

RIVERTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 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 the 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 (N.A.)	Mr. Croft, President
Mrs. Matzelle	Mr. Elliot, Vice President (N.A.)
Mr. Papenberg	Joshua Zagorski, Superintendent
Mrs. Quinzi	Robert Foster, Business Administrator
Mr. Sencindiver (N.A.)	

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Croft opened the meeting to a Public Hearing on Student Safety Data System and Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB) Reporting (Period #2) and School Self-Assessment Grade for Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, District and School Grade Report and collecting any additional information for the HIB Self-Assessment at 6:35 p.m.

The Public Hearing was opened to discussion at 6:36 p.m. and Mr. Zagorski reviewed Student Safety Data and HIB reporting for the months January to June

Mr. Croft asked for clarification on initiatives the district plans to use for grades 3-5 with Mr. Zagorski responding with we will be using PASS data.

Upon hearing no further questions or comments, Mr. Croft closed the Public Hearing on Student Safety Data System and Harassment, Intimidation, & Bullying (HIB) Reporting (Period #2) and School Self-Assessment Grade for Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, District and School Grade Report at 6:45 p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion made by Mrs. Corbi, seconded by Mr. Papenberg to accept the Secretary’s Minutes (Public & Executive) for the regular meeting on June 27, 2023.

Motion carried, all members voting aye.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Mr. Zagorski reported on the following items:

- Summer Curriculum Writing is Ready for Implementation in September
- Two New Staff Members – Lauren Swerdloff – 2nd Grade, Todd Klokis – Middle School
- Awaiting RFP Quote for Installation of 10 Additional Cameras (Internal & External)
- New Computers from Stabilization Aid have Arrived
- Strauss Esmay Provided Draft of Future Policies
- Back to School Night – 9/21/23
- Genesis will Open for Community – 8/24/23

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS: None

PTO: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. **Personnel** – Mr. Sencindiver reported there is a meeting scheduled within the next week.
- 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 Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the submission of the Student Safety Data System (SSDS) Report Period #2 prepared by Dr. Sullivan and approved by the Superintendent.

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

-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. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve Back to School Night on September 21, 2023.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the revised Staffing Pattern for the 2023-24 school year as presented by the Superintendent.

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

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

- a. Mr. Joshua Zagorski or his designee to attend monthly Superintendent Roundtable and all county and state curriculum and administrator meetings (dates on file in Main Office) at a cost to the Board for mileage;
- b. Dr. Lorna Sullivan, Miss Elizabeth Odd and Ms. Cathryn Browning to attend professional/County meetings –Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant, Special Education, Curriculum Consortium, Child Study Team Directors, School Social Workers/School Psychologists, Crisis Response Team, Gifted Consortiums, and trainings as dictated by the State on various dates at a cost to the Board for mileage;
- c. Mrs. Nicole Cesaretti and Mr. Robert Foster to attend a workshop, “Determining Applications for Free and Reduced-Price School Meals” on August 10, 2023, 10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. at the Rutgers Eco Complex 1200 Florence Columbus Rd. Bordentown, N.J. at a cost to the Board for mileage.

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

-to approve the following individuals to be on the Threat Assessment Team as listed a-e:

- a. Joshua Zagorski, School Safety Officer
- b. Lorna Sullivan, Administrator
- c. Elizabeth Odd, Counselor
- d. Christine Durante, Teacher
- e. Andrew Beuschel, Resource Officer

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Zagorski clarified that the Threat Assessment Team is new and is state mandated. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the Provisional Certificate/Mentoring Plans which includes Joshua W. Zagorski as the Supervisor for the following novice teachers as listed a-c:

- a. Mrs. Dawn Locantore to mentor Miss Emily Acito
- b. Ms. Jennifer Douglass to mentor Ms. Lauren Swerdloff
- c. Ms. Rose Allen to mentor Mr. Todd Klokis

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the 2023-24 extra-curricular position of Lunch/Recess Duty to the following staff members as assigned by the Superintendent and listed a-d:

- a. Emily Acito
- b. Tara Bange
- c. Lauren Swerdloff
- d. Todd Klokis

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

-to approve rubrics for the evaluation of staff (teachers, nurse, CST) based on Danielson, 2007 framework for the 2023-24 school year.

