 Sara Tarascavage – New Bridge Center – Building Bridges Teacher
 Lisa DiCostanzo – Cherry Hill School – Secretary
 Daniel DeVincenzo-Cherry Hill School-P/T Custodian
 Beth Rosen – NBC - Assistant Principal
 Bill Feldman – Tri-District Supervisor of Curriculum

Reception

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov congratulated Ms. Trainor on a job well done regarding the Bond sale.
- Dr. Ben-Dov recommended we change our Mission Statement from New Jersey Core Curriculum content Standards to New Jersey Common Core Curricula content Standards, as we have been implementing the Common Core Curricula in accordance with the timetable set by the Department of Education.
- QSAC committee had their first meeting on Wednesday, September 12, 2012. On October 3, 2012 Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Trainor and Mr. Feldman will attend a meeting to get an understanding of some of the new expectations.
- On Thursday, September 20, 2012 the administrators and the representatives from Oradell and River Dell will attend a symposium on the teacher evaluation system.
- A lot of training is set up for Professional Development. Patty McGee from Northern Valley along with Ms. Diminich are training River Edge teachers on Thursday, September 20, 2012 in Language Arts. Core Curriculum Standards, RTI and New Assessments are some of the trainings that will happen in the near future.
- There was a Gifted and Talented meeting on Thursday, September 13, 2012 to discuss some changes that will take place to the program. A second meeting is planned for the end of the week.
- Week of Respect will be during the week of October 1, 2012

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following for NBC:

- The 2012-2013 school year is off to a great start. All of our supplies are in, the teachers are excited and everyone is working hard.
- The kindergarten students had a tour of the Cherry Hill School
- The students are having special area instruction delivered by more specialists this year other than just with Ms. Brush
- Mrs. Heitman and Dr. Mc Grath are visiting the teachers and students in their classrooms.
- Morning drop off for the students and parents have been great

- The NBC PTO is looking for volunteers
- Kindergarten dismissal has improved with the changes that have been made
- The first fire drill of the school year went very well
- PALS Assessment is being implemented with Kindergarten students
- Lunch time is working out well
- Back to School Night is Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following for Cherry Hill:

- The 2012-2013 school year is off to a great start
- Lots of people attended the Class Parent meeting and it went very well
- On Thursday, September 20, 2012 the administrators and the representatives from Oradell and River Dell will attend a symposium on the teacher evaluation system
- On Thursday, September 6, 2012 Cherry Hill staff had Critical Incident Training
- On October 4, 2012 the third and fourth grade teachers will be trained on an online text book program in science
- A safety committee meeting took place on Wednesday, September 19, 2012
- School visitation is on Wednesday, October 3, 2012
- Week of Respect will be the week of October 1, 2012
- On Wednesday, October 17, 2012 both Cherry Hill and Roosevelt will get voting machines in the schools and the children can vote for a Presidential Candidate. Mrs. Heitman is very excited about this.

BOARD SECRETARY

Ms. Trainor reported on the following:

- The Bond Sale was extraordinary. The professionals involved anticipated approximately \$480,000 savings in interest with the pre-sale call and after it was sold we had approximately \$700,000 savings in interest. That was over 7% of savings and that is approximately \$35,000 to \$38,000 savings a year in the debt service-interest expense for the life of the bonds.
- Our new district truck has arrived today. The plow is being installed and the district lettering will be added. Mr. Lyons is pleased with it.
- Ms. Trainor would like to know by Monday, September 24, 2012 the status of the Board Members attending the NJSBA Convention.
- Ms. Trainor is waiting on the first draft of the audit report
- Ms. Trainor would like to schedule a Building and Grounds meeting on Tuesday, October 2, 2012 at 4:30PM to discuss the use of Community Development Grants.

PRESIDENT

Ms. Di Maulo had nothing to report

COMMITTEES

- Ms. Walker and Ms. Dansky attended the Bergen and Passaic Counties Tenure and Teacher Evaluation Workshop.
- New Jersey School Boards Association has a new field service Representative.

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

Motion by Ms. Walker

Seconded by Mr. Busteed

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

that the Board of Education accept the Certified and Non-certified Nurses Plan for the 2012-2013 school year. (Addendum)

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

Nays: None

Motion by Mr. Busteed

Seconded by Mr. Sim

that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the August 8, 2012 Board Meeting.

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

Nays: None

Abstained: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Sim

Motion by Mr. Sim

Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the August 29, 2012 Board Meeting.

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

Nays: None

Abstained: Ms. Walker

Motion by Mrs. Buckley

Seconded by Mrs. Myers

that the Board of Education approve the minutes of the September 4, 2012 Board Meeting.

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

Nays: None

Abstained: Mr. Busted, Mrs. Myers

CURRICULUM/EDUCATION

Motion by Mrs. Myers

Seconded by Ms. Walker

that the Board of Education approves the Tri-District Visual and Performing Arts Curriculum- Grades K-6.

