

RIVER DELL REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION

August 17, 2020
(Virtual Meeting)

A Regular Session Virtual Meeting of the River Dell Regional Board of Education was held on July 27, 2020 Board President, Albert Graef, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

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

ROLL CALL

Others Present

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

Motion was made by Claudia O’Neill, seconded by Stephanie Hartman, to adopt the following resolution at 7:01 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:

Personnel concerns regarding the reopening of schools

It is anticipated that the length of time of this executive session will be 60 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 7:58 p.m.

Motion was made by Alan Feigenson, seconded by Douglas Kupfer, 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, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef. Tracey-Ellen Ehalt was absent.

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
Approximately 186 others were in attendance virtually.

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 COMMENTS

PRESENTATIONS: River Dell Reopening and Restart Plan – Patrick J. Fletcher

REOPENING PRESENTATION
P. FLETCHER

Mr. Fletcher discussed the River Dell Regional School District Reopening and Restart Plan. The plan is posted on River Dell’s district website.

Mr. Fletcher recommended modifications to the current River Dell Regional School District 2020-2021 calendar.

2020-2021
SCHOOL CALENDAR
MODIFICATIONS
RECOMMENDATION

Board Comments: None

Public Comments:

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-
REOPENING PLAN**

Discussion ensued with the public on Mr. Fletcher’s plan to open the school district in September.

Motion was made by Claudia O’Neill, seconded by John Samuel 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, Mr. Kupfer, Mrs. Kuchar, Mrs. Hartman, Mr. Manzelli and Mr. Graef all voted aye.
Mrs. Ehalt was absent.

V. Miscellaneous

1. Motion by Claudia O’Neill, seconded by Stephanie Hartman to approve the 1st reading of the following policies:

**POLICIES
1ST READING**

1000 Series:

1250*	Visitors	1000 SERIES
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3000 Series:

3510*	Operation and Maintenance of Plant	3000 SERIES
3541.33*	Transportation Safety	

4000 Series:

4149-4249*	Working from Home	4000 SERIES
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5000 Series:

5141.2*	Illness	5000 SERIES
5141.3*	Health Examinations and Immunizations	

6000 Series:

6173.1*	Remote Learning	6000 SERIES
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Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

VI. Finance/District Operation

1. Motion by Alan Feigenson, seconded by Douglas Kupfer to approve the following resolution:

**STATE AID
REDUCTION
2020-2021**

WHEREAS, State Aid for the 2020-2021 school year was initially distributed on 27 February 2020 and amounted to \$1,290,808;

WHEREAS, on 10 July 2020, the State reduced its aid to River Dell.
This revised amount is \$1,163,372, a reduction of \$127,436.;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED after discussing the matter with the Budget Committee of the Board, the following recommendation to reduce the 2020-2021 appropriations are as follows:

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Program Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-000-223-15-104	Professional Development-Salaries	\$112,022
11-000-223-15-320	Professional Development-Contracted Services	<u>\$15,414</u>
	Total Reduction	\$127,436

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

- *2. Approve the incoming tuition students on the attached list, for the 2020-2021 school year. TUITION STUDENTS
2020-2021
- *3. Approve the following consultants, at an on-needed basis, for the 2020-2021 school year: CONSULTANTS
2020-2021

Service	Consultant	Rate
Neurologist	Dr. Poorvi Patel Dr. Green St. Joseph Hospital	\$850 per neurological evaluation
Psychiatrist	Dr. Leslie Nagy Dr. Morton Fridman Dr. Esther Fridman Dr. Veronica Rojas	\$700-\$1,000 per psychiatric evaluation \$350 for no-show for appointment made
Psychologist	Dr. Erica Bases Dr. Hugh Bases	\$2,100 per neuropsychological evaluation \$650 per neurodevelopmental
Region V Consultants	Occupational Therapist Speech Therapist Physical Therapist Behaviorist Evaluations: Psyh & Ed Assistive Technology Neuropsychological Eval	\$70- \$80 per session for each discipline \$320 per report \$620 per report \$1200 per report

Motion by Joseph Manzelli, seconded by Stephanie Hartman to bring the following Executive Session items forward.

4. Approve the 2020-2021 River Dell Regional School District calendar modifications as follows:

2020-2021
SCHOOL CALENDAR
MODIFICATIONS

September 1, 2 and 3 - Full professional days (staff only)
September 4 - Full virtual day for students and staff
September 8 – Hybrid schedule begins
October 12 and November 3 – Full instructional days for students

5. Approve the additional Board of Education meeting date of August 31, 2020.

ADDITIONAL
BOARD OF ED.
MEETING
AUGUST 31, 2020

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef all voted aye. Stephanie Hartman voted no on Item #4, and voted aye Item #5. Tracey-Ellen Ehalt was absent.

VII. Old Business – None

OLD BUSINESS

VIII. New Business

NEW BUSINESS

IX. Board Discussion

BOARD DISCUSSION

- Mr. Fletcher indicated that students approached him regarding racism issues related to River Dell. An opportunity was given to students to address the Board regarding this issue. No student comments were made.
- Mrs. Hartman stated that there were other factors for not coming to a decision at this moment. It is out of concern for the students and staff.
- Mr. Graef agreed that everything they are doing is for the safety of the students and staff. He mentioned that many questions can be answered by visiting the District website.
- Mr. Kupfer stated that the direction of the Board is to have every opportunity for in-person instruction.

X. Public Comments – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

XI. Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Albert Graef, seconded by Stephanie Hartman,
to adjourn at 9:35 p.m.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Bonfiglio
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

TLB:jm