

RIVER DELL REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION

**June 1, 2020  
(Virtual Meeting)**

A Regular Session Virtual Meeting of the River Dell Regional Board of Education was held on June 1, 2020 Board President, Albert Graef, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

ROLL CALL

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef.

**Others Present**

Patrick J. Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools  
Thomas L. Bonfiglio, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mr. Feigenson, to adopt the following resolution at 7:31 p.m.:

EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

**BE IT RESOLVED** that in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (“Act”), the River Dell Regional School District Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) shall conduct a closed executive session pursuant to the exceptions prescribed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 for the purpose of discussing:

*appointment of ESY staff; appointment of substitute teachers; appointment of substitute school nurses; approval of homebound instructors; appointment of mini-bus drivers; appointment of athletic coaches; approval of weight room supervisors; approval of summer curriculum work; appointment of webmaster and substitute arranger*

It is anticipated that the length of time of this executive session will be 30 minutes and that action will be taken in public after the executive session.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the minutes of the executive session will be released when the need for confidentiality in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 no longer applies.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Executive Session ended at 7:59 p.m.

Motion was made by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mrs. O’Neill, to resume open session at 8:00 p.m.

RESUME  
OPEN SESSION

Thomas Bonfiglio led everyone in a salute to the flag.

FLAG SALUTE

**Board Members Present**

ROLL CALL

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef.

**Others Present**

Patrick J. Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools  
Thomas L. Bonfiglio, Business Administrator/Board Secretary  
Marc Wachter, Technology Specialist/Assistant Business Administrator  
Jody Murphy, Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator  
2 Members from the Public  
1 Student  
3 Staff Members

Thomas Bonfiglio read the following statement:

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STMT.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the River Dell Regional Board of Education has caused notice of this regular meeting to be publicized by having the date, time, and place thereof sent to THE RECORD (primary), THE TOWN NEWS, and/or THE STAR LEDGER newspapers, the constituent borough clerks and borough libraries, as well as posting in the school district principals' offices, faculty rooms, Board Office, and website.

According to New Jersey Public Law 2001, Chapter 226, the smoking or use of any tobacco product is strictly prohibited anywhere in the public school buildings or anywhere on school grounds, including but not limited to the parking lots, grassy areas, and athletic fields. Violators will be subject to a fine not to exceed \$100.

Albert Graef read the mission statement of the River Dell Regional School District

MISSION STATEMENT

**IV. Public Comments (on agenda items only) – None**

PUBLIC COMMENT

**Presentations**

SERVICE RECOGNITION AND RETIREMENTS

Mr. Fletcher acknowledge employees who have worked in the District from fifteen to thirty years. In addition, Mr. Fletcher honored retirees: Barbara Balkin, Victor Lualhati, Doug Habenstriet, Robert Doherty, Kathy Guzman, George Tucci, Sue Keitel, Lorraine Brooks and Sue Mormino.

**V. Student Member Report – Students were not present.**

STUDENT MEMBER REPORT

**VI. Reports**

1. President’s Report  
Mr. Graef mentioned that the student representatives, Allyson Tariga and Greyson Ebeneter, have been missed at the meetings.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Mr. reminded the Board that three seats are open for re-election. Petitions must be received by the County by July 27, 2020.

Committee Reports

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2. Budget and Finance – Mr. Feigenson spoke with Mr. Bonfiglio regarding the Governor cutting school budgets. A meeting will be held after the Governor’s address.
3. Campus Facilities - Nothing to report.
4. Community Relations and Technology - Nothing to report.
5. Curriculum – No meetings will take place from now through end of school year. Mr. Fletcher indicated that we are up to date. Mr. Hartman asked Mr. Fletcher to send the committee courses that were unsubscribed or courses that might need additional staff due to how they fill out. Mr. Hartman mentioned the two staff members for summer writing.
7. Policy and Governance - Nothing to report.

Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mr. Feigenson that all items designated with asterisks(\*) be part of a consent agenda and approved.

CONSENT  
AGENDA

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Feigenson, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Ehalt, Mr. Kupfer, Mrs. Kuchar, Mrs. Hartman, Mr. Manzelli and Mr. Graef all voted aye.

**VII. Personnel**

**A. Special Requests**

- \*1. approve professional day requests for the following staff members to attend workshops/conferences as noted and in accordance with appropriate statute:

PROFESSIONAL  
DAYS

Name	Workshop/Conference	Dates	Cost (not to exceed)
Yomaira Tarifa	AP Spanish Summer Institute Online, Washington State	6/23-26/ 2020	\$600.00

- \*2. rescind the appointments of the following River Dell staff members to work additional schedules as noted for the 2019-2020 school year, at salaries as per the RDEA Agreement:

