

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

*“Building Bright Futures Together”*

**Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting – September 26, 2018**

**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, 410 Bogert Road, River Edge, NJ 07661.

**CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE**

Mr. Sim called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Mr. Herbst read the Mission Statement.

**ROLL CALL**

Present on roll call were; Mr. Busteed; Ms. Dansky; Mr. Herbst; Mr. Sim. Also present were Mrs. Napolitano, Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Heitman, and approximately twenty members of the public.

Mrs. Myers arrived at 7:39 PM  
Ms. Brown was absent  
Mr. Koth was absent

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS NOTICE**

Mrs. Napolitano read the Open Public Meeting Act Notice.

**SPECIAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Public Comment on Agenda Items – None

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

Caitlin Callahan - New Bridge Center - Kindergarten Teacher  
Gabrielle Dalmar - Cherry Hill School - 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher  
Jamie D’Amico - New Bridge Center - Kindergarten Teacher  
Jacqueline Fiore - Roosevelt School - Leave Replacement 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher  
Darci Humphries - Roosevelt School – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher  
Alyssa Jahren – Cherry Hill School – Leave Replacement 1st Grade Teacher  
Nicole Krapels - New Bridge Center- Clerical Assistant  
Jessica Mahtaban – Cherry Hill School – 6th Grade Teacher  
Lauren Proda - Roosevelt School - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher  
Samantha Rosenbloom – Cherry Hill School – Leave Replacement 4th Grade Teacher  
Annice Ryu - Cherry Hill School – ESL Teacher  
Maribel Urena - Torres-Cherry Hill School Part-time Academic Support Teacher  
Eva Visperas - District Part-time Physical Education Teacher  
Nevin Werner - Math and Science Coach/Supervisor

Roosevelt School Gymnasium Air-Conditioning – Joe DiCara and Rodney Watkins from DiCara/Rubino Architects

Mr. DiCara, from DiCara/Rubino Architects, spoke to the board regarding the HVAC upgrade in the Roosevelt School Gymnasium. He reviewed the three options they will have. Option 1: replace acoustical ceiling and light fixtures after new work, option 2: exposed ceiling and ductwork with pendant hung fixtures, option 3: reuse existing ductwork. He also went over the project schedules for time frames and costs for each option. Mr. DiCara stated he should know by next Thursday if the existing ductwork is good or needs to be replaced. He also answered all questions that the board members had asked him.

## **REPORTS**

### **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dr. Ben-Dov reported on the following:

- Student Growth Objectives (SGO's) have to be completed by the middle of October and submitted by the end of October
- We are reviewing the trends of PARCC and the interventions. PARCC is looking good, but there are things we can always improve. The PARCC presentation will be at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting presented by Dr. Ben-Dov and Ms. Christine Moran.
- There was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Cup of Coffee meeting today. Parents were very interested in our process of hiring, Liberty Science Center, and our ESL population. This was a very supportive and interested group.
- Candidates Night is facilitated by the PTO through the League of Women Voters. They have tentatively scheduled their event for Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. They requested information from Mrs. Napolitano about the candidates so that they could contact them. Their guideline is that four out of the five candidates must be present to hold this event.
- Dr. Ben-Dov, Mrs. Napolitano, and Ms. Moran attended an informational session on Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) on Monday. Dr. Ben-Dov stated the level of detail they are requesting is unbelievable. We received a date of monitoring of February 1<sup>st</sup>. The facility monitoring will happen before that in the early part of fall. Dr. Ben-Dov believes our curriculum is in decent shape due to all of the work the teachers and administrators have invested. Dr. Ben-Dov is committed to working everyday with whoever is required regarding QSAC. She will go over every indicator of the QSAC manual.
- There are ongoing discussions with the Oradell, River Edge, and River Dell Superintendents for coordinating a variety of things. Dr. Ben-Dov has spoken to both Superintendents today and found out Oradell is seeing some future developments and are interested in a demographic study with all three districts. Dr. Ben-Dov told them she would like to wait until the new development in River Edge is completed. She said having a demographic study now won't serve us well. The demographic study will probably take place next year.
- Dr.-Dov attended a meeting organized by the NJEA and Prosecutors office. The idea is to bring together Superintendents and the Association Leaders. Ms. O'Keefe could not attend this meeting so Mrs. Naimaister went instead. The topic of this meeting was Active Shooter. The S.W.A.T. team and a mental health person presented and Dr. Ben-Dov is considering bringing in both to our district.

