

Riverside Minutes  
Regular Meeting

December 7, 2020  
Riverside Jr-Sr High School

A Regular Meeting of the Riverside School Board was held on the above date in the Riverside High School Library with President Armstrong presiding and the following members present: George Bieber, Caryn Emiliani, Barbara Fedor, Linda Joyce, Mary Antoniaci McHugh, Tara Meredith, and Dan Nenish. Absent: Kevin Harchar (excused absence)

Also present were Superintendent Paul M. Brennan and Mr. William Drazdowski

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS: None

Motion by Mrs. Meredith, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve minutes of 9 November 2020 Regular Meeting and to dispense with the reading and accept as delivered. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Mrs. Meredith to approve payrolls of 13 November 2020 of \$401,224.31 and 27 November 2020 of \$387,614.47. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve estimated payrolls of 11 December 2020 of \$388,000 and 24 December 2020 of \$390,000. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredith to approve Treasurer's Report for October 2020 and the unreconciled balances of November 30, 2020. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve and pay bills when found correct and funds are available. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to authorize the Superintendent, after confirmation of a winter sports season, to hire coaches. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the ACT 1 Resolution for the Riverside School District for the 2021-2022 school year in accordance with the “Taxpayer Relief Act” (known as Act 1) passed on June 27, 2006, by the Pennsylvania legislature ACT 1 of Special Session 2006. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the Extended Leave Request of Ryan Lindsay, Secondary Teacher, as outlined in his letter on file in the Superintendent’s Office. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh to approve the following Use of Facilities Request(s): **SCHOOL-SPONSORED EVENT(S):** Drama Club – Spring Play – Riverside Jr-Sr High School Auditorium – April 30, May 1 & May 2, 2021\*; Moosic Police Department – Training- Riverside Elementary East Gymnasium – December 15 & 16, 2020 from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.\* Use is contingent upon adherence to the District Policy on Use of Facilities. \*The School Board recognizes that this is a school-sponsored event. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, with regret, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to accept the Letter of Intent to Retire from John V. Morgan, Maintenance Worker, effective November 30, 2020. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh to accept the Letter of Intent to Resign from Bronson Stone, High School Principal, effective December 31, 2020. Roll call vote: All in favor, with regret.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Nenish to advertise the Request for Proposal provided by the Engineering Firm of Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. pending approval of Superintendent and Business Manager. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Joyce to alter our Health & Safety Plan to include our Attestation Ensuring Implementation of Mitigation Efforts. In specific, this includes the new face covering order and the matrix to decide about school closure by building. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the response and corrective action plans in response to the findings of our State Performance Audit. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the Extended Leave Request of Michael Gawel, Maintenance Worker, through December 30, 2020. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Mr. Nenish to updated School Board Policy Numbers 200, 218.1, 218.2 and 249. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the Extended Leave Request of Nicol Lindsay, Elementary Teacher, as outlined in her letter on file in the Superintendent's Office. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, seconded by Mr. Bieber to authorize the Superintendent to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the RESPA for retiree incentives for 2020-2021. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Superintendent's Report – Mr. Brennan stated the two major parts of the Attestation Ensuring Implementation of Mitigation Efforts are universal face coverings and adhering to the recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools following identification of a case(s) of COVID-19. He expressed deep regret on Vaughan Morgan's retirement. He wished him well. He also expressed regret on Bronson Stone's resignation. He thanked him for all his work at Riverside.

Business Manager's Report – Mr. Drazdowski reported that the Act 1 index was 3.9% vs. 3.4% in 2019 and 2.9% in 2018. Index is higher than projected. We cut our budget by \$500,000, and extended the discount period to December 1, 2020. We are where we should be at this time.

Tax payments were \$3,000,000 for the last weeks of November. He thanked our tax collectors for all their hard work. We learned last week that public schools must provide transportation to non-public schools. Business Office is working on this.

Solicitor's Report - None

Academic Affairs Committee - None

Facilities Committee – Mrs. Fedor reported that Chris Oustrich is happy with the newly hired employees.

Finance Committee - None

Alternative Funding Options & Resources Committee - None

Athletic Committee – Mr. Nenish stated he hopes we can have a safe and successful winter sports season.

NEIU 19 – Ms. Emiliani reported that the NEIU agenda items were mostly regarding EI funding.

OLD BUSINESS - None

OPEN – None

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Bieber to adjourn. Roll call vote: All in favor.