

RIVER DELL REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR SESSION

**December 14, 2020
(Hybrid Meeting)**

A Regular Session Meeting of the River Dell Regional Board of Education was held on December 14, 2020 Board President, Albert Graef, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Board Members Present

ROLL CALL

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef.

Others Present

Patrick J. Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools
Thomas L. Bonfiglio, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Motion was made by Claudia O’Neill, seconded by Alan Feigenson, to adopt the following resolution at 7:35 p.m.:

EXECUTIVE SESSION

BE IT RESOLVED that in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act (“Act”), the River Dell Regional School District Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”) shall conduct a closed executive session pursuant to the exceptions prescribed by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 for the purpose of discussing:

Maternity leave of absence; staff retirement; administrator retirement; secretary retirement; rescind coaches; reassignment of coaches; salary adjustment, appointment of coaches; appointment of extra-curricular advisors

It is anticipated that the length of time of this executive session will be -30- minutes and that action will be taken in public after the executive session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minutes of the executive session will be released when the need for confidentiality in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 no longer applies.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Executive Session ended at 7:55 p.m.

Motion was made by Stephanie Hartman, seconded by Claudia O’Neill to resume open session at 8:00 p.m.

RESUME OPEN SESSION

Thomas Bonfiglio led everyone in a salute to the flag.

FLAG SALUTE

Board Members Present

ROLL CALL

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef.

Others Present

Patrick J. Fletcher, Superintendent of Schools
Thomas L. Bonfiglio, Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Marc Wachter, Technology Specialist/Assistant Business Administrator
Jody Murphy, Administrative Assistant to the Business Administrator
Student Liaisons: Jesse Henderson, Noelle Sarafian and Joshua Wiesenfeld
Approximately 87 others were in attendance virtually.

Thomas Bonfiglio read the following statement:

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STMT.

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the River Dell Regional Board of Education has caused notice of this regular meeting to be publicized by having the date, time, and place thereof sent to THE RECORD (primary), THE TOWN NEWS, and/or THE STAR LEDGER newspapers, the constituent borough clerks and borough libraries, as well as posting in the school district principals' offices, faculty rooms, Board Office, and website. According to New Jersey Public Law 2001, Chapter 226, the smoking or use of any tobacco product is strictly prohibited anywhere in the public school buildings or anywhere on school grounds, including but not limited to the parking lots, grassy areas, and athletic fields. Violators will be subject to a fine not to exceed \$100.

Albert Graef read the mission statement of the River Dell Regional School District

MISSION STATEMENT

4. Public Comments (on agenda items only) – None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

5. PRESENTATION – See Mr. Fletcher’s Report.

PRESENTATION

6. Student Member Report

STUDENT MEMBER REPORT

Noelle Sarafian indicated that Mr. Traina sent out informative information regarding COVID and he is sending out more this week.

Joshua Wiesenfeld indicated that the SGO is trying to welcome new students during COVID. Members of the SGO wrote notes to all new students and gave them contact information for questions about River Dell. A few SGO members received

questions from the new students. The SGO also offered suggestions for places to go in Oradell and River Edge during their free time.

Jesse Henderson mentioned that Ms. VanTol and Ms. Kiel suggested the peer leaders send pictures and reach out to younger students, since they are unable to meet with them.

7. Reports

REPORTS

1. President’s Report – Nothing to report.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

2. Superintendent’s Report

**SUPERINTENDENT’S
REPORT**

Mr. Fletcher gave an update on enrollment trends for in-person versus virtual instruction. The high school will be all-virtual instruction from December 14, 2020 due to COVID exposure and they resume the hybrid schedule on January 4, 2021. The middle school is being monitored for COVID exposure.

Mr. Fletcher indicated that administration is working on alternative schedules based on parental, student and faculty concerns. He is hopeful to make a recommendation for implementation to begin third marking period, January 25, 2021.

Mr. Fletcher mentioned the upcoming snow event and wished everyone safe and happy holidays.

Committee Reports

COMMITTEE REPORTS

3. Budget & Finance – Mr. Feigenson reviewed the extended COVID expenditures, including an update on the substitute cost increase for this school year. River Dell received grants of approximately \$150,000 to offset these increases.

**BUDGET &
FINANCE**

4. Facilities & Security – Committee did not meet.

**FACILITIES &
SECURITY**

5. Community Relations & Technology – Mr. Samuel indicated that the Committee met this evening and they will share updates at the next Board of Education meeting.

