

RIVERTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2020
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Riverton Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Croft at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Center at the school.

Mr. Croft led the salute to the flag, and read the following statement:

“On January 3, 2020, notice of this meeting was mailed to Burlington County Times, and the Courier Post. Notice of this meeting was posted on the front door of the school, the Post Office, the WSFS Bank, and filed with the Municipal Clerk. I direct the Secretary to enter this public announcement into the minutes.”

The following were present:

Mrs. Corbi	Mr. Sencindiver
Mr. DiLeo	Mr. Croft, President
Mr. Elliot	Mr. Warnock, Vice President
Mrs. Mack	Mrs. Mary Ellen Eck, Superintendent
Mrs. McGinnis (Virtual)	Mr. Nikolas Vrettos, School Board Secretary
Mr. Papenberg	

PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion made by Mrs. Mack, and seconded by Mrs. Corbi to accept the Secretary’s Minutes (Public) for the regular meeting on February 25, 2020.

Motion carried, all members voting aye.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Mrs. Eck spoke about the following items:

- Results of NJSLA – Science – Grades 5 & 8 Administered in Spring 2019
- Annual School District Performance Report
- Pandemic Plan Update
- School Lunch Program

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS: None

PTO: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. **Personnel** – No report.
- b. **Curriculum** – No report.
- c. **Building & Grounds** – No report.
- d. **Finance** – No report.
- e. **Policy** – No report.
- f. **Community Relations** – Mrs. McGinnis asked if the community had commented about the school's Pandemic Plan. Mrs. Eck responded that Riverton was one of the first in the County that was ready, with comments on hotspots, the lunch program, and care packages for the families. Mr. Warnock stated the public appeared to be unaware of the school's lunch program obligation. Mrs. Eck explained working with the teachers and accommodating the students is the biggest challenge.
- g. **Legislation** – No report.
- h. **Palmyra Board Representative** – Mr. Warnock reported that the solicitor ran an executive session and presentation on school data and COVID19 evidence, with the public questioning the superintendent on what to do. There is still no approval on the mural, Mrs. Eck can check further about a consent agenda, but the motions won't be read.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mrs. Eck presented the 2020-2021 tentative budget and discussed the following:

- An Increase of 2.9 %
- Additional Special Ed Costs

Mr. Sencindiver spoke about State Aid, importance of the ASAA Report, change in district income, all of which caused an increase in revenue.

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mrs. Mack made the following motion:

-BE IT RESOLVED to approve the tentative FY 2020-21 School District Budget for submission to the Executive County Superintendent of Schools for approval:

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Local Tax Levy</u>
General Fund	\$6,269,123	\$5,621,675
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 106,925	\$ 0
Total Budget	\$6,376,048	\$5,621,675

Seconded by Mr. Elliot. A roll call was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve the establishment of the school district travel maximum for the 2020-21 school year at \$10,000. The maximum amount established for the 2019-20 school year is \$10,000 with the amount spent year to date of \$4,026.69

Seconded by Mrs. Mack, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the appointment of the Affirmative Action Team (listed below) for the 2019-20 school year.

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| a. Mary Ellen Eck* | d. Christine Durante |
| b. Nikolas Vrettos | e. Andrea Zimmermann |
| c. Lorna Sullivan | f. Michele Farr |
| | g. Robert Sciarrotta |

*Affirmative Action Officer

Seconded by Mrs. Mack, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Mack made the following motion:

-to accept the New Jersey District/School Performance Reports for the 2018-19 school year.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the Fire & Security Drill Report for the month of March 2020 as submitted by the Superintendent.

Seconded by Mr. Elliot, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the class trip as listed a-b:

- a. Kindergarten to Sesame Place to participate in various attractions that support gross & fine motor skills;
- b. Kindergarten to Cecil Creek Farm to observe animals that produce eggs which develop and hatch; such as, chickens, frogs;

Seconded by Mr. Elliot, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. DiLeo made the following motion:

-to approve the 2020-21 school calendar as presented by the Superintendent.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve Miss Lauren Hempel to shadow Mrs. Lora Palazzolo, Speech Language Therapist, on March 12, 2020 as part of her Communication Sciences Program and the University of Vermont.

Seconded by Mrs. Mack. Mr. Croft asked if this had taken place and Mrs. Eck responded yes, it had occurred the week prior to the meeting. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. DiLeo made the following motion:

-to approve the following workshop/professional day request as listed a:

- a. Mrs. Michele DiMarino to attend a workshop, "Keys to Enhancing Your Effectiveness as a School Nurse Gr K-12) on May 4, 2020 from 8:30 A.M. until 3:15 P.M. at the Mt. Laurel Westin Hotel at a cost to the Board of \$279.00 plus mileage.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Warnock made the following motion:

-to approve those individuals on the list on file in the main office from the Sub Calling Service as certified substitutes for the 2019-20 school year.

