

RIVER DELL REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION

April 13, 2015

A Regular Session Meeting of the River Dell Regional Board of Education was held in the River Dell Regional High School Media Center, Monday, April 13, 2015. Board President, Joseph Manzelli, Jr., called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present

ROLL CALL

Claudia O'Neill, Patrick Gallagher, Albert Graef, Anthony Barbary, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Alan Feigenson, and Joseph Manzelli. Douglas Kupfer was absent.

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 7:01 pm:

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:

2015-2016 staff appointments; Building Service Employee appointments; long-term substitute teacher

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 carried by all ayes.

Motion was made by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mr. Manzelli, to resume open session at 8:00 pm.

RESUME OPEN
SESSION

Motion carried by all ayes.

Board Members Present

ROLL CALL

Claudia O'Neill, Patrick Gallagher, Albert Graef, Anthony Barbary, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Alan Feigenson, and Joseph Manzelli. Douglas Kupfer was absent.

Others Present

Patrick J. Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools
Thomas L. Bonfiglio, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Student Liaison(s), Matthew Guido
Malissa Stokes, Secretary
Approximately 0 member(s) of the public

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

FLAG SALUTE

Mr. Bonfiglio read the following 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, Board Office, and website.

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.

Mr. Feigenson read the mission statement of the River Dell Regional School District.

Public Comments (on agenda items only) - None

Reports

REPORTS

Student Member Report

Matthew Guido reported on academic, athletic, and extra-curricular achievements/activities.

President's Report

Mr. Manzelli discussed the following:

Third marking period has ended; registration for NJ School Boards Convention opens on May 1st:
ACT testing will be held at River Dell on Saturday; April 24th is Career Fair day; at 7:00 pm tomorrow the Middle School is holding a program regarding "Staying Safe in Cyber Space".

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Fletcher withdrew resolution VII.A.2; and then brought forward resolutions 14 through 17, appointments, from the Executive agenda.

Motion was made by Mrs. O'Neill, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, that all items designated with asterisks (*) be part of a consent agenda and approved. APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:
 Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Graef, Mr. Barbary, Mrs. Kuchar, Mrs. Hartman, Mr. Feigenson, and Mr. Manzelli, all voted aye. Mr. Kupfer was absent.

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: WORKSHOPS/ CONFERENCES

Name	Workshop/Conference	Dates	Not to exceed
Lauren Weber	Project Advance-Spring Meeting, NYC	5/29/15	\$23

- *3. approve an extension in the unpaid leave of absence for Counselor Joseph Skorupa to June 30, 2015. EXTEND UNPAID LEAVE J. SKORUPA

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

E. Appointments

- *1. approve additional 20 percent teaching schedules for the following staff members at the high school, effective April 14, 2015 to June 30, 2015, at prorated salaries per the RDEA Agreement, to be adjusted upon completion of successful negotiations: ADDITIONAL 20% TEACHING SCHEDULE

Teachers of Math	Additional Salaries
Laura Haemmerle	\$17,400 (20% of MA+48 Step 11)
Donald Seok	\$10,251 (20% of BA Step 3)
Dean Straut	\$11,258 (20% of BA+16 Step 4)
Kerri Volmar	\$20,032 (20% of MA+48 Step 15)
Maura Wallace	\$10,709 (20% of BA Step 4)

- *2. approve the following substitute teacher(s) for the 2014-2015 school year: SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

Ashna Tolani (BBA Hofstra University)

