

RIVERTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2024  
REGULAR MEETING

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

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

“On January 12, 2024, 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	Mr. Croft, President (N.A.)
Mrs. Matzelle	Mr. Elliot, Vice President (N.A.)
Mr. Papenberg	Joshua Zagorski, Superintendent
Mrs. Quinzi	Robert Foster, Business Administrator
Mr. Sencindiver	

**AUDIT PRESENTATION:**

Mr. Robert Inverso reported on the fiscal year 2023 audit. He stated the school remains in good financial condition and made no further suggestions or recommendations.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mr. Zagorski presented his mid-year goal reviews which included specific work the teachers are doing to meet the needs of the students.

Secondly, Mr. Zagorski reported on the submission of the Student Safety Data Report Period #1 (Collection of incidents of violence, vandalism, weapons, substance use, harassment, intimidation and bullying as well as HIB Training and activities to support a positive school climate) at 6:40 p.m.

Mr. Sencindiver opened the hearing to the public for discussion and at that time there were no questions or comments made.

Upon hearing no further questions or comments from the public, Mr. Sencindiver closed the Public Hearing on Student Safety Data Submission Report Period #1 at 6:41 p.m.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

Motion made by Mrs. Corbi, seconded by Mr. Papenberg to accept the Secretary’s Minutes (Public and Executive) for the Regular Meeting on January 23, 2024.

Motion carried, all members voting aye.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT:**

Mr. Zagorski reported on the following items:

- 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Completed Shadow Day at Palmyra H.S.
- 2024-25 School Year Calendar
- Approval of Mascot, a novel to be used by 7<sup>th</sup> Grade in ELA Class
- Start-Up of After School STEM Club
- Completion of Summer STEM Camp Plan
- Esports Computer Lab Close to Completion
- Burlington County Sheriff's Office Donated 4 Electric Guitars – Music program
- Therapy Dog Visit Coordinated by Riverton P.D. & Ms. Odd
- Staff Took Part in Restorative Practices Professional Learning
- Riverton Hosted Two SEPAG Events – Presentations on Anxiety & Neurodiversity

**RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS:** None

**PTO:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. **Personnel** – Further discussion regarding sick leave bank.
- 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. Wilburn made the following motion:

-to accept the audit for the 2022-23 school year as prepared and presented by Mr. Robert Inverso, Inverso and Stewart and to approve the submission of the Corrective Action Plan (no recommendations) to the County Office of Education for approval.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve the 2024-25 school calendar as presented by the Superintendent.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the following 2023-24 tuition contract as listed a:

Receiving:

- a. Camden County School District: 1 student @ \$8,351.64.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve the following teachers as after-school STEM Club Advisors for the 2023-24 School Year at the contractual rate and assigned by the Superintendent listed a-d:

- a. Mrs. Amy Penwell      Gr 2/3
- b. Ms. Lauren Swerdloff      Gr 2/3
- c. Mr. Todd Klokis      Gr 4/5
- d. Ms. Heather Thress      Gr 4/5

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

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

- a. Dr. Lorna Sullivan to attend a workshop, "Using Patterns of Strengths & Weaknesses in SLD Determination" on February 26, 2024 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. at Burlington County Special Services, Westampton, NJ at a cost to the Board for mileage;
- b. Mr. Michael Palladino to attend a workshop, "NJSBGA 26th Annual Conference" on March 18-20, 2024 from 8:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. at the Harrah's Conference Center, Atlantic City, NJ at a cost to the Board for lodging and mileage;
- c. Mr. Joshua Zagorski to attend a workshop, "2024 NJPSA Legislative Conference on March 22, 2024 from 9:00 A.M. until 3:00 P.M. at the FEA Conference Center, Monroe Township, NJ at a cost to the Board for mileage;
- d. Mrs. Anne Devonshire and Ms. Tara Bange to attend a workshop, "Foundations of Art Integration" on April 26, 2024 from 9:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. at Stockton University at a cost to the Board of \$356.00 and mileage;
- e. Mr. Robert Foster to attend NJASBO's Annual Conference at Ocean Casino Resort in Atlantic City from June 5-7, 2024 at a cost to the Board of \$500.00 for registration plus costs for lodging and mileage.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the following class trips as listed below a-d:

- a. Third grade to Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge to hike and learn about survival skills and to see the interactive exhibits organized by the wildlife refuge;
- b. First and Second Grade to Adventure Aquarium to observe life in the sea as well as learn ways to protect sea creatures and their habitats;
- c. Art Club to visit "Play at Art" to make a mosaic piece and learn a new art medium;
- d. Fifth Grade to the Camden County College to attend a play, "Number the Stars" which is a novel that students are currently reading. Students will see the book come to life and compare and contrast the book to the play.