RESCIND  
APPOINTMENTS/  
ADDITIONAL  
SCHEDULES

Staff	Class	Schedule	Salary	Effective
Sarah Kang	Meaning & Style 8 Period 4	20%	\$11,658 (MA Step 3 \$58,288)	4/13/20- 6/19/20
Sue Keitel	Meaning & Style 7 Period 2	20%	\$20,200 (MA+16 Step 16 \$100,998)	4/13/20- 6/19/20
Linda Mikulka	Meaning & Style 7 Period 8	20%	\$16,165 (MA Step 11 \$80,826)	4/13/20- 6/19/20
Mary C. Risi	Meaning & Style 8 Period 9	20%	\$18,914 (MA Step 15 \$94,572)	4/13/20- 6/19/20
Joseph Stingo	Meaning & Style 8 Period 3	20%	\$9,859 (BA Step 1 \$49,296)	4/13/20- 6/19/20

#### B. Resignations/Retirements

- \*1. accept, with regret, the resignation due to retirement of Speech-Language Specialist Barbara Balkin effective July 1, 2020.

B. BALKIN  
RETIREMENT

#### C. Reappointments/Reassignments/Transfers

#### D. Salary Adjustments/Corrections

- \*1. approve the salary adjustment for Teacher of English Kathleen McGinley from \$63,588 (BA Step 7) to \$66,869 (BA+16 Step 7) effective September 1, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- \*2. approve the salary adjustment for School Counselor Brian DiUbaldo from \$80,823 plus \$7,026 stipend (MA+16 Step 10) to \$83,617 plus \$7,026 Stipend (MA+32 Step 10) effective September 1, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- \*3. approve the salary adjustment for Teacher of Mathematics Jane Firneno from \$78,032 (MA+16 Step 9) to \$80,823 (MA+32 Step 9) effective September 1, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.

SALARY  
ADJUSTMENT  
K. MCKINLEY

SALARY  
ADJUSTMENT  
B. DIUBALDO

SALARY  
ADJUSTMENT  
J. FIRNENO

**E. Appointments**

1. Motion by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mr. Feigenson to approve the appointment of Thomas L. Bonfiglio to the position of Business Administrator/Board Secretary for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 in accordance with the terms and condition of the contract attached to the Board Secretary's copy of this agenda.

APPOINTMENT  
T. BONFIGLIO  
B.A/B.S.  
2020-2021

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:  
Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Feigenson, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Ehalt,  
Mr. Kupfer, Mrs. Kuchar, Mr. Manzelli and  
Mr. Graef all voted aye. Mrs. Hartman voted no.

2. Motion by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mr. Kupfer to approve the appointment of William Feldman to the position of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Supervision for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 in accordance with the terms and condition of the contract attached to the Board Secretary's copy of this agenda.

APPOINTMENT  
W. FELDMAN  
ASST. SUPT. FOR  
CURR., INSTRUCT. &  
SUPERVISION  
2020-2021

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:  
Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Feigenson, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Ehalt,  
Mr. Kupfer, Mrs. Kuchar, Mr. Manzelli and  
Mr. Graef all voted aye. Mrs. Hartman voted no.

- \*3. approve the appointment of part-time Building Service Unit employee Charibelkis Checo De Baez for the 2020-2021 school year, at the rate of \$15.93 per hour for no more than 29 hours per week.

APPOINTMENT  
C. CHECO DeBAEZ  
BLDG. SERVICE  
2020-2021

- \*4. approve the appointment of Jessica Abarca to the position of Building Service Employee (custodian) for the 2020-2021 school year at a salary of \$38,276, including \$1,350 stipend for Black Seal License, effective July 1, 2020.

APPOINTMENT  
J. ABARCA  
BLDG. SERVICE  
2020-2021

- \*5. approve the following counselors for summer work through July and August 2020, at salaries as per the RDEA Agreement:

COUNSELORS  
SUMMER  
WORK

Patricia Barlow	40 hours	\$81.43	\$3,257.20
Brian DiUbaldo	40 hours	\$57.73	\$2,309.20
Lauren Garcia	40 hours	\$57.73	\$2,309.20
Erin Kirkby	40 hours	\$62.52	\$2,500.80
Jaclyn Nolan	40 hours	\$61.72	\$2,468.80

This approval would be subject to and pending the regulations regarding social distancing from the Governor’s office.

**VIII. Curriculum/Student Affairs and Activities**

**IX. Miscellaneous**

SUSPENSION  
STUDENT #222297

Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mrs. Ehalt to approve the following resolution:

- 1. **WHEREAS**, on April 27, 2020, the River Dell Regional Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board of Education”) continued the suspension of student bearing identification number 222297 until the June 1, 2020 board meeting;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby continues the suspension until the end of the school year June 18, 2020;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby further determines that the student shall not be present on any of the Board of Education’s school campuses before, during and after the regularly scheduled school day during the period of his/her suspension, unless specifically authorized by the Superintendent;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Education hereby further determines that the student shall not be permitted to participate in any athletic, co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activities sponsored by the Board of Education and shall not be present for or attend any Board of Education sponsored activities, either on campus or in any school district where the River Dell Regional School District is participating in the activities during the period of suspension;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that an alternate education shall continue to be provided to the student during his/her suspension.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:  
Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Feigenson, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Ehalt, Mr. Kupfer, Mrs. Kuchar, Mr. Manzelli and Mr. Graef all voted aye. Mrs. Hartman abstained,