*3. approve the following items carried forward from the Executive Agenda:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 14. Dean Straut as a Teacher of Mathematics (tenure track), for the 2014-2015 school year, effective April 13, 2015 to June 30, 2015 at a prorated salary of \$56,289 (BA+16 Step 4) as per the RDEA Agreement. This appointment is contingent upon receipt of proper certification, academic records, and satisfactory background/reference checks, as required by P.L. 1986. This is an emergent appointment under the provision of Senate Bill #851 amending the criminal history background check laws N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4, 13 et seq. | D. STRAUT MATH
TEACHER |
| 15. Michael Onorato as a Building Service Employee (Middle School Head Custodian) for the 2014-2015 school year, effective May 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015 at a prorated salary of \$56,000 (including \$1,000 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. | M. ONORATO
HEAD CUSTODIAN |
| 16. Tex Iman as a Building Service Employee (Maintenance Person) for the 2014-2015 school year, effective May 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015 at a prorated salary of \$55,750 (including \$750 HVAC 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. | TEX IMAN
MAINTENANCE |
| 17. John Pinter as a Teacher of Mathematics (leave replacement), for the 2014-2015 school year, effective April 13, 2015 to June 30, 2015 at a prorated salary of \$74,130 (MA Step 5) for 120% schedule as per the RDEA Agreement. This appointment is contingent upon receipt of proper certification, academic records, and satisfactory background/reference checks, as required by P.L. 1986. This is an emergent appointment under the provision of Senate Bill #851 amending the criminal history background check laws N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:39-17 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4, 13 et seq. | J. PINTER LEAVE
REPLACEMENT |

VIII. Curriculum/Student Affairs and Activities - None

X. Finance/District Operation

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| *1. Recording of Fire/Security Drills | FIRE/SECURITY DRILLS |
| Middle School March 6 & 31, 2015 | |
| High School March 25 & 31, 2015 | |
| *2. Recording of Enrollment | ENROLLMENT |
| *3. Recording of Suspension Report/Violence & Vandalism Report | SUSP/VIOLENCE/
VANDALISM REPORT |
| *4. Recording of HIB Report(s) | HIB REPORT |

- *5. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the River Dell Regional Board of Education approve an agreement with the South Bergen Jointure Commission, an approved Coordinated Transportation Service Agency, for the purpose of transporting students in accordance with Chapter 53, PL 1997, for the **2015-2016** school year. The services to be provided include, but are not limited to, the Coordinated Transportation of nonpublic, out of district, special education, vocational, summer programs, field trips, and athletics.

SOUTH BERGEN
JOINTURE
COMMISSION
TRANSPORTATION
CONTRACT

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.

- *6. approve homebound instruction for student #170432 effective March 23, 2015 for four weeks, at five hours per week at a cost of \$50.78 per hour.

HOMEBOUND
INSTRUCTION #170432

IX. Miscellaneous

- 1. Motion was made by Mr. Feigenson, seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, to adopt the following resolution:

PENSION
REFORM

WHEREAS, the health of New Jersey’s public employee retirement systems affects the state’s economy and its citizens’ quality of life, and impacts critical functions, ranging from the state’s ability to borrow to finance public works projects to its annual budget including state aid to education and, consequently, the operation of the public schools; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Study Commission, appointed by Governor Chris Christie in 2014, has issued its final report, “A Roadmap to Resolution,” which proposes monumental changes in how public employee benefits, particularly the Teachers’ Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) and the School Employees’ Health Benefits Program (SEHBP), are financed and administered; and

WHEREAS, the River Dell Board of Education believes that reform must balance the health of the state’s retiree benefits programs with local school boards’ responsibility to provide sound educational programming; and

WHEREAS, TPAF benefits are established by the state and not through local school board action; and

WHEREAS, post-retirement medical benefits are provided to TPAF retirees through state legislation, not local school board action; and

WHEREAS, the River Dell Board of Education believes that the TPAF and any new retirement program for certificated school district staff must be funded by the state government; and

WHEREAS, the River Dell Board of Education believes that transferring payment of the employer’s contribution to the teacher retirement plan and post-retirement medical benefits from the state to local school districts would have a detrimental impact on the resources necessary to maintain educational programming; and

WHEREAS, the River Dell Board of Education supports the current statutorily required employee contributions toward health benefits, which reflect current practice in the private sector and in public employment in other states, and have provided significant financial relief for local school districts, thereby enabling them to direct resources toward educational programming, including teacher employment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the River Dell Board of Education urges the state Legislature and Governor to ensure that the employers’ cost for teacher pensions and post-retirement medical benefits—financial obligations created by the state—are not transferred to local school districts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution be delivered to Governor Chris Christie, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto; and the 38th Legislative District’s representatives in the state Senate and General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Graef, Mr. Barbary, Mrs. Kuchar, Mr. Feigenson, and Mr. Manzelli, all voted aye. Mrs. Hartman abstained. Mr. Kupfer was absent.

