

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

***"Building Bright Futures Together"*
Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – October 17, 2018**

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, Cherry Hill School, 410 Bogert Road, River Edge, NJ 07661.

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Mrs. Myers called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mr. Koth read the Mission Statement.

ROLL CALL

Present on roll call were, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim. Also present were Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, Mrs. Heitman and two members of the public.

Mr. Busted arrived at 7:38 PM
Ms. Brown was absent
Ms. Dansky was absent

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

Accept PTO Gifts for the 2017-2018 School Year:

Dr. Ben-Dov spoke about the great gifts provided to the Cherry Hill School, Roosevelt School, and New Bridge Center by the PTO. She expressed her gratitude and stated how hard they work to benefit our students and staff. She is grateful for all that the PTO has done for the students in our schools. Dr. Ben-Dov highlighted some of the gifts and thanked the PTO. She encourages parents to be part of such a great organization.

2018-2019 School, District, and Board Goals:

Dr. Ben-Dov reviewed the five District Goals and the four School Goals for Cherry Hill School and Roosevelt School with the board members. The board members had a discussion on the Board Goals and came up with three for the 2018-2019 school year. Two out of the three goals are goals from the 2017-2018 school year. The three goals the board members decided on are:

Goal #1: Enhance the board's understanding of the district's financial reports through training session(s) with the business administrator and treasurer of school monies.

Goal #2: Undertake periodic board training in various areas of board governance utilizing the resources of the NJSBA. Continuing with mandated and unmandated training including, but not limited to a Board Retreat in the spring.

Goal #3: Governmental Outreach both with New Jersey School Board Association and alone to various pursue means of advocacy for the River Edge School District through various levels of government.

Update on Air-Conditioning for Roosevelt School Gymnasium:

Dr. Ben-Dov and Mrs. Napolitano reviewed with the board members the update the architect gave them on the air conditioning unit for Roosevelt School. The existing ductwork can be reused for the new heating, ventilating, and air-conditioning system. The costs would increase by \$100,000 if new lighting and ceiling replacement is done. The soft costs for their project are \$32,500. The proposed dates for implementation are July 1st to October 1st.

Mr. Sim gave his committee report on the new air-conditioning for the Roosevelt School Gymnasium. They stated the duct work is reusable; they need to make a decision if they want to keep the ceiling tile and the possibility of replacing the lightening. They also spoke about the timing of starting the project and discussed that state aid can be allocated if we start the project after July 1st.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT

- Dr. Ben-Dov stated we had a very successful Professional Development Day on October 8th and she thanked all the presenters and facilitators for that day. She especially thanked Dr. Jeanne Marron for the powerful presentation on identifying signs of mental health challenges in the classroom. Dr. Ben-Dov is considering an evening presentation for parents sometime in the future.
- An evening for parents on Mindfulness is planned for Monday, November 26th
- This was the first time we had an Author in Residence for two full days with assemblies for grades three and four and five and six in both schools. She also had an ESL evening for parents in both schools and she will come back in the winter for another day. She was a powerful presenter with staff, students, and parents benefiting from her.
- Dr. Ben-Dov and Mrs. Hafers attended a ceremony on October 12th to receive a grant sponsored by the Bergen County Utilities Authority for recycling of difficult materials. Each school received a \$1,000 and this is on the agenda for approval tonight. Dr. Ben-Dov is very proud of all of the work invested by Mrs. Hafers and her students that went into this project.
- There was a Climate Committee Meeting today where they spoke about a number of subjects including the survey that will go out to students, parents, and staff. A new thing that happened at this meeting was student presence. It was exciting and interesting to hear from a student's perspective. A Cherry Hill School student attended this meeting and next meeting a Roosevelt School student will attend. We are hoping for more student involvement.

- Candidates Night is scheduled for October 29th. Dr. Ben-Dov has been told the PTO has secured three candidates and they are looking for one more. They need four out of the five candidates to attend. Dr. Ben-Dov is waiting for them to advertise next week and is looking forward to seeing more publicity on this event.