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

Nays: None

Abstained: Mrs. Buckley

BUILDING & GROUNDS

FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

Motion by Ms. Walker

Seconded by Mr. Busted

that the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2012 totaling \$267,643.35 including checks #34212 through #34313. Payrolls dated August 15, 2012 and August 31, 2012, totaling \$260,157.91 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)

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

Nays: None

Abstained: Ms. Walker

Motion by Mr. Busteed

Seconded by Mr. Sim

that the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2011-2012 as of July, 2012. (Addendum)

that the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending July 31, 2012.

Further, we certify that as of July 31, 2012, 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)

that the Board of Education approve the filing of the IDEA 2012-2013 Grant Application

Basic Grant Total \$153,341	Pre-School Grant Total \$9,159
Non-Public Portion \$195,417	Non-Public Portion \$7,251

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Education of the River Edge School District wishes to enter into a grant agreement with the County of Bergen for the purpose of using \$65,296 in 2012-2013 Community Development Block Grant funds for Bathroom Renovations at Cherry Hill School; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes Deborah Trainor to be a signatory to the aforesaid grant agreement; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board of Education hereby authorizes Deborah Trainor to sign all County vouchers submitted in connection with the aforesaid project; and

Be It Further Resolved, that the Board of Education recognized that the River Edge School District is liable for any funds not spent in accordance with the Grant Agreement; and that liability of Board Members is in accordance with N.J.S.A. 2AL53A-7 et. seq.

that the Board of Education approve the application for Community Development Block Grant for the 2013-2014 school year in the amount of \$180,000 for the barrier free improvement and renovations of 2 bathrooms at Roosevelt.

That the Board of Education approves the appropriation of \$69,575 to the General Fund for the 2012-2013 school year. These funds are the Allowable Adjustments as of June 30, 2012.

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

Nays: None

PERSONNEL

Motion by Mr. Sim

Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

that the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Lauren Meccia, Part-time Instructional Aide, starting, September 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 at a maximum of 23 hours per week.

that the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Penelope Tenbekjian, Part-time Instructional Aide, starting, September 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012 at a maximum of 23 hours per week.

that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Joanne Lam, Part-Time Aide, effective August 31, 2012.

that the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Elizabeth George, Part-Time Aide, effective August 31, 2012.

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

Nays: None

RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION

Motion by Mrs. Buckley

Seconded by Mr. Busted

that the River Edge Board of Education approve Bergen County Special Services, Private School Services, under Chapter 192/193 for 2012-2013.

that the Board of Education approve the following Renewal Contract for Alpha Care for the 2012-2013 school year. (Addendum)

Route #	School	Per Diem
1823	Children's Therapy	\$175.34
1824	Shaler Academy	\$164.00
1948	Springboard	\$142.65
1949	C.P. Center Fair Lawn	\$117.17
1952	Midland Park H.S.	\$157.93

1954	Bleshman	\$127.36
1955	Shepard HS	\$132.46

that the Board of Education approve the following Renewal Contract for Ateel Transportation for the 2012-2013 school year. (Addendum)

Route #	School	Per Diem
1829	Windsor W.M.	\$169.16

that the Board of Education approve the following Bid Contract for First Student for the 2012-2013 school year. (Addendum)

Route #	School	Per Diem
1985	Springboard	\$151.25

that the Board of Education approve the following Bid Contract for Ace Transportation for the 2012-2013 school year. (Addendum)

Route #	School	Per Diem
1988	Gramon/Banyan	\$127.00
1995	Alpine Learning Group	\$153.00

that the Board of Education approve the following Bid Contract for D&M Tours for the 2012-2013 school year. (Addendum)

Route #	School	Per Diem
1986	Barnstable	\$179.00
1992	LCEC	\$174.00

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 provide evaluations, direct services and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2012-2013 school year.

Deena R. Morris	Occupational Therapist
Elissa B. Melzer	Speech and Language Specialist
Hana Prashker	Consultant
Janet E. Bierbryer	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant
Jessica Landa	Occupational Therapist
KCW Services Limited Liability Company	Psychologist
Laurie Braunstein	Occupational Therapist
MegantToomey Lynch	Psychologist
Sabrina Tate Rawson Hegarty	Physical Therapist
Sarah Morin	Occupational Therapist
Sharon Kaplan Luchow	Consultant
Stella Sawicki	Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant
Voices Now	Consultant

Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2012 totaling \$386,175.32 including checks #60231 through #60302.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteded, Ms. Di Maulo, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker

Nays: None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

CLOSED SESSION (WHEN NECESSARY)

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Busteded

Seconded by Ms. Walker

that the Board of Education adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:40 PM.

Ayes: Mrs. Buckley, Mr. Busteded, Ms. Di Maulo, Mr. Sim, Ms. Walker

Nays: None

Deborah Trainor
Board Secretary/Business Administrator