

**RIVER DELL REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**REGULAR SESSION**

October 11, 2011

A Regular Session Meeting of the River Dell Board of Education was held in the River Dell High School Media Center Monday, October 11, 2011. Board President, Joseph Manzelli called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present**

Roger Tashjian, Stephanie Hartman, Claudia O'Neill, Dorothea Durand, Paul Barnes, Vito Acquafredda and Joseph Manzelli were present. Patricia Almberg (arrived at 7:10 p.m.) and Michael Chakansky was absent.

ROLL CALL

**Others Present**

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

Motion was made by Mr. Tashjian, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to adopt the following resolution at 7:00 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:

Maternity leave of absence request, appointment of District Registrar, appointment of volunteer athletic coaches, appointment of athletic coach

It is anticipated that the length of time of this executive session will be sixty 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 was made by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Tashjian to resume open session at 8:00 p.m.

RESUME  
OPEN SESSION

Motion carried by all ayes.

**Board Members Present**

ROLL CALL

Roger Tashjian, Stephanie Hartman, Patricia Almberg, Claudia O'Neill, Dorothea Durand, Paul Barnes, Vito Acquafredda and Joseph Manzelli were present. Michael Chakansky was absent.

**Others Present**

Patrick Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools  
Thomas L. Bonfiglio, Business Admin/Board Secretary  
Lisa Finn, Secretary  
Allison Friedlander, Student Representative  
Bridget Irvine, Student Representative  
Approximately 16 members of the public

Mr. Bonfiglio led everyone in a salute to the flag.

FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Bonfiglio read the following statements:

OPEN PUBLIC  
MEETING STATEMENT

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, and Board Office.

According to New Jersey Public Law 2001, Chapter 226, the smoking of tobacco 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 \$100.00.

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

**Presentations:**

**PRESENTATIONS**

2012 National Merit Program-Semifinalist and Commended Students

Violence and Vandalism Week-

Patrick J. Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools

**V. Student Member Report**

**STUDENT MEMBER  
REPORT**

The following topics were discussed:

- September 28th Annual Pep Rally
- French National Honor Society
- Hope for Haiti T-Shirts
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- SATs & PSATs
- College Applications

**VI. Reports**

1. President's Report

**PRESIDENT'S  
REPORT**

Mr. Manzelli discussed the following:

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and how the fields looked nice with the painting of pink ribbons on them.
- RDTV

2. Superintendent's Report

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Mr. Fletcher discussed the following:

- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Inter-Act Club donations

Mr. Fletcher stated that on the November 7th Board Meeting Mrs. Ali will be there to talk about the Math Program.

Mr. Fletcher congratulated Mr. Fred Smith and Mr. Bruce LaBourseur who provided pink ribbons around the fields in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

**Committee Reports**

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

3. Budget & Finance

Mrs. O'Neill stated that the Committee discussed the Budget process.

4. Campus Facilities  
Mr. Acquafredda stated that the Committee reviewed the proposed solar power.
5. Community Relations & Information  
Mr. Barnes stated that the Committee met and discussed Post Graduates coming back, also the committee would like to have six communicators three from River Edge, and three from Oradell.
6. Personnel Matters-None
7. Policy & Governance  
Mrs. Almberg stated that the Committee will be meeting Tuesday October 18th.
8. Technology  
Mr. Tashjian thanked Mr. Acquafredda with regard to the Solar Power proposal; he also stated that Mr. Acquafredda, Mrs. Williams and himself will be attending the NJSB Conv. on October 25th to view prospective wireless device companies.
9. Curriculum/Tri-District  
Mrs. Hartman stated that the Committee met on September 28th and discussed Math Curriculum, testing and graduation requirements, she also stated that Mrs. Ali will be at the November 7th Board Meeting to discuss the Math Program. The next Committee meeting is scheduled for October 14th.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Mr. Tashjian, Mrs. Hartman, Mrs. Almberg, Mrs. O'Neill, Mrs. Durand, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Manzelli voted aye.

Mr. Acquafredda voted to abstain on resolution VIII-2 and voted aye on the rest. Mr. Chakansky was absent.

**VII. Personnel****A. Special Requests**

- \*1. approve Lucille Camporini as a volunteer clerical assistant for the 2011-2012 school year.