PRINCIPAL

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- Week of Respect was October 1st to October 5th. It went very well and there were many activities and assemblies that took place.
- Janet Wong came in and spoke to students, ESL students, and parents during a parent evening. It was a good night and well received.
- We have a book fair going on in the New Bridge Center. The book fair contributes to the school books from their scholastic dollars.
- We are working on the Mini Boo Bash for students in K-2 and the Halloween Party for grades 2-6. Roosevelt and Cherry Hill schools sent letters home about Halloween. The letter stated that no weapons are allowed as part of the children's costumes and no masks are allowed or face covering for adults. The schools will have a parade on Halloween.

BOARD SECRETARY

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- There is a motion on tonight's agenda to approve the Comprehensive Maintenance Plan. Mrs. Napolitano explained what this motion is to the board members.

PRESIDENT

- Mrs. Myers reminded the board members that the New Jersey School Board Association Convention is from October 22nd-October 25th. She stated this is a good time to get your mandated training completed. She reminded the board that mandated training needs to be completed by the end of the year so if you are not attending the convention you need to complete the training online or in person.

COMMITTEES

- Mr. Sim spoke about the Finance and Facilities that took place on October 10th. They spoke about the water damaged in the basement at Roosevelt School, window films, recreation committee, basketball hoops, the fields, and QSAC.
- Mr. Koth spoke about the Curriculum and Instruction meeting that took place on October 10th. He reviewed the update Ms. Christine Moran gave on the completed curriculum and curriculum that needs to be completed and their wish list of the direction we would like to see our curriculum go.

- Mr. Herbst spoke about the Mayor and Council Meeting he attended on October 9th. They discussed voting in our schools. The Mayor responded that the clerk will write a letter to our school officially denying our request of removing the voting from our schools.
- Mr. Herbst spoke about the 100 Year Roosevelt School Committee that took place on October 15th. They spoke about setting a date, each grade participating in some fashion, location of the event, networking, looking for artifacts and advertising.

MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON

A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of October 3, 2018.

Motion by Mr. Koth
 Seconded by Mr. Herbst

Ayes: Mr. Busteed, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mrs. Myers
 Nays: None, Abstained: Mr. Sim

2. That the Board of Education approve the staff development and travel as per the schedules for October 2018 including relevant mileage reimbursement. (Addendum)

3. **Whereas**, the Department of Education requires New Jersey School Districts to submit three-year maintenance plans documenting “required” maintenance activities for each of its public school facilities, and

Whereas, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the River Edge Board of Education are consistent with these requirements, and

Whereas, all past and planned activities are reasonable to keep school facilities open and safe for use or in their original condition and to keep their system warranties valid,

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that the River Edge Board of Education hereby authorizes the school business administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan for the River Edge Board of Education in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

4. That the Board of Education approve the Dismissal Procedures for the River Edge School District.
5. That the Board of Education approve the following class trips:

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill	1	Turtle Back Zoo West Orange, NJ	\$1,210.00
Cherry Hill	5/6	Temple Avodat Shalom River Edge, NJ	\$0
Cherry Hill	6	Weis Center Ringwood, NJ	\$1,470.00
Cherry Hill and	6 Grade	National Museum of Math	\$385.00

Roosevelt	C.R.E.A.T.E	New York, NY	
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6. That the Board of Education approve the following District Goals for the 2018-2019 school year.

Goal # 1: Research and implement best practices to achieve an average, total student academic growth of 26.5% for River Edge students in grades 3-6 in English Language Arts, while focusing on targeted areas of need for each grade level indicated in school goals.

Goal # 2: Research and implement best practices to achieve an average, total student academic growth of 34.5% for River Edge students in grades 3-6 in math, while focusing on targeted areas of need for each grade level indicated in school goals.

Goal # 3: This is a three-year goal to enhance differentiation in the classroom in order to improve student achievement in Reading for Kindergarten through Grade 3, as evidenced by increased documentation of differentiation in walkthrough and observation reports. Use of a universal screener (DIBELS) will identify targeted areas for differentiated instruction and become a valuable tool for progress monitoring. This goal will be achieved through:

- Intensive training, twice a month, for coaches, teachers, and administrators with a NJDOE Literacy Coach
- The establishment of a universal assessment tool
- Decreased referrals to I&RS (3-Year Goal)

Goal # 4: To initiate and implement capital improvements to Roosevelt School which is a 100 year old building in great need of repair and upgrade of identified features in need over the 2018-2020 school years. The following items will be some of the major projects included in this goal:

