

RIVERTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 28, 2023
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Riverton Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Croft at 6:30 p.m. in the Media Center at the school.

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

“On January 4, 2023, notice of this meeting was posted on the District’s website, mailed to Burlington County Times, 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	Mrs. Wilburn
Mrs. Falicki	Mr. Croft, President
Mrs. Matzelle	Mr. Elliot, Vice President (A)
Mr. Papenberg	Mr. Joshua Zagorski, Superintendent
Mrs. Quinzi	Mr. Nikolas Vrettos, School Board Secretary
Mr. Sencidiver	

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 January 24, 2023, including the Public Hearing on the Student Safety Data Submission (Period #1).

Motion carried, all members voting aye.

PRESCHOOL LOTTERY:

Motion made by Mrs. Corbi and seconded by Mrs. Falicki to accept the Preschool Lottery Results for the 2023-24 school year. Motion carried. Mr. Zagorski informed the group that there was no need to conduct the lottery due to the amount of applicants. All members voting aye.

AUDIT PRESENTATION: Mr. Vrettos informed the Board that Mr. Inverso was unable to attend the meeting and requested the report be postponed until the March 14th meeting. Mr. Sencindiver asked if we received a copy of the report with Mr. Vrettos responding not at this moment.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Mr. Zagorski spoke about the following items:

- 2023-24 Calendar

- Board Pass Survey Results – Mr. Zagorski presented to the Board Pass Survey results. He explained the results can help the district determine what programs to create for student needs. Mrs. Falicki commented that she finds the results interesting when comparing the boys and girls responses. Mrs. Lubitsky, as a public speaker, commented that possibly since COVID, students have lower self-confidence, and that additional hands in the classroom helps tremendously. Mr. Sencindiver asked if she felt there has been a significant drop off with Mrs. Lubitsky responding that the students just don't seem to be on the same level when before, they may not have been equal but they were close. Now, most resources are being utilized at the lower group. Specifically, in small group instruction, it has taken longer for kids to adapt.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS: None

PTO: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. **Personnel** – Mr. Sencindiver spoke to the REA representative. He confirmed they have two meetings and expects to schedule a date soon.
- 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** – No report

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Based on the recommendation of the Superintendent Mr. Sencindiver made the following motions:

-to approve the Riverton School District joining a Mass Action Lawsuit as advised by Parker McCay v. Meta, Facebook, Tik Tok, et. al. to advocate for our children and their mental health.

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

-to approve/confirm the following class trips as listed a-c:

- a. 8th grade students to Burlington County Institute of Technology's to tour the campus and rotate through exploratory courses;
- b. 7th grade to attend the New Jersey Renaissance Faire to learn about the middle age's history and culture;
- c. 5th and 6th grade students to attend "Battle of the Books County Battle" to participate with other Burlington County students in a reading trivia contest and celebration of reading.

February 28, 2023 Board Minutes

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

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

- a. Mrs. Amy Penwell to attend a workshop (5 Virtual Sessions to be completed by June 2023), "Guided Inquiry Design Academy- Becoming Information Literate with Inquiry" at a cost to the Board of \$650.00;
- b. Mr. Michael Palladino to attend a workshop, "NJSBGA 25th Annual Conference" on March 20-22, 2023 from 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. at the Harrah's Conference Center, Atlantic City, NJ at no cost to the Board.

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

Mr. Sencindiver made the following motions:

-to approve a pilot email filter system for our students, "Bark for Schools" to be used to proactively content monitor student's Google accounts.

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

-to approve Riverton School's participation in Rowan College at Burlington County's (RCBC) 8th Grade "College for the Day" Program in the 2023-2024 school year.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Sencindiver asked if there were any dates set with Mr. Zagorski responding not yet, but he expects it to be early to late fall. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Fire & Security Drill Report for the month of February 2023, as submitted by the Superintendent.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the following application for facilities use as listed below:

- PTO Variety Show to use the Gym and various classrooms on February 27th, March 1st, March 3rd and March 4th during requested times. Responsible person: Leah Falicki.

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

Mr. Sencindiver made the following motion:

-to approve a waiver request for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program requirements for the 2023-24 school year due to the projection of less than 40 students eligible for participation. (DOE projection is 18 students.)

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the establishment of the school district maximum spending limit for the 2023-24 school year for the professional services as listed a-b:

- a. Legal Services \$15,000
- b. Audit Services \$24,500

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

-to approve the use of extraordinary aid funds for the 2022- 2023 Budget in an amount of \$61,956 for health insurance related costs.

Revenue-

Extraordinary Aid	#10-3131-000	\$61,956
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Appropriation-

Health Benefits	#11-000-291-270-0	\$61,956
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Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Vrettos explained where the funds originated from and why we receive it in the following school year. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Special Payrolls for hourly, per diem, and substitute employees for January 2023.

Seconded by Mrs. Falicki, 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 January 31, 2023, 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. Corbi. A roll call was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

-to approve the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for January 31, 2023 in balance.

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

Mr. Sencindiver made the following motions:

-to approve the payment of bills for January 27, 2023 in the amount of \$161,889.42 and for February 28, 2023 in the amount of \$716,431.38.

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Sencindiver asked who reviews the bills with Mr. Papenberg confirming it is his role. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

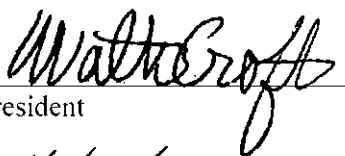
-to approve the transfers, as listed in the amount of \$35,988.84 for January 2023.

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

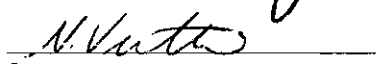
EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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 residency and the hiring of staff.

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 _____);

_____ 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 Mr. Sencindiver, seconded by Mrs. Corbi, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:06 p.m. for the purpose of discussing residency and the hiring of staff.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Upon a motion made by Mr. Sencindiver, seconded by Mr. Papenberg, the Board reconvened to open Public Session at 7:24 p.m. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

ACTION TAKEN AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSION DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS: Mr. Zagorski commented on the current 2023-2024 calendar options. Mr. Vrettos reminded the members to fill out their personal disclosures and updated on governance trainings.

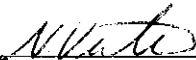
INFORMATION ITEMS: None

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

ADJOURNMENT:

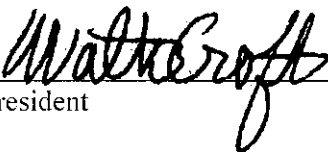
Hearing no further business, Mr. Croft called for a motion to adjourn at 7:27 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Sencindiver, 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