- Dr. Ben-Dov shared some good news. She stated Mrs. Napolitano brought Columbia Bank to the district last year and found out Columbia Bank wanted to meet with them to possibly offer us a grant. When they met last week the Bank asked them what they wanted to do as far as a project. Dr. Ben-Dov told them preventative measures regarding security such as mental health training for teachers and additional cameras. She was told she needs to do this through a foundation. Mrs. Napolitano contacted REEF and REEF will get a letter ready for the proposal. The Bank liked the proposed topics and offered the district \$15,000. Dr. Ben-Dov thanked Mrs. Napolitano for connecting the district with this bank.

### **PRINCIPAL**

Mrs. Heitman reported on the following:

- The 2018-2019 school year had a great start. We are enjoying our first full week of school.
- The PTO Welcome Back Tea Meeting was held on Friday, September 7th and Lieutenant Mike Walker spoke about traffic.
- Teachers are setting the tone, getting to know their students, and establishing the classroom community.
- Back to School Night at both schools was held on Thursday, September 20th. The teachers did a great job and it was well attended.
- Mrs. Kuruc held her SEPAG meeting on Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. It was a great turnout.
- There was a Fire Assembly today for all grades at Cherry Hill School
- We are looking forward to the Week of Respect which will be October 1-October 5. The counselors have been working on agendas for this week.
- Author, Janet Wong will visit Cherry Hill School on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. All the Administrators are going to read a poem a week. Mrs. Heitman ended her report with reading the poem "Your Teacher."

### **BOARD SECRETARY**

Mrs. Napolitano reported on the following:

- There is a resolution on tonight's agenda to approve the new phone system for the district. The proposal is for a unified communication system for River Edge from Shore Tel Voip phone system for the main office and comprehensive system that enhances how we communicate including phones in classrooms, ability to move extensions with users, make announcements over phones to either and/or both schools, alert administrators to 911 calls with location, voice messages linked to email, room to room calling, and maintenance of phones including upgrading as they become available.
- Mrs. Napolitano has been working with Mr. DiCara and Mr. Watkins on the Roosevelt School air-conditioning project.
- Mrs. Napolitano asked the board to let her know the status of them attending the NJSBA Convention

**PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Myers reported on the following:

- Mrs. Myers met with the Mayor and they spoke about the Interlocal Agreement. He hopes to have it completed by the end of October. The Mayor told Mrs. Myers the Borough received grant money that they may use to make alternations to parking on Bogert Road by the apartments. They also spoke about the possibility of moving the voting out of our schools. The Mayor is still looking into this.
- They will discuss the River Edge Community Center at the October 9<sup>th</sup> Mayor and Council Meeting. Mrs. Myers asked if any board members would like to go to the meeting in support of the River Edge Board of Education.

**COMMITTEES**

- Ms. Dansky stated one of our policies was pulled off of the agenda tonight for its second reading. Policy number 5141.8, Sports Related Concussion and Head Injury, was pulled based on additional language we just received from our attorney. We will re-approve the policy at a later date.

**MOTIONS TO BE ACTED UPON**

**A. ADMINISTRATION/POLICY**

1. That the Board of Education approve the Minutes of September 12, 2018.

Motion by Ms. Dansky  
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

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

2. That the Board of Education approve the list on file in the district office of pupil records maintained in the district for the 2018-2019 school year. (Addendum)
3. That the Board of Education accept the District Nursing Services Plan for the 2018-2019 school year.
4. That the Board of Education approve the authorization of the submission of the ESEA application for Fiscal Year 2019, and accepts the grant award of these funds upon the subsequent approval of the Fiscal Year 2019 ESEA Application.