- Roof Project
- Paving of Roosevelt School upper blacktop utilized by students
- Exploration, planning, and implementation of Air-conditioning for the Roosevelt School Gym
- As part of a district-wide initiative Roosevelt School will enjoy an upgraded and enhanced system of communications and security
- As part of a district-wide initiative additional access points will be installed at Roosevelt School to improve connectivity

Goal # 5: The Superintendent has been working with the Roosevelt and Cherry Hill Principals on collaboration to achieve greater consistency on variety of school practices such as:

- Safety protocols and procedures
- Field-trips
- Revision of field day
- School schedules
- Parent visitation
- Sixth grade events

- PTO activities
- School wide activities

The Cohesive Goal will be measured in the spring of 2019 by comparing the cohesion of the 2017-2018 year to the 2018-2019 school activities and events that occurred.

7. That the Board of Education approve the following Board Goals for the 2018-2019 school year.

Goal #1: Enhance the board's understanding of the district's financial reports through training session(s) with the business administrator and treasurer of school monies.

Goal #2: Undertake periodic board training in various areas of board governance utilizing the resources of the NJSBA. Continuing with mandated and unmandated training including, but not limited to a Board Retreat in the spring.

Goal #3: Governmental Outreach both with New Jersey School Board Association and alone to various pursue means of advocacy for the River Edge School District through various levels of government.

8. That the Board of Education approve the following School Goals for the 2018-2019 school year.

Cherry Hill School

Goal # 1: By June 2019, 100% of students in Grades 3 through 6 will demonstrate growth in targeted areas of English Language Arts, as per baseline data. Cherry Hill students will achieve an average growth of 27% on the appropriate assessments, as per the action plan. This goal will focus on the following areas: Grade 3: Literacy Elements, Grades 4 and 5: Point of View, and Grade 6: Text Analysis and vocabulary.

Goal # 2: By June 2019, 100% of students in Grades 3 through 6 will demonstrate growth in targeted areas of Mathematics, as per baseline data. Cherry Hill students will achieve an average growth of 35% on the appropriate assessments, as per the action plan. This goal will focus on the following areas: Grade 3: Operations and Algebraic Thinking: Multiplication, Grades 4: Number and Operations: Fractions, Grade 5: Number and Operations: Fractions and Decimals, Grade 6: Expressions and Equations.

Goal # 3: Mindfulness Goal -2 year goal

The Mindfulness Goal will focus on providing professional development and ongoing support for teachers to understand the social emotional development of children. Teachers will implement strategies to help promote positive social emotional learning. Various activities will help students gain skills such as:

- Self- awareness
- Self- management
- Social awareness
- Positive decision making
- Positive relationship building

The Mindfulness Goal will be measured through a survey representing parents, students and staff. The survey will be administered in the fall 2018 and the spring of 2019.

Goal # 4: Cohesive Goal

Roosevelt and Cherry Hill Principals will collaborate on achieving greater consistency on variety of school practices such as:

- Safety protocols and procedures
- Field-trips
- Revision of field day
- School schedules
- Parent visitation
- Sixth grade events
- PTO activities
- School wide activities

The Cohesive Goal will be measured in the spring of 2019 by comparing the 2017-2018 year to the 2018-2019 school activities and events that occurred.

Roosevelt School

Goal # 1: By June 2019, 100% of students in Grades 3 through 6 will demonstrate growth in targeted areas of English Language Arts, as per baseline data. Roosevelt students will achieve an average growth of 26% on the appropriate assessments, as per the action plan. This goal will focus on the following: Grade 3: Main Idea and Asking & Answering Questions, Grade 4: Vocabulary, Grade 5: Vocabulary and Point of View, and Grade 6: Text Analysis and Vocabulary.

Goal # 2: By June 2019, 100% of students in Grades 3 through 6 will demonstrate growth in targeted areas of Mathematics, as per baseline data. Roosevelt students will achieve an average growth of 34% on the appropriate assessments, as per the action plan. This goal will focus on the following: Grade 3: Operations and Algebraic Thinking: Multiplication, Grade 4: Number Operations: Fractions, Grade 5: Number and Operations: Fractions, Volume, and Metric Conversions, and Grade 6: Expressions and Equations.

