

**RIVER EDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**RIVER EDGE, NEW JERSEY 07661**

*"Building Bright Futures Together"*

**Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – April 23, 2014 - 7:30 PM**

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

**CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE**

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Ms. Dansky read the Mission Statement.

**ROLL CALL**

Present on roll call were Mrs. Buckley; Mr. Busted; Ms. Dansky; Mr. DiBella; Mrs. Myers; Mr. Sim; and Ms. Walker. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Ms. Salvati, and Ms. Rosen and six members of the public.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Ms. Salvati read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Ms. Walker  
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

that the Board of Education convene into closed session at 6:35 PM for Mid-year review for Non-Tenured Personnel.

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

**RECONVENE**

Motion by Ms. Walker  
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

that the Board of Education reconvene the regular public meeting at 8:00 PM.

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

## **SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Public comment on Agenda Items – None

Residency Discussion

Dr. Ben-Dov had a discussion with the board regarding the overcrowding problem in the River Edge School District for certain grade levels. The school architects came in and a Demographic Study will be done in the near future. The Board discussed some options that included: Re-registration of families for school, revision of our policies, the hiring of an investigator to investigate if the children actually live in town.

## **REPORTS**

### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Dr. Ben-Dov had a Building and Grounds Work Session and had Joe DiCara and Rodney Watkins, from DiCara and Rubino's office, here for the meeting. They gathered information on how the buildings are being utilized. They will discuss long term solutions when the demographic study is completed. Dr. Ben-Dov suggested the possibility of opening a fourth class for next year's second grade at Roosevelt School and will ask Cherry Hill Parents if they would like to transfer.
- The district is in the process of completing its first year of the STRONGE Evaluation System. The state has sent revisions. Non-tenure teacher evaluations have to be completed by April 30<sup>th</sup>.
- The Department of Education Chief Academic Officer Tracey Severns spoke at the Superintendents Roundtable regarding the connection between P.A.R.C.C. and Common Core. Dr. Ben-Dov is working with Bill Feldman and collecting assessments in order to evaluate our needs. Assessments must reflect teaching and be rigorous.
- Dr. Ben-Dov and Mr. Alfred Annunizata are planning a Community Meeting. They came up with three options for this meeting: One option was committee meetings for nine months, another option was the "3 D"s, to have three meetings for an hour and a half each one, and the last option was to have a more condensed meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The meeting will be two and a half hours long. The board agreed to have the meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- The Technology Forum will be held on Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.
- The Curriculum and P.A.R.C.C. meeting will be held on Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>.
- The Cherry Hill and Roosevelt Art Show will be held on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- The third edition of the web-based newsletter will come out the first week of May.
- There were two presentations for Tony Vouvalides today. The first one was at 3:00 PM at Roosevelt School where it was the unveiling of the plaque dedicating the Discovery Lab to him. The second was at 3:30 PM at the River Edge Public Library where the Roosevelt PTO is presented a tile to him for his service to the River Edge School District.
- Two of our fifth grade teams that participated in the Stock Market Game placed second and fourth out of 220 teams in Bergen County.

## **PRINCIPAL**

Ms. Rosen reported on the following:

- NBC had a Penguin Assembly on Thursday, April 3, 2014. The kids had a blast and enjoyed learning about penguins.
- The children came back refreshed from their Spring Recess.
- Kindergarten Orientation went very well and was well attended. Roosevelt's orientation was on Tuesday April 8<sup>th</sup> and Cherry Hill's was on Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Mrs. Rosen is excited the children are getting lots of outdoor recess time.

## **BOARD SECRETARY**

Ms. Salvati reported on the following:

- The budget has been approved by the County Superintendent.
- The Public Hearing on the Budget will be at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.
- The Lightening Detection System has been installed at both schools. We are in the process of testing it.
- The demolition of the Roosevelt Bathroom has started last week.
- Ms. Salvati spoke to four companies regarding the Demographic Study. Two of the four companies gave her a quote. After a discussion at the Building and Grounds meeting, a firm was selected and it is on tonight's agenda for approval.

## **PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers spoke to Alfred Annunizata to find out the status of our board's certification. She is waiting to hear back from him and will inform the board once she hears.

## **COMMITTEES**

- Ms. Walker attended a Building and Grounds Meeting on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Ms. Dansky announced Bergen County School Board last meeting of the school year will be on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and there will be a Delegate Assembly on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> and a Special Education Meeting right after the Delegate Assembly.

## **MOTIONS TO BE ACTED**

### **ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

Motion by Mr. Busteed  
Seconded by Mr. DiBella

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of March 12, 2014 Board Meeting.
2. That the Board of Education approve the Confidential Minutes of March 12, 2014 Board Meeting.

3. That the Board of Education establish the tuition rates per pupil for the 2014-2015 school year:

Regular Education	\$11,500.00
Building Bridges Autistic Programs	\$63,733.00
Building Bridges Multiply Disabled Program	\$57,793.00

4. That the Board of Education approve the OMNI Group as the third party Plan Administrator for the District's 403(b) retirement plans.
5. That the Board of Education approve the staff development training as per the schedules for April 2014 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)
6. That the Board of Education approve Ross Haber and Associates to perform a demographic study for the River Edge School District at a cost of \$1,500.

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

**CURRICULUM/EDUCATION** -None

**BUILDING & GROUNDS** - None

**FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS**

Motion by Mr. DiBella  
Seconded by Mrs. Buckley

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated April 2014 totaling \$498,738.11 including checks #36121 through #36203. Payrolls dated March 14, 2014 and March 31, 2014, totaling \$1,052,802.85, issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)

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

Motion by Mrs. Buckley  
Seconded by Ms. Walker

2. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2013-2014 as of February 28, 2014. (Addendum)
3. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for the period ending February 28, 2014.

Further, we certify that as of February 28, 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 accept the list of donations in memory of Erika Steinbauer for the Building Bridges Program in the amount of \$270.00. (List is on file in the Board Office)

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

### **PERSONNEL**

Motion by Ms. Walker  
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

1. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Leslie Ciauro, Part Time Aide, effective June 30, 2014.
2. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Michael Albrizio, ABA Aide, effective May 9, 2014.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Lauren Slade, Full Time ABA Aide, from April 24, 2014 to June 30, 2014.

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

Motion by Ms. Dansky  
Seconded by Mr. Sim

4. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the retirement of Peter Brown, 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, effective July 1, 2014.

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 April 2014 totaling \$756,728.10 including checks #62330 through #62454 .
2. That the Board of Education approve the 2013-2014 Jointure Transportation Agreement between Region V (Host) and Keansburg B.O.E. (Joiner).

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

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Maxine Martin-Rumsby, Substitute, spoke about her feelings on the training that is offered to substitute teachers at the River Edge District. She also spoke about the incident that took place on April 4, 2014 and the sequence of events that took place afterwards.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

Motion to convene the Closed Session at 9:30 PM made by Ms. Dansky and seconded by Mrs. Buckley

Motion to adjourn the Closed Session at 10:25 PM made by Ms. Dansky and seconded by Mr. Busteed

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

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 10:26 PM made by Ms. Walker and seconded by Mr. DiBella

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

Patricia Salvati  
Board Secretary/Business Administrator