L.CAMPORINI  
VOLUNTEER CLERICAL  
ASSISTANT

- \*2. approve professional day requests for the following staff members to attend workshops/conferences as noted and in accordance with appropriate statute:

PROFESSIONAL DAY  
REQUESTS FOR STAFF

<b>Name</b>	<b>Workshop/Conference</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Cost (Not to exceed)</b>
Edward Houston	SUPA Seminar	10/28/11	\$31.00
Maria Meo	Identifying & Supporting Students with Mental Health Issues	10/13/11	\$46.00
Kelli Shill	SUPA Seminar	11/16/11	\$25.00
Lauren Weber	Project Advance Fall Seminar	11/18/11	\$17.50
Brian Reich	SUPA English Fall Seminar	10/31/11	\$30.00
Sharon deMarrais	Strategies Teaching Students Visual Impairments	10/21/11	\$42.00

- \*3. approve a fieldwork placement for Megan Maida in the middle school guidance department, as an observer, to satisfy graduate class requirements.

M. MAIDA OBSERVER  
M/S GUIDANCE DEPT.

**B. Resignations/Retirements-None****C. Reappointments/Reassignments/Transfers-None****D. Salary Adjustments/Corrections**

- \*1. approve a salary adjustment for Teacher of Spanish Mary Joan Wilcoxon from BA+16 Step 14(\$83,291) to MA Step 14 (\$85,953), effective September 1, 2011 for the 2011-2012 school year.

SALARY ADJUSTMENT  
M.WILCOXEN

**E. Appointments**

- \*1. approve the appointment of Daniel DeVincenzo as a Building Service employee for the 2011-2012 school year, effective September 27, 2011 to June 30, 2012 at a prorated salary of \$26,500 (including \$500 Black Seal Stipend), with a 90 day probationary period. This appointment is contingent upon receipt of a satisfactory background/reference check as required by P.L. 1986.

APPOINT D. DEVINCENZO  
BUILDING SERVICE  
EMPLOYEE

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

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| *1. approve the Tri-District Five-Year Curriculum Plan.  | TRI-DISTRICT FIVE-YEAR<br>CURRICULUM PLAN         |
| *2. approve participation in a student exchange program with River Dell students visiting Italy from February 15 to 25, 2012 and Italian students visiting River Dell from March 28 to April 4, 2012, at no cost to the Board. | STUDENT EXCHANGE<br>RD STUDENTS<br>VISITING ITALY |

**IX. Miscellaneous**

- |  |   |
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| *3. approve literacy workshops/training by Northern Valley Schools Consortium for Tri-District English Language Arts grades 6-8 teachers, at a cost of \$8,600 funded by NCLB. | LITERACY WORKSHOPS<br>NORTHERN VALLEY<br>SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM |
|--|---|

**X. Finance/District Operation**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| *1. Recording of Fire/Security Drills<br><br>Middle School     September 14 and 16, 2011<br>High School       September 15 and 21, 2011  | RECORDING OF<br>FIRE/SECURITY DRILLS   |
| *2. Recording of Enrollment (attachment)   | RECORDING OF<br>ENROLLMENT   |
| *3. Recording of Suspension Report/Violence & Vandalism Report (attachment)  | SUSPENSION /<br>VIOLENCE/<br>VANDALISM RPTS.   |
| *4. approve out-of-district placement for students #5185 and #5841 at the New Milford High School Knight School Program effective September 6, 2011, at a cost of \$15,500 per student, for the 2011-2012 school year. | OUT-OF-DISTRICT<br>PLACEMENT<br>STUDENTS 5185/5841<br>NEW MILFORD H/S<br>KNIGHT SCHOOL |
| *5. approve homebound instruction for student #5073 at High Focus Center of Paramus for two hours per day at the rate of \$50.78 per hour, for approximately four to six weeks.  | HOMEBOUND INSTR.<br>STUDENT #5073<br>HIGH FOCUS CENTER<br>OF PARAMUS                   |
| *6. approve out-of-district placement for student #5922 at the Park Academy High School Program for the 2011-2012 school year at a cost of \$32,538.   | OUT-OF-DISTRICT<br>STUDENT #5922<br>PARK ACADEMY H/S                                   |

\*7. approve an agreement with the Ice House Skating Rink in Hackensack, NJ for the 2011-2012 winter athletic season for use from November 15, 2011 to February 15, 2012, at a cost of \$16,750.46.