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

-to approve the current textbooks and instructional materials for the 2023-24 school year and Curriculum Rewriting Plan as listed a-g:

- a. Health
- b. Language Arts Literacy
- c. Mathematics
- d. Music
- e. Science
- f. Technology
- g. World Language

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi. A roll call was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the following revised and newly designed curriculum and curricula resources fully aligned to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards as listed a-q:

- a. Grade K Reading Pacing Guide & Into Reading Curricular Framework
- b. Grade K Writing Pacing Guide
- c. Grade 1 Reading Pacing Guide & Into Reading Curricular Framework
- d. Grade 1 Writing Pacing Guide
- e. Grade 2 Reading Pacing Guide & Into Reading Curricular Framework
- f. Grade 2 Writing Pacing Guide
- g. Grade 3 Reading Pacing Guide & Into Reading Curricular Framework
- h. 21st Century Skills 2
- i. Engineering 2 - Architecture & Design
- j. 8th Grade Novel Unit Curriculum Framework
 - Book: The Running Dream by Wendelin Van Draanen
- k. Grade 6 HMH Into Math Pacing Guide & Into Math Curricular Framework
- l. Grade 7 HMH Into Math Pacing Guide & Into Math Curricular Framework
- m. Grade 7 Guided Inquiry Unit
 - Book: I Am Not a Label
 - Film: I am Greta
- n. Grade 8 HMH Into Math Pacing Guide & Into Math Curricular Framework
- o. Grade Algebra 1 HMH Into Math Pacing Guide & Into Math Curricular Framework
- p. Grade 6th through Alg1 Cultural Diversity Resources
- q. K-5 Go Math Scope & Sequence Revision & Edit

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the adoption of the following for the 2023-24 school year as listed a-d:

- a. Curriculum aligned to the current New Jersey Student Learning Standards:
 1. Career Readiness, Life Literacies and Key Skills
 2. Comprehensive Health & Physical Education (including Dance & Theater) (K-8)
 3. Language Arts Literacy (K-8)
 4. Mathematics (K-8)
 5. Music K-8/Chorus (Visual & Performing Arts including Dance/Theory, Music)
 6. Pre-school Curriculum (and Creative Curriculum)
 7. Science (K-8)
 8. Social Studies (Pre-school – Grade 8)
 9. Fine Arts K-8 (Visual and Performing Arts)
 10. World Language (Spanish K-8)
 11. English Language Learner;
 12. Computer Science & Design Thinking
- b. Specialized Programs as listed 1-4:
 1. Guidance and Counseling Plan
 2. Gifted & Talented Services/SEEK Curriculum
 3. ML Services and Plan
 4. Character Education
- c. Student Code of Conduct;
- d. Intervention and Referral Manual and Training and committee members as named by the Superintendent;

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

-to approve Chromebook distribution for K-8 grade students for the 2023-24 school year.

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

-to approve interested middle school students to participate in the following Palmyra School District activities for the 2023-24 school year at a cost per student of \$200.00 as listed a-d:

- a. Palmyra High School's Marching Band (grades 7-8)
- b. Color Guard (grades 7-8)
- c. Palmyra Middle School Field Hockey Team (grades 6-8)
- d. Middle School Wrestling (grades 6-8)

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

-to approve payment to Mrs. Rosemary Eifert for 4.5 unused vacation days for the 2022-23 school year in the amount of \$873.90.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

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

Seconded by Mr. Papenberg. Mr. Croft asked if drills were held in July and Mr. Zagorski responded yes, because we had students in the building for summer tutoring. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve and accept the state funds for Orchard Friends, our nonpublic school, for the 2023-24 school year as listed a-d:

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| a. Technology | \$ 490.00 |
| b. Textbooks | \$ 578.00 |
| c. Security | \$3,690.00 |
| d. Nursing | \$2,160.00 |

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

-to approve the annual review of the Purchasing Manual for the 2023-24 school year.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the annual review of the Standard Operation Procedures Manual for the 2023-24 school year.