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

-to approve the following applications for facility use as listed below a-d:

- a. YMCA Base Program to use the gym on April 24, 2024 for a family engagement event for Primetime families from 4:30 – 5:45pm. Responsible person: Dorothy Glasgow;
- b. STEM Education LLC to provide Summer STEM Camp using various first floor classrooms, Media Center and Gym on July 1 – 25, 2024, Mondays - Thursdays from 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. Responsible person: Mr. Joshua Zagorski;
- c. PE Academy Camps to use the gymnasium, computer lab and restrooms on April 2-5, 2024 (Spring Break) from 9:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. Responsible persons: Mr. Robert Sciarrotta and Mr. Dave Zaun;
- d. Riverton Police Department to use the school on May 4, 2024 from 8:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. for the purpose of training. Responsible person: chief Andrew Beuschel.

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

-to approve the novel, *Mascot*, as part of the middle school Language Arts curriculum.

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

-to approve visits from K9 Officer Dan Pascal from Burlington City Police Department and his therapy dog Sully to the Riverton School.

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

Mrs. Wilurn made the following motion:

-to approve Ms. Rosemary Allen for the extracurricular duty of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Adventure/YMCA of the Pines Advisor for the 2023-24 School Year as assigned by the Superintendent.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to accept the donation of 4 electric guitars from the Burlington County Sheriff's Office.

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

Mrs. Wilburn made the following motion:

-to approve Ms. Alexa Elliot a Montclair State University pre-service teacher, to observe PreK and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade teachers on March 7, 2024 as part of her TOSD Program.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the Fire & Security Drill Report for the month of February 2024, as submitted by the Superintendent.

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

-to approve an Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement with Toshiba Financial Services to provide copiers, printers, toner cartridges, XMedius Cloud fax service and Elevate Sky Print Management services at a monthly lease payment of \$1,951.90 for 60 months.

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

-to authorize execution and delivery of the Grant Agreement for State Project # (06)-05-4460-050-23-R501 for Window Replacement.

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

-to authorize Delegation of Authority to Mr. Robert Foster, School Business Administrator, for the supervision of the School Facilities Project # (06)-05-4460-050-23-R501 for Window Replacement.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the use of funds from the district's Capital Reserve account for the Local Share of Project # (06)-05-4460-050-23-R501 for Window Replacement in the amount of \$148,923 (10% above Local Share of \$135,384.60).

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

-to approve a waiver request for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program requirements for the 2024-25 school year due to the projection of less than 40 students eligible for participation. (DOE projection is 12 students.)

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the establishment of the school district maximum spending limit for the 2024-25 school year for the professional services as listed a-b:

- a. Legal Services       \$20,000
- b. Audit Services       \$24,500

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

-to approve the use of extraordinary aid funds for the 2023- 2024 Budget in an amount of \$50,512. for health insurance related costs.

Revenue-		
Extraordinary Aid	#10-3131-000	\$50,512.
Appropriation-		
Health Benefits	#11-000-291-270-0	\$50,512.

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

-to approve the Special Payrolls for hourly, per diem, and substitute employees for January 2024

Seconded by Mrs. Falicki, 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 January 31, 2024, 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 Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for January 2024 in balance.

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

-to approve the payment of bills for January 26, 2024 in the amount of \$189,085.74 and for February 29, 2024 in the amount of \$725,656.21.

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

-to approve transfers as listed in the amount of \$2,991.68 for January 2024.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve Ms. Denise Price of Soliant Health as a behaviorally trained aide to assist a special education student at the rate of \$65.00 per hour pending criminal history clearance.

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

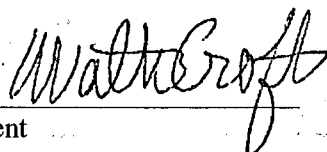
**RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS FOR COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

Virtual SEPAG – Generic (NJ4)  
Preschool with Palmyra

**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 #4, School Security and REA Sidebar Agreement, and staff FLMA.

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 Mr. Papenberg, seconded by Mrs. Corbi, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing HIB Case #4, School Security, and REA Sidebar Agreement, and staff FLMA.

#### **PUBLIC SESSION:**

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Falicki, seconded by Mr. Papenberg, the Board reconvened to open Public Session at 7:38 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 motions:

-to approve the Sidebar Agreement (Article 10 (E) Sick Leave as part of the negotiated agreement between Riverton Board of Education and the Riverton Education Association, Inc. (REA) for the years 2023-2026 for all REA and Non-REA Riverton BOE Staff members who experience catastrophic illness or injury.



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

-to approve Mrs. Lora Palazzolo for intermittent leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act beginning January 22, 2024 until January 22, 2025.

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

-to accept with regrets, the resignation of Mrs. Kristen Schindwein effective March 11, 2024.

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

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** None

**INFORMATION ITEMS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

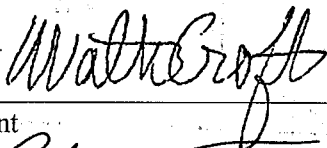
Hearing no further business, Mr. Sencindiver called for a motion to adjourn at 7:42 p.m.

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

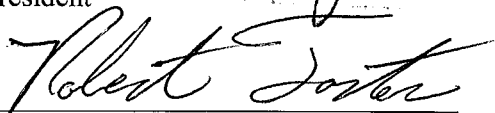


Robert Foster, Secretary  
Riverton Board of Education

**APPROVED UPON MOTION OF THE BOARD**



President



Secretary