Goal # 3: Mindfulness Goal -2 year goal

The Mindfulness Goal will focus on providing professional development and ongoing support for teachers to understand the social emotional development of children. Teachers will implement strategies to help promote positive social emotional learning. Various activities will help students gain skills such as:

- Self- awareness
- Self- management
- Social awareness
- Positive decision making
- Positive relationship building

The Mindfulness Goal will be measured through a survey representing parents, students and staff. The survey will be administered in the fall 2018 and the spring of 2019.

Goal # 4: Cohesive Goal

Roosevelt and Cherry Hill Principals will collaborate on achieving greater consistency on variety of school practices such as:

- Safety protocols and procedures
- Field-trips

- Revision of field day
- School schedules
- Parent visitation
- Sixth grade events
- PTO activities
- School wide activities

The Cohesive Goal will be measured in the spring of 2019 by comparing the 2017-2018 year to the 2018-2019 school activities and events that occurred.

Motion by Mr. Herbst
 Seconded by Mr. Sim

Ayes: Mr. Busteed, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim

Nays: None

B. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION - None

C. BUILDING & GROUNDS – None

D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated October, 2018 totaling \$938,149.20 including checks #41471 through #41610. Payrolls dated September 14, 2018 and September 28, 2018, totaling \$1,152,417.23 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list are attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
2. That the Board of Education accept the Roosevelt, New Bridge Center, and Cherry Hill Schools PTO Gifts for the school year 2017-2018. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education accept the \$350.00 donation from Jennifer Wong Hernandez for general use at Roosevelt School (Addendum).
4. That the Board of Education accept the \$1,000.00 Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant Check for the Roosevelt School.
5. That the Board of Education accept the \$1,000.00 Environmental Awareness Challenge Grant Check for the Cherry Hill School.
6. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2018-2019 as of August 31, 2018. (Addendum)
7. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the period ending August 31, 2018.

Further, we certify that as of August 31, 2018, 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)

Motion by Mr. Sim
Seconded by Mr. Busted

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim
Nays: None

E. PERSONNEL

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve June Karpowich, Editor, of the River Edge Web-based Publication, as per contractual stipend, for the 2018-2019 school year.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Julie Fallon, Assistant Editor of the River Edge Web-based Publication, as per contractual stipend, for the 2018-2019 school year.
3. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Deborah Auriemma to commence on or about February 20, 2019 through March 20, 2019, followed by a Federal/State Family leave of absence to commence on or about March 21, 2019 through April 2, 2019.
4. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve Jenene Ziegler, Long Term Substitute Nurse, per diem, BA , Step 1, to commence October 15, 2018 through November 30, 2018.
5. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve an extended child care leave of absence for Caitlin Montuori to continue from December 21, 2018 through June 30, 2019.
6. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Chelsea Wallschleger, Part-time Aide, for the 2018-2019 pending final paperwork.

Motion by Mr. Busted
Seconded by Mr. Koth

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim
Nays: None

F. RIVER EDGE SPECIAL EDUCATION - None

G. REGION V ADMINISTRATION & TRANSPORTATION

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated October, 2018 totaling \$323,246.26 including checks #70931 through #71025.
2. WHEREAS, the River Edge Board of Education (the "Board") is the lead education agency ("LEA") for the Bergen County Region V Council for Special Education ("Region V"); and

WHEREAS, Region V provides shared services for its member districts such as evaluations, direct services, and consultation; and

WHEREAS, as the LEA, the Board must approve the consultant agreements of the providers that Region V utilizes to deliver shared services to its member districts.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board, upon recommendation of the Superintendent, re-approves the consultant agreements of the following Region V Shared Services Consultants, Psychologists, Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultants, Social Workers, Speech Language Specialists, Occupational and Physical Therapists, and Translators to provide evaluations, direct services, and consultation, to non-public and public schools for member districts upon request for the 2018-2019 school year:

Jaleen LLC

Nonpublic

Consultant

Motion by Mr. Koth
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Mr. Herbst, Mr. Koth, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim
Nays: None

OLD/NEW BUSINESS - None

PUBLIC DISCUSSION - None

CLOSED SESSION

Motion made by Mr. Herbst, seconded by Mr. Sim to convene into closed session at 9:15 PM.
All Ayes

RECONVENE

Motion made by Mr. Busted, seconded by Mr. Herbst to reconvene and adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:40 PM.
All Ayes

Louise Napolitano
Board Secretary/Business Administrator