ICE HOUSE SKATING  
RINK AGREEMENT

\*9. **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

SUBMIT THREE-YEAR  
MAINTENANCE PLAN

**Whereas**, the required maintenance activities as listed in the attached document for the various school facilities of the River Dell Regional School District 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 Dell Regional School District hereby authorizes the school business administrator to submit the attached Comprehensive Maintenance Plan and M-1 Form for River Dell Regional in compliance with Department of Education requirements.

**XI. Miscellaneous**

1. Motion was made by Mrs. O'Neill, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to approve the Board of Education Goals for 2011-2012 as follows:

BOARD OF  
EDUCATION GOALS  
2011-2012 SCHOOL YR.

- Establish a list of action items to be discussed at Board meetings
- Adopt Board norms and adhere to them
- Work together in a professional and civil manner

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:  
Mrs. Hartman, Mrs. O'Neill, Mrs. Durand, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Acquafredda and Mr. Manzelli vote aye. Mr. Tashjian and Mrs. Almberg voted to abstain. Mr. Chakansky was absent.

2. Motion was made by Mrs. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Barnes to approve the District Goals for 2011-2012 as follows:

DISTRICT GOALS  
2011-2012 SCHOOL YR.

- For both the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years, reduce Partially Proficient scores by 10 percent while increasing Advanced Proficient scores by 10 percent for all students as measured by the NJASK 7 mathematics exam.
- For both the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school year, reduce Partially Proficient scores by 10 percent while increasing Advanced Proficient scores by 10 percent for all students as measured by the NJASK 8 mathematics exam.
- Ensure a transparent planning and budget process through open public discussion and propose a budget that is within the state imposed budget cap.

A lengthy discussion ensued and Mrs. O'Neill called a vote on the question.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Mrs. Hartman, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Acquafredda and Mr. Manzelli vote aye. Mr. Tashjian and Mrs. Almberg voted to abstain. Mrs. Durand voted nay, and Mr. Chakansky was absent.

#### **X. Finance/District Operation**

10. Motion was made by Mr. Tashjian, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to approve the appointment of Peter Raymond Wells Architects to provide architectural services for the renovations to bathrooms at the high school lobby, middle schools girls locker room and second floor boys room at a cost of \$14,400.

PETER RAYMOND  
WELLS ARCHITECTS  
BATHROOM RENOV.  
H/S & M/S

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Mr. Tashjian, Mrs. Almberg, Mrs. Hartman, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Manzelli vote aye. Mrs. Durand and Mr. Acquafredda voted to abstain. Mr. Chakansky was absent.

#### **XI. Items for Board Discussion and Decision**-None

#### **XII. Old Business**

OLD BUSINESS

The following topic was discussed:

- Posting agenda information on the website.



Motion was made by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mrs. O'Neill to rescind the decision from the September 26th Board Meeting to post supporting agenda documentation on the RD Website.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:  
Mrs. Hartman, Mrs. Almberg, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Barnes,  
Mr. Acquafredda and Mr. Manzelli voted aye. Mr. Tashjian voted to abstain, and Mrs. Durand voted nay. Mr. Chakansky was absent.

Mrs. Durand cited "Robert's Rules of Order" regarding Board Members wanting to speak.

Motion was made by Mrs. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Barnes to vote to call the question.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:  
Mrs. Hartman, Mrs. Almberg, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Barnes,  
Mr. Acquafredda and Mr. Manzelli voted aye. Mrs. Durand voted nay and Mr. Tashjian voted to abstain. Mr. Chakansky was absent.

**XIII. New Business**

NEW BUSINESS

The following topics were discussed:

- November 9th Veterans' Day Ceremony in River Edge
- Superintendents Coffee October 12th.
- NJSBA Workshops

**XIV. Public Comments—General-None**

**XV. Adjournment**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Tashjian, seconded by Mrs. O'Neill to adjourn at 9:39 p.m.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Bonfiglio  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary