

RIVER DELL REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR SESSION
March 15, 2021
(Hybrid Meeting)

A Regular Session Meeting of the River Dell Regional Board of Education was held March 15, 2021. Board President, Albert Graef, called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

ROLL CALL

Claudia O'Neill, Barbara Kuchar, Joseph Manzelli, Albert Graef, Alan Feigenson, Douglas Kupfer, John Samuel and Stephanie Hartman. 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
Student Liaison(s) Noelle Sarafian, and Josh Wiesenfeld, Jesse Henderson was absent
Kerry Heiser, Secretary/Accounts Payable
Approximately 29 others were in attendance virtually.

Mr Bonfiglio led everyone in a salute to the flag

FLAG SALUTE

Mr. 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.

Mrs. O'Neill read the mission statement of the River Dell Regional School District.

MISSION
STATEMENT

4. Public Comments (on agenda items only)

5. PRESENTATION: Hidden Bias – Vincent DeLucia, NJSBA
Mr. Delucia, discussed Hidden Bias and gave examples and tips on how to discuss Bias.

V. DELUCIA
HIDDEN BIAS

6. Student Member Report

Noelle Sarafian mentioned that winter sports are ending and volleyball and wrestling are starting.

STUDENT
MEMBER
REPORT

Josh Wiesenfeld mentioned that the Business Club received fourth place out of 100 teams at the Stock Market Challenge. All the River Dell Teams placed in the top 50.

7. Reports

1. President's Report

Mr. Graef reminded Board Members about CSA Evaluations and Board Member requirements.

PRESIDENT
REPORT

2. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Fletcher discussed:

-Board Self Evaluations

-There has been an increase in attendance at the Middle School and High School after the virtual Wednesday was eliminated.

- The recent closure of the Middle School due to a COVID-19 exposure. The Middle School will re-open March 26, 2021.

-Bergen County Department of Education has a vaccine eligibility program for K-12 Educators and Support Staff. There was a vaccine opportunity for the Johnson and Johnson vaccine on March 13, 2021. Eight River Dell Staff members were vaccinated.

SUPERINTENDENT
REPORT

Committee Reports

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

3. Budget and Finance

Mr. Manzelli stated that State Aid has increased for the 2021/2022 school year.
For the 2021/2022 School Budget, prior programming will remain and new teacher positions were added. There will be a 1.4% increase to the tax rate.
Mr. Manzelli thanked Mr. Bonfiglio for everything he has done.

4. Facilities & Security – nothing to report

5. Community Relations & Technology – nothing to report

6. Curriculum

Mrs. O’Neill reported that there was a meeting on March 8, 2021. Curricular changes, the Professional Development Day on March 31, 2021 and testing schedules were discussed.

7. Policy & Governance

Mrs. Hartman stated there was a meeting on March 8, 2021. New policies for electronic devices, mental health and dress codes were discussed.

8. Motion was made by Mrs. Hartman seconded by Mr. Kupfer that all items designated with asterisks (*) to be part of a consent agenda and approved.

APPROVE
CONSENT
AGENDA

Motion carried by the following call vote:

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

9. **Personnel**

A. **Special Requests**

PROF. DAY
REQUEST
FOR STAFF

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

Name	Workshop/Conference	Date	Amount (Not to Exceed)
Tiffany Correa	ISTE Live 21 Virtual	June 26-30, 21, August 2-13, 21, October 15-17, 21	\$245.00
Kathleen McGinley	AP Summer Institute Training, Virtual	June 28-July 1, 21	\$525.00

- *2. approve a change to the 2020-2021 school calendar for March 31, 2021, from a full session day to a one session day for students to allow professional development for staff.

CALENDAR
CHANGE
3/31/2021

Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill seconded by Mrs. Hartman to approve

B. Resignations/Retirements

RETIREMENT
M. CRONIN

- 1. accept, with regret, the resignation due to retirement of Administrative Assistant Margaret Cronin, effective June 30, 2021.

Motion carried by the following call vote:

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

C. Reappointments/Reassignments/Transfers

D. Salary Adjustments/Corrections

E. Appointments

- *1. approve the appointment of the following volunteer assistant coaches for the spring 2021 athletic season:

VOLUNTEER
ASSISTANT
COACHES
SPRING 2021

Baseball Adam Derner	Boys Tennis Matt Doran
Baseball Alex Derner	Golf Maureen Kiel
Baseball Mike Garibell	Track Lauren McDonald
Boys Lacrosse Tom Kiernan	Track Joe Acuna

10. Curriculum/Student Affairs and Activities

- *A. approve a field trip for the High School Ski Club to Park City Canyons, Utah during February 2022 Winter Recess for 5 nights with Club Advisor Kevin Loomam as chaperone, at no cost to the Board. The Board accepts no financial responsibility should the trip be cancelled or interrupted due to the current public health crisis. SKI CLUB TRIP
FEB. 2022

