

RIVERTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2022
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Riverton Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Croft at 6:35 p.m. in the Media Center at the school.

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

“On January 5, 2022, 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, 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 (N.A.)
Mr. DiLeo	Mr. Croft, President
Mr. Elliot	Mrs. McGinnis, Vice President
Mrs. Falicki	Mr. Joshua Zagorski, Superintendent
Mrs. Matzelle	Mr. Nikolas Vrettos, School Board Secretary
Mr. Papenberg	

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Croft opened the meeting to a Public Hearing on School Self-Assessment Grade and Anti- Bullying Bill of Rights, District and School Grade Report and collecting any additional information for the HIB Self-Assessment.

The Public Hearing was opened to discussion at 6:36 p.m. and Mr. Zagorski presented to the Board the NJSLA annual testing results. Additionally, Mr. Zagorski commented that it was the first time some of the students have taken this test and for others two years have passed. Mr. Croft asked if the scores, which are often confusing, will be released to the parents and Mr. Zagorski responded that all though the results can be overwhelming, the state has tried to simplify the results by incorporating color coding ranges. Mr. Croft asked if the district can see the percentage of parents who review their child’s score and Mr. Zagorski responded no, the district doesn’t have access to that information. Mrs. Matzelle asked which grades take the Start Strong Assessment with Mr. Zagorski responding grades 4th-8th.

Upon hearing no further questions or comments, Mr. Croft closed the Public Hearing on School Self-Assessment Grade and Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, District and School Grade Report and collecting any additional information for the HIB Self-Assessment at 6:41p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion made by Mrs. Corbi, and seconded by Mr. Papenberg to accept the Secretary's Minutes (Public and Executive) for the regular meeting on August 16, 2022 including the Public Hearing on the Student Safety Data Submission (SSDS) and Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB) Reporting (Period #2).

Motion carried, all members voting aye.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Zagorski spoke about the following items:

- Installation of the Little Library
- Bi-Weekly Newsletters
- SLA
- Start Strong
- Researching Algebra Curriculum
- Community Emails about Health & PE
- Staff Surveys
- PLC's
- COVID Updates/Alternative Lunch Plans
- Back-to-School Night
- NJSBA in October
- After School YMCA Program
- Staff Observations
- Beginning Stages – 8th Grade Trip

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** – Mr. Papenberg reviewed the bills and found all to be in order.
- e. **Policy** – No report.
- f. **Community Relations** – No report.
- g. **Legislation** – No report.
- h. **Palmyra Board Representative** – Mrs. Falicki mentioned that Palmyra accepted the preschool grant and will begin program in October.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

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

-to approve the School Self-Assessment for Determining Grades under the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act as submitted by Dr. Sullivan, District Anti-Bullying Coordinator and the Statement of Assurances signed by the Superintendent.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve the updated Emergency Virtual Learning Plan for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the Mandated and District Report of testing that was administered during the 2021-22 School Year.

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

-to approve the annual review and amendments to the School Safety and Security Plan/Manual, Emergency Procedure Plan and the Crisis Intervention procedures and the Statement of Assurance (SOA) regarding the Plan.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve the annual review of the Technology Plan as it was submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi. Mr. Croft asked if there were any updates with Mr. Zagorski responding mostly dates but there are plans to conduct a full overhaul. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the observance of the Week of Respect scheduled for October 3-7, 2022 and approving activities for School Violence Awareness Week scheduled for October 17-21, 2022 and Red Ribbon Week scheduled for October 23-31.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve Spirit Week for Grades 6-8 the week of October 24-28, 2022 with Spirit Night Activities from 6:00 – 8:00 P.M. on October 28, 2022 in the gym.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the Riverton Bike Rodeo on October 29, 2022 from 10:00 A.M.- 12:00 P.M. held on the blacktop to support Red Ribbon Week and sponsored in part by the Riverton Police Department and the PTO. Responsible person Elizabeth Odd.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve a Therapy Dog provided by Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD) to begin October 2022.

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

Mrs. Falicki made the following motion:

-to approve the Student Council Winter Formal Dance on December 2, 2022 from 6:00-8:00 P.M. for grades 6-8 in the gym.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the Fun Fall Festival on October 5, 2022 from 3:00 – 5:00 P.M. for Grades 3-5.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve Parent Literacy Night for grades K-2 held on October 12, 2022 from 6:00-7:00 P.M. in the Media Center.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve the Holiday Concert to be held on December 8, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the gym.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve the Veterans Day Program on November 4, 2022 at 8:30 A.M. in the gym.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the participation in Artsonia to promote our Art Program and as a fundraiser for the 2022-23 school year.