**X. Finance/District Operation**

- \*1. Recording of Fire/Security Drills

FIRE/SECURITY DRILLS

Middle School Building closed due to coronavirus pandemic  
 High School Building closed due to coronavirus pandemic

- \*2. Recording of Enrollment—**May** (Attached) ENROLLMENT
- \*3. Recording of Suspension Report/Violence and Vandalism Reports—**May** (Attached) SUSPENSION/VIOLENCE & VANDALISM REPORTS
- \*4. Recording of HIB Reports—**May** N/A HIB REPORTS
- \*5. **WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 18A:21-2 and N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-13 permit a Board of Education to establish and/or deposit into certain reserve accounts at year end, and DEPOSIT INTO RESERVE ACCOUNTS

**WHEREAS**, the aforementioned statutes authorize procedures, under the authority of the Commissioner of Education, which permit a board of education to transfer anticipated excess current revenue or unexpended appropriations into reserve accounts during the month of June by board resolution, and

**WHEREAS**, the River Dell Regional Board of Education wishes to deposit anticipated current year surplus into a Capital Reserve account at year end, and

**WHEREAS**, the River Dell Regional Board of Education has determined to increase the Capital Reserve Fund by any excess Fund balance that exceeds \$325,000;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the River Dell Regional Board of Education that it hereby authorizes the district’s School Business Administrator to make this transfer consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

- \*6. **WHEREAS**, the River Dell Regional Board of Education (“the Board”) advertised for bids for the Secure Vestibules Project at the River Dell Middle School (“the Project”); and VESTIBULE PROJECT-ABANDON

**WHEREAS**, on April 17, 2020, the Board received bids for the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, due to COVID-19, and the uncertainty concerning the current economic landscape, the Board believes it is in the best interest of the School District to abandon the Project at this time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board hereby rejects the bids received for the Project pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-22 (c) as the Board has determined to abandon the Project at this time.

- \*7. The Superintendent and Board Secretary recommend that the Board approve extending homebound instruction for Student #253557 via Educare to June 18, 2020, instead of of May 15, 2020.

EXTEND  
HOMEBOUND  
INSTRUCTION  
STUDENT #253557

**XI. Old Business**

**XII. New Business**

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Hartman mentioned that students might want to come together and share their voice. When they are moving on and become graduates, the best thing have is their ability to vote. She wants to remind them that these are milestones and they should use it individually and collectively to make a world for themselves that they like to envision.

S. HARTMAN  
STUDENT  
MILESTONES

Mrs. Hartman also thanked the staff for their years of service.

S. HARTMAN  
STAFF THANK YOU

Mr. Graef commended on graduation and the many restrictions.

A. GRAEF (PRESIDENT)  
GRADUATION

Mr. Manzelli publicly thanked Mr. Traina for the video salute to senior athletes. He also thanked Mr. Smith and Mr. LaBouseur for the fields.

J. MANZELLI (V.P.)  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Fletcher reviewed the following items:

P. FLETCHER (SUPT.)  
SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT

- Graduation options for the Class of 2020.
  - o River Dell will be following the schedule below:
    - June 18, 2020 – Drive through in-person ceremony by appointment with photo opportunity. Only graduate and two guests permitted to exit the vehicle. In addition, there will be a virtual ceremony streaming at 5:15 p.m. which will include all speeches, similar to the traditional program but in a video format.
    - July 8, 2020 (Rain Date: July 9, 2020 – Possible in-person ceremony, provided if restrictions are lifted to at least 400 people. River Dell would have two ceremonies.
- Mr. Fletcher also mentioned collection of personal items and school property.



Motion by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to approve the July 8, 2020 in-person graduation if the restrictions are lifted to at least 400 people to have two ceremonies on that date with a rain date of July 9, 2020.

IN-PERSON  
GRADUATION  
JULY 8, 2020  
RAIN DATE-JULY 9, 2020

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:  
Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Feigenson, Mr. Samuel, Mrs. Ehalt,  
Mr. Kupfer, Mrs. Kuchar, Mrs. Hartman Mr. Manzelli  
and Mr. Graef all voted aye.

**XIII. Board Discussion**

**XIV. Public Comments**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- 1) Ms. Amburg thanked the Board and Mr. Fletcher. She gave some suggestions regarding helping staff and students with mental health concerns when school resumes.

P. AMBURG

Mr. Fletcher addressed Ms, Amburg’s comments and provided the following information:

- The Bergen County Association of School Administrators has a task force with a mental health component.
- The Governor’s Office created a task force for reopening school with a subcommittee looking into mental health supports.

- 2) Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Manzelli for the acknowledgement.

F. SMITH

**XV. Adjournment**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Claudia O’Neill, seconded by Douglas Kupfer, to adjourn at 9:07 p.m.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Bonfiglio  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

TLB:jm