11. Miscellaneous

- *A. approve Student #223689, whose name is on file in the Superintendent’s Office, be permitted to compete as an independent gymnast representing River Dell with Ms. Andrea Lauterback serving as a volunteer coach. INDEPENDENT GYMNAST
ID # 223689

Motion was made by Mrs. Hartman seconded by Mrs. O’Neill to approve

- B. approve the Board Goals and corresponding Action Plan: BOARD GOALS

GOAL I: By September 2021, the River Dell Board of Education will approve a plan to fully resume in-person learning opportunities for all students that includes improvements to building security that limit unauthorized access to the facilities.

GOAL II: By September 2021, the River Dell Board of Education will implement enhanced mental health supports that address the challenges of transitioning from hybrid learning to full-time in-person instruction.

Motion carried by the following call vote:

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

12. Finance/District Operation

- *A. Recording of Fire/Security Drills FIRE/SECURITY
FEB. 2021
 - Middle School February 23 & 24 & 25 & 26, 2021
 - High School February 11 & 12 & 24 & 25, 2021
- *B. Recording of Enrollment—**February 2021** (Attached) ENROLLMENT
FEB. 2021
- *C. Recording of Suspension/Violence & Vandalism Reports —**February 2021** (Attached) SUSPENSION/
VIOLENCE &
VANDALISM
RPT. FEB. 2021

*D. Recording of HIB Reports—February 2021 (N/A)

HIB REPORTS
FEB. 2021

Mr. Bonfiglio reviewed the 2021-22 preliminary budget with the Board.
The final vote will take place at the April 26, 2021 Board of Education meeting.
The power point of the Budget will be on the River Dell website.

Motion was made by Mr. Manzelli seconded by Mr. Feigenson to approve

E. **BE IT RESOLVED** to approve a school district preliminary budget for the FY2021-2022 School Year for submission to the Executive County Superintendent’s Office as follows:

PRELIMINARY
BUDGET
FY 2021-2022

Tax Levy	\$32,061,783
Current Expenses	\$34,833,369
Capital Outlay	410,287
Special Revenue	451,000
Debt Service	1,371,400
TOTAL ALL EXPENSES	\$37,066,056

Capital Reserve Withdrawal – Other Capital Projects – Statement of Purpose

Included in budget line 620, *Budgeted Withdrawal from Capital Reserve – Excess Costs & Other Capital Projects* is \$350,000 for other capital project which includes a Middle School Security Vestibule (\$175,000) and a High School Security Vestibule (\$175,000). The total cost of each of these projects is \$350,000 which represents expenditures for construction elements or projects that are in addition to the facilities efficiency standards determined by the Commissioner as necessary to achieve the core curriculum content standards.

Motion carried by the following call vote:
Claudia O’Neill, Barbara Kuchar, Joseph Manzelli, Albert Graef,
Alan Feigenson, Douglas Kupfer, John Samuel and Stephanie Hartman all voted aye.
Tracey-Ellen Ehalt was absent.

*F. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the River Dell Regional Board of Education does hereby approve an agreement with the South Bergen Jointure Commission, an approved Coordinated Transportation Services Agency, for the purposes of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, P.L. 1997 for the time period 2021-2022 school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of nonpublic, out of district special education, vocational and summer programs.

SO. BERGEN
JOINTURE
COMMISSION
TRANSPORT.
AGREEMENT
2021-2022

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the River Dell Regional Board of Education agrees to abide by the Transportation Services Agreement as published by the South Bergen Jointure Commission and attached to his resolution.

*G. recommend that the Board approve the disposal of outdated/unusable textbooks located in the High School World Language Department, as per the attached list.

TEXTBOOK
DISPOSAL

*H. recommend that the Board approve bedside instruction for Student #243237 for 6 hours per week at the cost of \$50.78 per hour beginning February 26, 2021 for approximately 2 weeks, with instruction provided by River Dell Homebound Instructors.

BEDSIDE
INSTRUCT.
STUDENT
ID # 243237

13. Old Business

14. New Business

NEW
BUSINESS

Mr. Manzelli thanked Mr. Pepe, High School Principal for his updates on events going on in the high school and his positive comments posted on twitter.

Mrs. Hartman also thanked Mr. Pepe and mentioned his update on the student attending the National DECA Competition.

Mr. Fletcher thanked Mr. Wilson for his efforts with the Tri-M Music Honor Society.

15. Board Discussion

16. Public Comments

17. Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. O'Neill seconded by Mrs. Hartman to adjourn at 10:01 pm.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Bonfiglio
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

TLB:kh