**COMMUNITY
RELATIONS &
TECHNOLOGY**

- 6. Curriculum – Mrs. Hartman mentioned that the Committee met several weeks ago with Mr. Fletcher and Dr. Torres. The State has a new format for curriculum that will have to be integrated into the schedule on top of the regular schedule. The Committee also discussed other possible curricular enhancements. CURRICULUM

- 7. Policy & Governance – Mrs. O’Neill mentioned that updated policies for the 6000 and 9000 series are on this evening’s agenda for approval. POLICY & GOVERNANCE

Mr. Manzelli informed the public that the Board votes on the first reading of policies. Public may comment on the second reading which is usually at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. POLICY PROTOCOL

- 8. Motion was made by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mr. Feigenson that all items designated with asterisks(*) be part of a consent agenda and approved. CONSENT AGENDA

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef all voted aye. Stephanie Hartman voted aye on all, except 9.A (Minutes of 11/16/20) which she abstained.

9. Board Meeting Minutes APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. *approve the following Board meeting minutes:

November 2, 2020	Executive Session
November 11, 2020	Executive Session
November 16, 2020	Executive and Regular Session

10. Personnel

A. Special Requests SPECIAL REQUESTS

- *1. approve professional day requests for the following staff members to attend workshops/conferences as noted and in accordance with appropriate statute: PROFESSIONAL DAY REQUESTS

Name	Workshop/Conference	Dates	Cost (Not to exceed)
Edward Houston	First Tech Challenge, Remote	1/4-1/27/21 2x/week/after school	\$500.00

Tammy Lenihan	American Hotel & Lodging Institute Hospitality Instructor Certification Program, Online	12/28/20	\$750.00
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B. Resignations/Retirements

C. Reappointments/Reassignments/Transfers

D. Salary Adjustments/Corrections

E. Appointments

APPOINTMENTS

*1. approve the appointment of the following substitute teacher for the 2020-2021 school year:

APPOINTMENT OF
SUBSTITUTES
2020-2021

- Aidan McGinty (60+ credits – Emerson College)
- Corey Martinez (BA – William Paterson University)
- Gregory Rassam (BA – Rowan University)

11. Curriculum/Student Affairs and Activities

12. Miscellaneous

A. Motion by Mrs. O’Neill, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to approve the 1st reading of the following policies:

POLICIES
6000 & 9000
SERIES

6000 Series:

- 6171.2* Gifted and Talented
- 6173.1* Remote Learning

9000 Series:

- 9322* Public and Executive Sessions

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef all voted aye.

***B.** approve the HIB (Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying) Grades Report for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

HIB GRADES
REPORT
2019-2020

13. Finance/District Operation

***A.** Recording of Fire/Security Drills

FIRE/SECURITY
DRILLS

- Middle School Building closed due to coronavirus pandemic
- High School November 10 & 12, 2020

***B.** Recording of Enrollment – Attached – November 2020

ENROLLMENT

- *C.** Recording of Suspensions Report/Violence & Vandalism Reports–Attached–November 2020

VIOLENCE/VANDALISM
REPORTS
- *D.** Recording of HIB Reports – November 2020 –N/A

HIB REPORTS
- *E.** pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c)4 certify and accept, that as of **November 2020** after review of the appropriate sections of the monthly financial reports of the School Business Administrator/ Board Secretary, and upon consultation with the School Business Administrator and other appropriate District officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b) and that sufficient funds are available to meet the District’s financial obligations anticipated for the remainder of the fiscal year and is in agreement with the Treasurer’s Report.

NO OVER
EXPENDITURES
BOARD SECY.
REPORT
NOV. 2020
- *F.** accept the Scholarship Analysis Report for the month ending **November 2020**.

SCHOLARSHIP
ANALYSIS REPORT
NOV. 2020
- *G.** bill payments in the amount of **\$969,035.36** including **\$2,011.84** from Cafeteria Account Funds, and **\$402,520.89** for previously issued warrants, and **\$564,502.63** for River Dell warrants to be issued, of which **\$-0-** is to be issued for capital projects, for the period ending **December 14, 2020**. (Members who had voucher reimbursements due them for Board connected expenditures listed on the bill list will indicate that their vote of approval will not include approval of any bill payment to them individually for those expenditures, or for any payee listed for whom they have performed services).

