

RIVERTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 25, 2025
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 Gym at the school.

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

“On January 10, 2025, 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. Alvarado	Mrs. Wilburn
Mrs. Corbi	Mr. Croft, President
Mrs. Falicki	Mrs. Matzelle, Vice President
Mr. Papenberg	Joshua Zagorski, Superintendent
Mrs. Quinzi	Robert Foster, Business Administrator
Mr. Riley	

Mr. Croft asked for a motion to adjourn to the Student of the Month Presentations.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Quinzi and seconded by Mrs. Corbi the Board adjourned to the February Student of the Month Presentations based on SEL – Kindness at 6:35 p.m.

Upon completion of the Student of the Month Presentations a motion was made by Mr. Papenberg and seconded by Mrs. Quinzi to reconvene to Public Session at 6:40 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Zagorski reported on the Mid-Year Review at 6:45 p.m. He discussed the strengths and successes of the district which consisted of the specific work the Riverton School team is doing to meet the needs of our students.

Mr. Croft 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. Croft closed the Public Hearing on the Mid-Year Review at 7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Motion made by Mrs. Wilburn, seconded by Mrs. Quinzi to accept the Secretary’s Minutes (Public and Executive) for the regular meeting on January 28, 2025.

Motion carried, all members voting aye.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Mr. Zagorski reported on the following items:

- Preschool Lottery
- Mid-Year Review
- Variety Show – March 15th-16th
- Read Across America Week – March 3rd-7th
- Spring Conferences – March 5th-7th
- New Course Catalog for 2025-26 at PHS
- Preschool Supervisor Stipend

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 spoke about the new course catalog presentation given by the new principal at Palmyra H.S. They are planning to adjust from 9 periods to 8 periods with a semi-block schedule. The new catalog will also offer vocational course options. Additionally, Palmyra put two referendum projects out to bid. Because the bids received came back higher than anticipated, they plan to put those projects out for a re-bid.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

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

-to accept the Preschool Lottery Results for the 2025-26 School Year.

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

Mrs. Wilburn made the following motion:

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

- a. Mr. Michael Palladino to attend a workshop, "2025 NJSBGA 27th Annual Conference" on March 23-26, 2025 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;
- b. Mr. Joshua Zagorski to attend an online workshop, "Legal One/AJG Understanding Evolving Legal Obligations for Schools & Law Enforcement on February 13, 2025 from 10:00 A.M. until 12:00 P.M. at no cost to the Board;
- c. Mr. Joshua Zagorski to attend an online workshop, "Responding to Bomb Threats and Bomb Threat Drilling" on March 10, 2025 from 1:00pm until 2:30pm at no cost to the Board;d.
- d. Mrs. Lora Palazzolo to attend an online workshop, "Touchchat Certified Trainer" date and time TBD at a cost to the Board of \$400.00.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-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. Mr. Andrew Loder, Novice Teacher and Mrs. Amy Penwell, Mentor
- b. Ms. Shari Goldberg, Novice Teacher and Mrs. Kristin Park, Mentor
- c. Mrs. Nicolette Frankenfield, Novice Teacher and Mr. Dave Zaun, Mentor (1/2 year)

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

Mrs. Wilburn made the following motion:

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

- a. 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;
- b. Kindergarten to Johnson's Corner Farm to observe and learn how plants grow and how living things interact with the environment and how to take care of a farm.

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

Mrs. Quinzi made the following motion:

-to approve the extracurricular duties for the 2024-25 school year as assigned by the Superintendent as listed below a-c:

- a. Mr. Andrew Loder – Art Club Advisor
- b. Ms. Madison Bryant – Homework Club
- c. Mrs. Donna Johnson – Homework Club

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to approve the following policies and regulations for 1st reading as listed a-l:

- a. P 5512 - Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (Revised)
- b. P 5516 - Use of Electronic Communication Devices (Revised)
- c. R 5516 - Use of Electronic Communication Devices (New)
- d. P 5533 - Student Smoking Revised)
- e. R 5533 - Student Smoking (Revised)
- f. P 5701- Academic Integrity (Revised)
- g. P 5710 - Student Grievance (Revised)
- h. P 7441 - Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and On School Grounds (Revised)
- i. R 7441 - Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and On School Grounds (Revised)
- j. P 8500 - Food Services (Revised)
- k. P 9320 - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (Revised)
- l. R 9320 - Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies (Revised)

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

-to approve payment to Suzanne Wells at the per diem rate of \$278.62 (Step 1 prorated) from 1/28/25 through 2/11/25 (11 days) for Preschool Substitute services.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motion:

-to approve the Fire & Security Drill Report for the month of February 2025, as submitted by the Superintendent.

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

Mrs. Quinzi made the following motion:

-to approve a waiver request for the Special Education Medicaid Initiative (SEMI) Program requirements for the 2025-26 school year due to the projection of less than 40 students eligible for participation. (DOE projection is 12 students.)

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the 2024-25 tuition contract with Brookfield Schools for student #7407765379 beginning February 24, 2025 for a total of \$34,440.92.

Seconded by Mrs. Falicki. Mr. Croft asked if the tuition contract was for the remainder of the 2024-25 school year to which Mr. Foster answered yes. Motion carried, all members voting aye.

Mrs. Wilburn made the following motion:

-to approve the establishment of the school district maximum spending limit for the 2025-26 school year for the professional services as listed a-b:

- a. Legal Services \$25,000
- b. Audit Services \$25,000

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

-to approve the use of extraordinary aid funds for the 2024-25 Budget in an amount of \$13,726. for health insurance related costs.

Revenue-		
Extraordinary Aid	#10-3131-000	\$13,726.
Appropriation-		
Health Benefits	#11-000-291-270-0	\$13,726.

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

Mr. Papenberg made the following motions:

-to approve the Special Payrolls for hourly, per diem, and substitute employees for January 2025.

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, 2025, 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. Riley. A roll call was taken with all members voting aye. Motion carried.

-to approve the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports for January 2025 in balance.

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

-to approve the payment of bills for February 26, 2025 in the amount of \$619,160.12.

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

-to approve transfers as listed in the amount of \$145,947.02 for January 2025.

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motion:

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

- Borough of Riverton to use the gymnasium on March 5, 2025 from 6:30 P.M. until 8:30 P.M. for the purpose of a Budget Workshop. Responsible person: Mayor James Quinn.

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

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

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 policy revision, job description review, and staff appointments.

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. Quinzi, seconded by Mr. Riley, the Board adjourned to Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. for the purpose of discussing policy revision, job description review, and staff appointments.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Corbi, seconded by Mrs. Wilburn, the Board reconvened to open Public Session at 7:52 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. Falicki made the following motion:

-to approve the agreement for student #02070 subject to attorney review.

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

Mrs. Quinzi made the following motion:

-to approve the following job description for first reading and adoption as listed below:

- #68 – Early Childhood/Preschool Supervisor

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

Mrs. Corbi made the following motions:

-to accept, with regrets, the retirement/resignation of Mrs. Michele Farr effective June 30, 2025 and to approve payment of accumulated unused sick time at \$40.00/day (144.5 days) and 5 vacation days as of February 25, 2025 with days used after this date to be adjusted accordingly.

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

-to assign Dr. Lorna Sullivan as the Early Childhood/Preschool Supervisor (stipend position) for the 2024-25 school year.

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

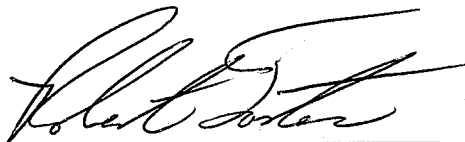
DISCUSSION ITEMS: Disclosure Forms

INFORMATION ITEMS: None

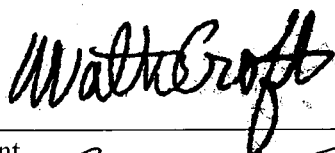
ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business, Mr. Croft called for a motion to adjourn at 7:54 p.m.

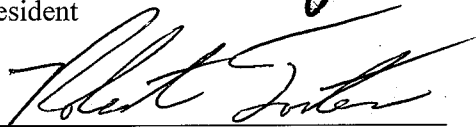
Upon a motion made by Mrs. Corbi, seconded by Mrs. Quinzi, the Board moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Motion carried, all members present voting aye.



Robert Foster, Secretary
Riverton Board of Education

APPROVED UPON MOTION OF THE BOARD

President



Secretary