- 2. Motion was made by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Mr. Feigenson, to approve the 2nd reading of the following policies:

POLICY
2nd READING

Series 4000: 4119.27 Staff Use of Internet, Social Networks and Other Forms of Electronic Communication—Certified Staff
4219.27 Staff Use of Internet, Social Networks and Other Forms of Electronic Communication—Non-Certified Staff

Series 5000: 5141.21* Administering Medication
5141.23 Concussion Management

Series 6000: 6173* Home Instruction

Series 7000: 7110* Long-Range Facility Planning

Series 9000: 9130* Committees

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

- 3. Motion was made by Mrs. Hartman, seconded by Mrs. O’Neill, to approve the following regulation:

REGULATION
5141.23

Series 5000: 5141.23 Concussion Management

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

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

X. Finance/District Operation

- 7. Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mr. Feigenson, to approve a three-year operating lease, effective July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018, with Hewlett Packard for computer and technology equipment in an amount, not to exceed, \$620,000 annually.

COMPUTER LEASE
HEWLETT PACKARD

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Mrs. O’Neill, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Graef, Mr. Barbary, Mrs. Kuchar, Mr. Feigenson, and Mr. Manzelli, all voted aye. Mrs. Hartman voted nay. Mr. Kupfer was absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Budget & Finance Committee - Mr. Barbary

The County Office approved the Preliminary 2015-16 budget.

Campus Facilities Committee - Mr. Feigenson

The committee met tonight and reviewed the list of proposed summer projects; asbestos abatement in the pipe tunnel; paving behind the cafeteria; purchase of a new 16 passenger minibus; softball netting behind the field; Middle School Media Center remodel is going out for bids; next year the stadium field will be 9 years old and will need to be resurfaced.

Community Relations & Information Committee - Mr. Gallagher

The committee met on March 16, 2015 and talked about potential changes to the webpage; sending a survey to students regarding what courses were liked and disliked as well as suggestions for courses they would like to have offered; the feasibility of adding a 4th Superintendent’s Newsletter.

Curriculum/Tri-District Committee - There will be a meeting next week.

Policy & Governance Committee - Mrs. Hartman

The committee held an e-meeting to discuss the staff being brought forward from tonight’s executive agenda.

Old/New Business/Discussion

OLD/NEW BUSINESS/
DISCUSSION

Mr. Manzelli mentioned that NJSBA sent an email regarding holding a Board retreat. Mr. Fletcher stated that he will schedule the item for discussion at the May Board meeting.

Mrs. Hartman discussed the 19th Annual Art Exhibit at the River Edge Cultural Center taking place on the 18th through the 29th, which will be featuring some of the work of River Dell students.

Mr. Barbary stated that he looked through minutes from last year, and there was a discussion held on renovating the middle school media center at that time.

Mrs. O’Neill commented that the middle school play was a success and it was nice to see that high school students took the time to help out.

Mr. Feigenson mentioned that Friends Of River Dell will be meeting on May 13th and will pick River Dell distinguished graduates to be honored at a dinner in October.

While visiting other school districts, Mrs. Hartman noticed that they have their mission statement posted and feels that it might be something River Dell would like to consider.

Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, to adopt the following resolution at 8:54 pm:

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

WHEREAS, “The Open Public Meetings Law,” PL1975-231 allows a public body to hold a Closed Session in order to discuss personnel and/or legal matters. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the River Dell Regional School District go into Executive Session.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Information that was discussed during Executive Session will be released when it is no longer a matter of confidentiality.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mrs. Hartman, to resume open session and adjourn at 9:41 pm.

RESUME OPEN
SESSION and
ADJOURNMENT

Motion carried by all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Bonfiglio
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

TLB:ms