BILL PAYMENTS
ENDING
DEC. 14, 2020
- H.** Motion by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mr. Feigenson to accept line item transfers and the adjustments as listed in the Financial Report for the month ending **November 2020**.

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef all voted aye.

TRANSFERS/
ADJUSTMENTS
NOV. 2020
- *I.** accept the following donations into the Scholarship Accounts for the month of **November 2020**:

Secretarial Scholarship	<u>\$450.00</u>
Total	\$450.00

SCHOLARSHIP
ACCOUNTS
NOV. 2020
- *J.** accept the Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month of **November 2020** and is in agreement with the Board Secretary’s Report.

TREASURER OF
SCHOOL MONIES
NOV. 2020

- *K.** approve an agreement with the Clifton Boys & Girls Club for the 2020-2021 Swim Team winter athletic season from February 1, 2021 thru March 27, 2021 at a cost of \$8,500. AGREEMENT WITH
CLIFTON BOYS &
GIRLS CLUB
- *L.** approve a transportation jointure with New Milford (Route #D13A, D13MD, D13P) for transporting River Dell students to the Paramus Vocational Technical School in Paramus for the 2020-2021 school year, at a cost of \$6,303.84. TRANSPORTATION
JOINTURE WITH
NEW MILFORD
2020-2021
- *M.** approve an additional 220 work hours for Bergen Catholic Nurse Kathleen LaBarbiera totaling \$6,600 and 130 hours for Maria Celeste Tumino totaling \$3,900. The rates are \$30 per hour for the 2020-2021 school year. BERGEN CATHOLIC
NURSES ADDITIONAL
WORK HOURS
2020-2021

Motion by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to bring forward the Executive Agenda. EXECUTIVE AGENDA
CARRIED FORWARD

Claudia O’Neill, Alan Feigenson, John Samuel, Tracey-Ellen Ehalt, Douglas Kupfer, Barbara Kuchar, Stephanie Hartman, Joseph Manzelli and Albert Graef all voted aye.

- 2. Items for Board Discussion** BOARD DISCUSSION

 - A. Superintendent Evaluation SUPT. EVALUATION
- 3. Items for Board Discussion and Decision**

 - A. Special Request SPECIAL REQUESTS

 - 1. grants Employee #5066, whose name is on file in the Superintendent’s Office, a maternity leave of absence for the period beginning March 15, 2021 to August 31, 2021. MATERNITY
LEAVE OF ABSENCE
EMPLOYEE #5066
 - 2. grants Employee #9596, whose name is on file in the Superintendent’s Office, a maternity leave of absence for the period beginning May 10, 2021 to September 10, 2021. MATERNITY
LEAVE OF ABSENCE
EMPLOYEE #9596
 - B. Resignations/Retirements RESIGNATIONS/
RETIREMENTS

 - 1. accept, with regret, the resignation due to retirement of School Nurse Kathryn Kreger, effective June 30, 2021. RETIREMENT OF
K. KREGER
 - 2. accept, with regret, the resignation due to retirement of Teacher of Music Michael O’Reilly, effective June 30, 2021. RETIREMENT OF
M. O’REILLY