Seconded by Mrs. Mack, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. DiLeo made the following motions:

-to approve the Otis Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT-8) replacing the Test of Cognitive Skills previously administered to grades 2 and 5 which measures cognitive abilities that relate to a student's academic success in school.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi, motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the following 2019-20 tuition contracts as listed a-c:

- a. Riverside Board of Education: regular education student @ \$14,416.
- b. Riverside Board of Education: special education student @ \$23,442.
- c. Riverside Board of Education: special education student @ \$17,675.

Seconded by Mr. Elliot. Mr. Sencindiver asked why are we paying tuition for regular education students and Mrs. Eck answered it's because they are homeless. Mrs. McGinnis asked if we are being reimbursed and Mrs. Eck answered no and explained the homeless situation. Mrs. Eck then met with the parents to explain their options. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the CSA Evaluation Tool using the New Jersey School Boards form in a Google format.

Seconded by Mrs. Mack, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. DiLeo made the following motion:

-to approve the Special Payrolls for hourly, per diem, and substitute employees for February 2020.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Warnock made the following motion:

-to approve the following resolution

Pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4, we certify that as of February 29, 2020 after review of the secretary's monthly financial report, and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge, no major account or fund has been overextended in violation of NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Seconded by Mr. DiLeo. A roll call was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for February 2020 in balance.

Seconded by Mrs. Mack, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Mack made the following motion:

-to approve the payment of bills for February 28, 2020 in the amount of \$147,951.30 and March 18, 2020 in the amount of \$467,323.02.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve transfers as listed in the amount of \$2,064.00 for February 2020.

Seconded by Mr. DiLeo, motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the following policy for first reading and adoption as listed a:

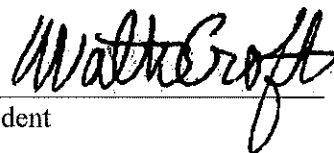
a. #1120 - Board of Education Meetings

Seconded by Mr. DiLeo, motion carried, all members voting aye.

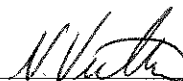
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 8 of the Open Public Meeting Act, the Public shall be excluded from the portion of the meeting involving the discussion of HIB Case #3 and staffing for the proposed 2019-2020 budget.

FURTHER, that any action taken shall be disclosed following the executive meeting.



President



Secretary

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Riverton Board of Education has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of the Riverton Board of Education will reconvene following the end of the closed session, approximately _____ p.m. this evening.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Riverton Board of Education will go into closed session for the following reason(s) as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12:

_____ *Any matter which, by express provision of Federal Law, State Statute or Rule of Court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from discussion in public (Provision relied upon: _____);*

_____ *Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the federal government;*

_____ *Any matter the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy;*

_____ *Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions of which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of the public body (Specify contract: _____)*

_____ *Any matter involving the purpose, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of bank rates or investment of public funds where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed;*

_____ Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public provided that their disclosure could impair such protection;

_____ Any investigations of violations or possible violations of the law;

_____ Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer (If pending or anticipated litigation, the matter is entitled: _____) (If contract negotiation, the nature of the contract and interested party is _____)

X Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting (Subject to the balancing of the public's interest and the employee's privacy rights under South Jersey Publishing, 124 N.J. 478, the employee(s) and nature of discussion is _____);

_____ Any deliberation of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party as a result of an act of omission for which the responding party bears responsibility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Riverton Board of Education hereby declares that its discussion of the aforementioned subject(s) may be made public at a time when the Riverton Board of Education Attorney advises the Riverton Board of Education that the disclosure of the discussion will not detrimentally affect any right, interest or duty of the School District or any other entity with respect to said discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Riverton Board of Education, for the aforementioned reasons, hereby declares that the public is excluded from the portion of the meeting during which the above discussion shall take place and hereby directs the Board Secretary to take the appropriate action to effectuate the terms of this resolution.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Mack, seconded by Mr. Sencindiver, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:27 p.m. for the purpose of discussing HIB Case #3 and staffing for the proposed 2019-2020 budget. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Mack, seconded by Mrs. Corbi, the Board reconvened to open Public Session at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

ACTION TAKEN AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSION DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent, Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to affirm the HIB Investigation Case #3.

Seconded by Mr. DiLeo, motion carried, all members voting aye.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

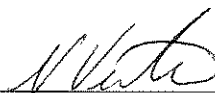
INFORMATION ITEMS: Coming Soon: BOE Self-Evaluation & CSA Evaluation

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA: None

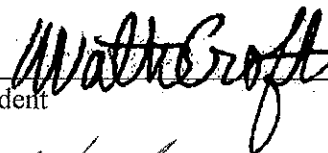
ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, Mr. Warnock called for a motion to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Elliot, seconded by Mrs. Corbi, the Board moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Motion carried, all members present voting aye.



Nikolas Vrettos, Secretary
Riverton Board of Education

APPROVED UPON MOTION OF THE BOARD


President



Secretary