Seconded by Mrs. McGinnis. Mr. Elliot asked how much does the event typically raise and Mr. Vrettos responded last year's event raised \$505. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the following class trip as listed a:

a. Third and Fourth grades to the Arden Theater to see Charlotte's Web. Prior to the play, classes will read the book in class. Students will compare the book to the play and experience a live performance.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve the following 8th grade fundraisers for the 2022-23 school year as listed a-e:

- a. After-school snack sales
- b. Movie nights
- c. Spring Dance (Bunny Hop-lower grades)
- d. Candygrams
- e. Gertrude Hawke

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve Keilan Barber, college student from SLP Program at University of Vermont, to shadow Lora Palazzolo and Lorna Sullivan on October 6, 2022.

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

-to approve the Statement of Assurance Regarding the Use of Paraprofessional Staff (SOA) prepared by the Superintendent on file in the main office.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve using Title I funds in the amount of \$11,687.00 to pay the stipend amount to assigned teachers for after-school support.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve teachers to provide extra academic support to identified students after school as part of our Title I After-School ELA and Math Program at the contractual rate as assigned by the Superintendent and listed a-t:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| a. Mrs. Bartuska | k. Mr. McGee |
| b. Ms. Douglass | l. Mrs. McGilberry |
| c. Miss Durante | m. Mrs. Miller |
| d. Mrs. Elwell | n. Ms. Pacione |
| e. Mrs. Flanagan | o. Mrs. Park |
| f. Mrs. Karr-Parente | p. Mrs. Penwell |
| g. Mrs. Killion-Toro | q. Ms. Thress |
| h. Miss Knoll | r. Mrs. Truitt |
| i. Mrs. Locantore | s. Mrs. Vasile |
| j. Mrs. Lubitsky | t. Mrs. Walter |

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve the use of IDEA FY 22 funds towards Mrs. Kristen Schlindwein and Mrs. Andrea Zimmermann's salaries in the amount of \$3,505.00.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve the Joint Transportation Agreement with Palmyra Township School district to provide transportation services as specified for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve Ms. Suzanne Fox as a substitute for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve those individuals on file in the main office as certified substitutes using Red Rover Substitute Service for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve those individuals listed on file in the Main Office to transport students in their personal vehicle for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve those individuals on the list on file in the Main Office to use their personal vehicle for school related activities for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve those individuals on the list on file in the Main Office as volunteers/chaperones for the 2022-23 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 September 2022 as submitted by the Superintendent.

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

-to confirm the workshop/professional day requests as listed a-d:

- a. Mr. Joshua Zagorski to attend a workshop, "NJSBA Workshop 2022" on October 24, 2022 from 8:00 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. at the Atlantic City Convention Center at a cost to the Board for mileage;
- b. Mrs. Shannon Vasile to attend a workshop, "Youth Mental Health First Aid Certification Course" on October 20, 2022 from 9:00 A.M. – 3:00P.M. at BCSSSD Media Center, Westampton, New Jersey at a cost to the Board for mileage;
- c. Mrs. Jaclyn Sutter to attend a Virtual Book Study "Growing Up Mindful: Essential Practices to help children and families find balance, Calm & Resilience" on October 25, November 15, and November 29, 2022 from 3:30-4:30 PM at no cost to the Board;
- d. Mrs. Amy Penwell to attend a workshop, "NJASL Fall Conference" on December 5-6, 2022 from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. in Atlantic City, New Jersey at a cost to the Board of \$250.00 plus mileage.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve the Professional Development activities as approved by the Superintendent.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve all mandated training as listed a-t:

- a. AED (Automated External Defibrillators) - June 2021
- b. Affirmative Action Plan Training
- c. Asthma
- d. Bloodborne Pathogen Exposure Prevention
- e. Child Abuse: Identification & Intervention
- f. Communicable Diseases (COVID)
- g. Concussion Awareness
- h. Dyslexia
- i. EpiPen Delegate
- j. Eye Protection
- k. FERPA: Confidentiality of Records
- l. Glucagon
- m. Hazard Communications: Right to Understand
- n. Medical Emergencies
- o. Online Safety: What Every Educator Needs to Know (CIPA)
- p. Playground Supervision
- q. Seizure/Epilepsy
- r. Student Drug and Alcohol Abuse
- s. Sudden Cardiac Arrest in Athletes
- t. Youth Suicide Awareness, Prevention & Postvention

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve Ms. Elizabeth Odd as the School Climate State Coordinator for the 2022-23 school year.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve the following individuals to be on the Safety Committee as listed a-f:

- a. Joshua Zagorski, Superintendent
- b. Lorna Sullivan, District Anti-Bullying Specialist
- c. PTO Officer/Representative
- d. Elizabeth Odd, Social Worker
- e. Dave Zaun, Health/PE Teacher
- f. Jacky Sutter, Michele DiMarino, School Nurse

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the following individuals to be on the Superintendent's Advisory Committee(SAC)as listed a-h:

- a. Joshua Zagorski, Superintendent
- b. Jennifer Alvarado, PTO President and/or designee
- c. Nikolas Vrettos, SBA
- d. Lorna Sullivan, School Psychologist
- e. Christine Durante, Riverton Education Association (REA)
- f. Chief John Shaw or representative
- g. Jacky Sutter, Michele DiMarino, School Nurse
- h. Shannon Elwell, Teacher

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve Intervention & Referral Services (I&RS) Committee for the 2022-23 school year as listed a-i:

- a. Mr. Joshua Zagorski
- b. Dr. Lorna Sullivan
- c. Mrs. Lora Palazzolo (as needed)
- d. Ms. Cathryn Browning
- e. Mrs. Jaclyn Sutter/Mrs. Michele DiMarino
- f. Mrs. Christine Lubitsky (BSI Teacher as needed)
- g. Miss Elizabeth Odd (Social Worker as needed)
- h. Mrs. Shannon Elwell
- i. Classroom Teacher/Referring Teacher

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to accept the donation of 6 boxes of Covid testing kits from Sanctuary Foundation 4 Veterans.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve the following 2022-23 tuition contracts as listed a-f:

- a. Burlington County Special Services School District: 3 special education students @ \$46,804.00 each
- b. Burlington County Institute of Technology: 12 regular & special education students @ \$3,659 each;
- c. Lumberton Board of Education: 1 special education student @ \$26,750 plus the cost of a 1:1 aide services provided by Brett DiNovi & Associates;
- d. Palmyra Board of Education: 15 special education students @ \$16,793 each;
- e. Palmyra Board of Education: 44 regular education students @ \$15,232 each;
- f. Edgewater Park Township Board of Education: 1 special education student @ \$52,000;

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi. Mr. Vrettos reviewed the increases from previous year tuition and briefed the group on new tuition contracts. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the contract with Waste Management for two 2-yard dumpsters serviced twice a week at a monthly fee of \$247.47.

Seconded by Mrs. Matzelle. Mr. Vrettos explained Republic Services reduced our twice a week pick-up to once a week, and we received complaints from neighboring properties regarding the odor. Waste Management was able to commit to twice a week and the price was slightly below Republic Services. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve the Special Payrolls for hourly, per diem, and substitute employees for August 2022.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

-to approve the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for August 2022 in balance.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the following resolution

Pursuant to NJAC 6A:23A-16.10(c) 4, we certify that as of August 31, 2022 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 Mrs. Falicki. A roll call was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

-to approve the payment of bills for August 26, 2022 in the amount of \$40,121.18 and for September 28, 2022 in the amount of \$686,393.24.

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

Mr. Elliot made the following motion:

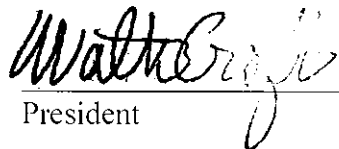
-to approve the transfers, as listed in the amount of \$946.00 for August 2022.

Seconded by Mrs. Matzelle, 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 staff movement on the salary guide and a family leave request.

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. McGinnis, seconded by Mrs. Corbi, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:17 p.m. for the purpose of discussing staff movement on the salary guide and a family leave request. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Croft thanked the attendees. Miss Durante said in previous years the REA would have a representative at the meeting and maybe that's something they will start again.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Corbi, seconded by Mrs. McGinnis, the Board reconvened to open Public Session at 7:19 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 approve the salary increase (\$3,400) for higher education credit for Mrs. Shannon Vasile to BA+30 prorated to September 1, 2022.

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

Mrs. McGinnis made the following motion:

-to approve Federal Family/Medical Leave and NJ Family Leave for Mrs. Jaclyn Sutter beginning December 19, 2022 and returning on May 15, 2023, using 17.5 sick days.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS: – Mrs. McGinnis asked about the new health and PE standards. Mr. Zagorski responded that most inquiries have been targeted towards the middle school, and that most conflicts have been a result of religious beliefs. Mr. Zagorski also said the state has recommendations but have yet to mandate them. Mrs. Quinzi asked specifically what are the concerns with Mr. Zagorski responding sex education and that he is currently working with Mr. Zaun to review the curriculum.

INFORMATION ITEMS: None

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, Mr. Croft called for a motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. McGinnis, seconded by Mr. Elliot, 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