<b>Grants</b>
<b>Title 1</b> \$73,922
<b>Title II</b> River Edge-\$8,745 Non-Public-\$8,699 Total-\$17,444
<b>Title III</b> River Edge-\$24,151 Non-Public-\$2,109 Total-\$26,260
<b>Title III Immigrant</b> River Edge-\$4,334 Non-Public-\$703 Total-\$5,037
<b>Title IV</b> River Edge-\$5,013 Non-Public-\$4,987

Total-\$10,000
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5. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policies:

<b>Policy #</b>	<b>Title</b>
4112.4/4212.4	Employee Health
4112.4/4212.4R	Exposure Control Plan Regulation
4112.4/4212.4R	Physical Examination
4112.8	Nepotism
4111.1	NonDiscrimination/Affirmative Action
4211.1R	NonDiscrimination/Affirmative Action Regulation
4119.23/4219.23	Employee Substance Abuse
4116	Evaluation of Teaching Staff Members
4211	Recruitment, Selection and Hiring - Non-Certificated
5113	Attendance, Absences, and Excuses
5114	Suspension and Expulsion
5125	Student Records
5127	Commencement Activities
5131	Conduct/Discipline
5131.5	Violence and Vandalism
5131.5/7R	Violence and Weapons Regulation
5142	Student Safety
5145.11	Questioning and Apprehension
6010	Goals and Objectives
6142.2	English As A Second Language: Bilingual Programs
6142.12	Career and Technical Education
6145	Extracurricular Activities
6146	Graduation Requirements
6146.2	Promotion/Retention
6147	Standards of Proficiency
6153	Field Trip
6160	Instructional Services and Resources

6162.4	Community Resources
6162.5	Research
6164.1	Intervention and Referral Services for General Education Students
6171.1	Remedial Instruction
6171.3	Title I

Motion by Mr. Herbst  
 Seconded by Mr. Sim

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

6. That the Board of Education approve the Second Reading of the following policy:

Policy #	Title
6142.10	Internet Safety and Technology

Motion by Mr. Sim  
 Seconded by Mr. Busted

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

7. That the Board of Education approve the following class trip:

School	Grade	Destination	Cost to District
Cherry Hill	K	Montclair State University Montclair, NJ	\$1,218.00

Motion by Mr. Busted  
 Seconded by Ms. Dansky

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

**B. BUILDING & GROUNDS**

- Whereas, the River Edge Board of Education award the contract for the Voip Phone System through Shoretel WSCA-NASPO State Contract #88132 to Eastern Datacomm in the amount of \$96,344.56 for Cherry Hill, New Bridge Center and Roosevelt Schools.
- That the Board of Education approve the appropriation of 2018-2019 increased state aid in the amount of \$85,379.56 to 9-12-000-400-450 for the purpose of an overall comprehensive communication system that is a part of the security elements as appropriated in the 2018-2019 Budget and approve the appropriation of 2018-2019 increased state aid in the amount of \$10,965 to 9-11-000-262-420 Maintenance Services.

Motion by Ms. Dansky  
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

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

**C. CURRICULUM/EDUCATION**

1. That the Board of Education approve the agreement for the River Edge Board of Education to provide technology services and supplies, security services, and textbooks to the following Non-public Schools for the 2018-2019 school year:

St. Peter's Academy  
Sinai School at RYNJ  
Yeshiva of North Jersey  
Stepping Stone Learning Center

2. That the Board of Education approve the 2018-2019 school year attendance of specific students at Cherry Hill or Roosevelt School which is other than their customary neighborhood school, as on file in the District Office.
3. That the Board of Education approve to allocate State Aid in the amount of \$2,490.00 to 9-11-120-100-101 Grades 1-5 Salaries of Teachers and \$510.00 to 9-11-130-100-101 Grades 6-8 Salaries of Teachers.
4. That the Board of Education approve the contract between the River Edge Board of Education and Stepping Stone Learning Center to provide Non-public Nursing Services for the 2018-2019 school year.