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

-to approve special education student# 5688508466 to attend Hampton Academy for the 2023-24 school year.

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

-to approve Brett DiNovi and Associates to provide Behavioral Consultation and Therapy Services, as needed, for the 2023-24 school year.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the renewal lease of one garage unit located on Fifth Street, Riverton, NJ 08077 at a monthly rate of \$180.00.

Seconded by Mrs. Corbi. Board members asked what was stored in Rainer's garage, to which Mr. Foster and Mr. Zagorski replied that it's used as an overflow for tables, desks, chairs, etc. The board asked us to revisit with Mr. Palladino to confirm the necessity of the garage rental moving forward. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

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

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

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

Seconded by Mrs. Wilburn. Mrs. Corbi asked Mr. Foster to clarify what the per diem rates were for different positions. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

-to approve the following resolution

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

-to approve the payment of bills for June 30, 2023 in the amount of \$76,824.03 and for July 31, 2023 in the amount of \$252,753.31 and for August 16, 2023 in the amount of \$92,0222,.82.

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

-to approve the transfers, as listed, for June 2023 in the amount of \$62,771.77 and for July 2023 in the amount of \$ 199,255.44.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

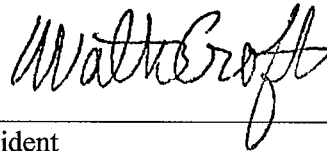
-to approve the submission of the application for the NJ High Impact Tutoring Competitive Grant.

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

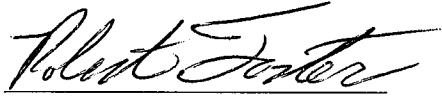
EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Non-Investigative HIB Reporting and Hiring 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 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. Corbi, seconded by Mr. Papenberg, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:07 p.m. for the purpose of discussing Non-Investigative HIB Reporting and Hiring Staff.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Corbi, seconded by Mr. Papenberg, the Board reconvened to open Public Session at 7:22 p.m. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

ACTION TAKEN AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSION DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the Non-Investigative HIB Reports - *preliminary determination of a reported incident or complaint was outside the scope of the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying.*

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

-to approve the appointment of Ms. Lauren Swerdloff as a Second Grade Teacher at the salary of \$62,626.00 (Step 3 + MA+30) per the current REA agreement for the 2023-24 school year.

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

-to approve the appointment of Mr. Todd Klokis as a Middle School teacher at the salary of \$74,226. (Step 9 + MA) per the current REA agreement for the 2023-24 school year.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve the appointment of Mrs. Tracy Hofstrom as a Supervisor of Instruction at the rate of \$75.00/hour for the 2023-24 school year.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to confirm 30 hours of summer library maintenance for Mrs. Amy Penwell at the contractual rate of \$45.00 per the current REA Agreement.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to confirm summer maintenance hours for Mrs. Danielle Payne to organize the 100 Book Challenge Library at the rate of \$17.50/hour.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

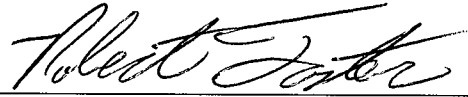
INFORMATION ITEMS: Board Review of Contracts

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

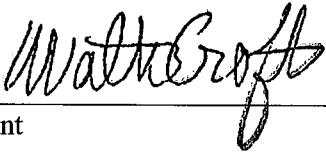
Hearing no further business, Mr. Croft called for a motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

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

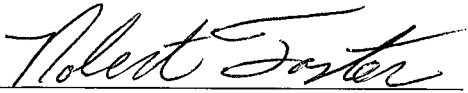


Robert Foster, Secretary
Riverton Board of Education

APPROVED UPON MOTION OF THE BOARD



President



Secretary