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| 3. | accept, with regret, the resignation due to retirement of Business Administrator Thomas Bonfiglio, effective June 30, 2021. | RETIREMENT OF
T. BONFIGLIO |
| 4. | accept, with regret, the resignation due to retirement of Secretary to the Business Administrator Jody Murphy, effective February 28, 2021. | RETIREMENT OF
J. MURPHY |
| 5. | rescind the appointment of Adam Facendola as assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2020-2021 season. | RESCIND APPOINTMENT
A. FACENDOLA
ASST. BOYS BASKETBALL
COACH – 2020-2021 |
| 6. | rescind the appointment of D.J. Nimphius as Strength and Conditioning Coach for the Winter 2020-2021 season. | RESCIND APPOINTMENT
D.J. NIMPHIUS
STRENGTH &
CONDITIONING COACH
2020-2021 |
| C. | Reappointments/Reassignments/Transfers | REAPPOINTMENT/
REASSIGNMENTS/
TRANSFERS |
| 1. | approve the reassignment of Michael Garibell from Middle School Boys Basketball Coach to the position of assistant Boys Basketball Coach for the 2020-2021 season, at a salary of \$7,000 (Group V) as per the RDEA Agreement. | REASSIGNMENT
M. GARIBELL
ASST. BOYS
BASKETBALL
COACH – 2020–2021 |
| 2. | approve the reassignment of Steven Iafrate from head Indoor Track Coach to the position of assistant Indoor Track Coach for the 2020-2021 season, at a salary of \$7,000 (Group V) as per the RDEA Agreement. | REASSIGNMENT
S. IAFRATE
ASST. INDOOR
TRACK COACH
2020–2021 |
| 3. | approve the reassignment of Joseph Acuna from Assistant Indoor Track Coach to the position of head Indoor Track Coach for the 2020-2021 season, at a salary of \$9,000 (Group II) as per the RDEA Agreement. | REASSIGNMENT
J. ACUNA
HEAD INDOOR
TRACK COACH
2020–2021 |
| D. | Salary Adjustments/Correction | SALARY ADJ./
CORRECTION |
| 1. | approve the salary adjustment for Special Education Teacher Todd Bejot from \$88,878 plus \$2,423 longevity (MA Step 14) to \$91,671 plus \$2,423 longevity effective February 1, 2021 for the 2020-2021 school year, as per the RDEA Agreement. | SALARY ADJ.
T. BEJOT |

E. Appointments

APPOINTMENTS

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| 1. | approve the appointment of Matthew Winchell to the position of Middle School Boys Basketball Coach for the 2020-2021 season, at a salary of \$6,000 (Group VII) as per the RDEA Agreement. | APPOINTMENT
M. WINCHELL
M.S. BOYS
BASKETBALL
COACH – 2020-2021 |
| 2. | approve the appointment of Joseph Doughty to the position of assistant Ice Hockey Coach for the 2020-2021 season, at a salary of \$7,000 (Group V) as per the RDEA Agreement. | APPOINTMENT
J. DOUGHTY
ASST. ICE HOCKEY
COACH – 2020-2021 |
| 3. | approve the appointment of Sammy Halabi to the position of Strength and Conditioning Coach for the Winter 2020-2021 season, at a salary of \$8,000 (Group III) as per RDEA Agreement. | APPOINTMENT
S. HALABI
STRENGTH &
CONDITIONING COACH
WINTER – 2020-2021 |
| 4. | approve the appointment of the following extra-curricular advisors for the 2020-2021 school year at prorated stipends as per the RDEA Agreement: | APPOINTMENT
EXTRA-CURRICULAR
ADVISORS
2020-2021 |

Name	Position	Stipend
Stefan Del Piano	Federal Reserve Club Advisor	\$1,212
Lauren Del Piano	Global Connections Advisor	\$1,212
Lucia Lauterhahn	Hawks Political Club	\$1,212

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|----|--|--|
| 5. | approve the appointment of Heather Perin as a Teacher of Spanish (Tenure Track), effective January 15, 2021, or sooner if released, to June 30, 2021 at a salary of \$69,660 (MA Step 7). This appointment is contingent upon receipt of proper certification, academic records and satisfactory background/reference checks, as required by P.L. 1986. This is an emergent appointment under the provision of Senate Bill #851 amending the criminal history background check laws N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A-39-17 et seq., or N.J.S.A. 18A:6-4, 13 et seq. | APPOINTMENT
H. PERIN
TEACHER OF
SPANISH |
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Mr. Fletcher and the Board congratulated and wished well all retirees on the occasion of their retirement and their service to the district.

14. Old Business

- A. Board Requirements – Dec. 31, 2020 is due date.

BOARD
REQUIREMENTS

B. Mrs. Hartman mentioned a note sent out by Mr. Feigenson in September. She wanted to reiterate the Board's commitment to being open as often as possible. She indicated that the Board appreciates everyone's commitment to this.

BOARD'S
COMMITMENT

15. New Business

NEW BUSINESS

16. Board Discussion

BOARD DISCUSSION

17. Public Comments

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A parent inquired about a parent survey and Mr. Fletcher responded.

Motion by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to go into Executive Session for Personnel Matters at 8:35 p.m. No action will be taken.

RETURN TO
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mrs. Hartman to resume open session at 9:28 p.m.

RESUME OPEN
SESSION

18. Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Mr. Manzelli, seconded by Mrs. O'Neill, to adjourn at 9:29 p.m.

Motion carried by all ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Bonfiglio
Business Administrator/Board Secretary

TLB:jm