Motion by Mr. Herbst  
Seconded by Mr. Sim

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

**D. FINANCE/GRANTS/GIFTS**

1. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated August, 2018 totaling \$671,161.54 including checks #41295 through #41343.
2. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2018 totaling \$764,384.38 including checks #41344 through #41470.
3. Payrolls date July 13, 2018 and July 31, 2018 totaling \$454,042.42 and Payrolls dated August 09, 2018, and August 31, 2018 totaling \$519,417.68 issued therefore, a copy of such warrants list to be attached as part of these minutes. (Addendum)
4. That the Board of Education approve the Budget Transfers for the school year 2017-2018 as of July 31, 2018. (Addendum)
5. That the River Edge Board of Education approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2018.

Further, we certify that as of July 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, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim  
Nays: None

**E. PERSONNEL**

1. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Cheyenne Mullen, Part-time 504 Aide, starting on or about September 27, 2018 through June 30, 2019.
2. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Luis Cruz, Cherry Hill and Mark Jentz, Roosevelt as Lead Custodians for the 2018-2019 school year, as per contract.
3. That the Board of Education designate Denise Heitman, Attendance Officer, for a yearly stipend of \$500.00 for the 2018-2019 school year.
4. That the Board of Education approve Beth Rosen, Homeless Student Liaison, for the River Edge School District for the 2018-2019 school year.
5. That the Board of Education approve Beth Rosen, HIB Coordinator, for the River Edge School District for the 2018-2019 school year.
6. That the Board of Education approve Rosemary Kuruc, Mental Health Liaison, for the River Edge School District for the 2018-2019 school year.
7. That the Board of Education appoint Michael Henzel as District School Safety Specialist per state law (P.L. 2017 c.162) for the 2018-2019 school year.
8. That the Board of Education approve Maria Pepe as the Primary Project Aide for the 2018-2019 School Year.
9. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve Grace Behrens, Part-time Aide, starting on or about September 27, 2018 through June 30, 2019.
10. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent approve a Maternity/Disability leave of absence for Jessica Haynes to commence on or about January 2, 2019 through February 19, 2019, followed by a Federal/State Family leave of absence to commence on or about February 20, 2019 through May 22, 2019.
11. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Jacqueline Fiore, Leave Replacement Teacher, effective December 5, 2018. (Ms. Fiore was originally approved for a second Leave Replacement position from December 5, 2018 through June 30, 2019).
12. That the Board of Education accept, with regret, the resignation of Dawn Iannantuano, Part-time Aide, effective October 5, 2018.
13. That the Board of Education, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, re-approve Maribel Torres, Part-time Academic Support Teacher, BA +15 step 4, for the 2018-2019 school year. Salary will be fully funded by Title1.

Motion by Mr. Busted  
Seconded by Ms. Dansky

Ayes: Mr. Busted, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, 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 August, 2018 totaling \$26,957.80 including checks #70731 through #70815.
2. That the Board of Education approve the bills & claims dated September, 2018 totaling \$720,193.21 including checks #70816 through #70930.
3. 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:

Victoria Wozniak	Social Worker	Evaluator
Christine Moran	Occupational Therapist	Evaluator
Helene Saffern	Nonpublic	Consultant
Manuel Diaz	Home Services	Coordinator
Angelique Savino	Home Services	Coordinator

Motion by Ms. Dansky  
Seconded by Mr. Herbst

Ayes: Mr. Busteded, Ms. Dansky, Mr. Herbst, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Sim  
Nays: None

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Dansky reported that the Bergen County Meeting is next Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at Maggiano's in Hackensack.

Mr. Sim stated the house behind New Bridge Center, on Kinderkamack Road is for sale again. He thought the house might be good for future growth and possible room to grow.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION** –None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Sim, seconded by Mr. Herbst to adjourn the regular public meeting at 9:32 PM.

Voice vote all Ayes

Louise Napolitano  
Board Secretary/Business Administrator