

Riverside Minutes  
Regular Meeting

September 14, 2020  
Riverside Jr-Sr High School

President Armstrong announced that an Executive Session was held prior to the meeting.

Personnel and legal issues were discussed. Mrs. Armstrong wished Mr. Nenish a happy birthday.

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, Kevin Harchar, Linda Joyce, Mary Antoniaci McHugh, Tara Meredick and Dan Nenish.

Also present were Mr. Brennan, William Drazdowski, and Raymond C. Rinaldi II.

AUDIENCE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ON ANY AGENDA ITEMS: None

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve minutes of August 10, 2020 Regular Meeting and to dispense with the reading and accept as delivered. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh to approve payrolls of 7 August 2020 of \$370,169.45 and 21 August 2020 of \$369,406.95. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve estimated payrolls of 4 September 2020 of \$371,000 and 18 September 2020 of \$372,000. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mrs. Meredith to approve Treasurer's Reports for July 2020 and the unreconciled balances as of August 31, 2020. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mrs. Meredith to approve and pay bills when found correct and funds are available. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Emiliani, seconded by Mr. Bieber to appoint Kristy Howey as Teacher Mentor effective the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend to be established per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mr. Nenish to accept the Letter of Intent to Resign as Science Club Advisor from Nadine Solomon effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Mr. Bieber to accept the Letter of Intent to Resign as Yearbook Advisor from Christine Janesko effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mrs. Meredith to accept the Letter of Intent to Resign as Yearbook Advisor from Stephanie McGee effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mr. Harchar to accept the Letter of Intent to Resign as Senior Class Advisor from Frances O'Shea effective the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mr. Bieber to post for Yearbook Advisor(s), Senior Class Advisor, Science Club Advisor, and Art Club Advisor effective the 2020-2021 school year at stipends to be established as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the Public and Non-Public Bus Stops for the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the attached list of STA bus drivers for the 2020-2021 school year. Proper clearances, insurance, and paperwork will be processed through STA. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mr. Bieber to approve the attached list of contracted drivers to provide transportation for the 2020-2021 school year at rates outlined in the District's transportation salary schedule. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Mr. Harchar to approve an Agreement for Title I services with Pittston Area School District. Total cost is \$794 for the year unless other non-public Title I funds become available. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the Leave Request from Mabel Bartosch, Cleaning Person, as outlined in her letter on file in the Superintendent's Office. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mrs. Joyce to approve the Leave Request from Shirley Caboot, Elementary Teacher, as outlined in her letter on file in the Superintendent's Office. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the 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 Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the 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 Mr. Harchar, seconded by Ms. Emiliani to approve the Leave Request of Erin Dempsey, Aide, as outlined in her letter on file in the Superintendent's Office. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Nenish, seconded by Mr. Bieber to appoint Jose Sosa as Junior High Soccer Coach effective the 2020-2021 school year at a stipend to be established as per the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Harchar to appoint Christina Viscariello as Long-Term Elementary Substitute Teacher effective September 8, 2020 through the last day of the second quarter at Step 1, Bachelor's Column at a pro-rated salary of \$43,670. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the attached Comprehensive Preventative Maintenance Solution Program and HVAC Ventilation Modifications. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Meredick, seconded by Mr. Harchar to approve the Act 80 request (Section 1504) for the 2020-2021 school year. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, with regret, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to accept the Letter of Intent to Resign from Dominic Preston, Lunch Monitor, effective September 1, 2020. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to post for Lunch Monitor. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Harchar, seconded by Mrs. Fedor to approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement Between the Riverside School District and The Riverside Educational Support Personnel Association regarding additional work hours for the Aides and Lunch Monitors. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Ms. Antoniaci McHugh, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement Between the Riverside School District and The Riverside Educational Support Personnel Association regarding the increase of the starting rate for maintenance and cleaning personnel to attract and maintain qualified individuals for employment. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the attached Memorandum of Agreement Between the Riverside School District, The Riverside Educational Support Personnel Association and Ann Marie Rakauskas regarding Mrs. Rakauskas employment by the Riverside School District. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mr. Nenish to authorize Attorney Raymond C. Rinaldi, II and Attorney Raymond Wendolowski to withdraw the reverse assessment appeal in the matter of the Riverside School District vs. PC Taylor, LP filed to Lackawanna County Term Number 2015 CV 6972. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, seconded by Ms. Emiliani to appoint William Davis as Maintenance Worker. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Joyce, seconded by Mrs. Meredick to approve the 2020-2021 Student Assistant Program (SAP) Letter of Agreement between the NEIU and the Riverside School District. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mr. Nenish to approve the attached Addendum No. 2 to the Business Manager's Agreement dated July 8, 2019. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mr. Bieber, seconded by Mr. Harchar to approve the attached Addendum No. 1 to Resolution No. 34 of August 2014, Dated August 11, 2014. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, seconded by Ms. Emiliani to approve the Letter of Intent to Resign from Ann Marie Rakauskas, Aide, effective September 14, 2020. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Fedor, seconded by Mr. Bieber to authorize the Superintendent to hire Cleaning, Maintenance, and Driving personnel for the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Motion by Mrs. Joyce, seconded by Mr. Bieber to authorize the submission of our Emergency Instructional Time Template and/or FIDS application. Roll call vote: All in favor.

Superintendent's Office – Mr. Brennan stated that today was the first brick and mortar school day and everything went well. He thanked Mr. Dominic Preston for his service to the District and wished him well. He also wished Ann Marie Rakauskas well and thanked her for her 18 years of service to the District. Mr. Brennan stated that we have 38 student athletes competing in multiple fall sports. This shows how much kids need interaction with their peers.

Business Manager's Report – Mr. Drazdowski thanked everyone for getting our students back to school. He stated that all three schools have free lunch. He thanked Donna Gilroy and her staff for all their hard work. Students are receiving free breakfast and lunch when at school and are getting free bagged breakfast and lunch to take home for days when they are not in the school buildings.

Solicitor's Report - None

Academic Affairs Committee – Mrs. Joyce thanked the administration, teachers, and support staff for their hard work in getting everything ready for this school year.

Facilities Committee – Mrs. Fedor reported the following: new storage containers are at all three schools; banners are up at the High School and the planters are filled; sidewalks have been repaired by Hudack; potholes have been filled by Conte; the gym equipment is in Mr. Reifler's old room for the new program which has started; cafeteria and gym floors have been stripped and waxed; bleachers have been cleaned and sanitized; and new red and blue lunch tables are in the high school cafeteria.

Finance Committee - None

Alternative Funding Options & Resources Committee – Ms. Antoniaci McHugh stated that Mr. Drazdowski was instrumental in obtaining free COVID supplies from Highmark. She stated that there have been no further negotiations with the Teacher's Union.

Athletic Committee – Mr. Nenish thanked the coaches, administration and staff for getting the supplies the student athletes needed to have a fall sports season. The football players were very happy to be able to play on their home football field on Friday night.

NEIU 19 – Ms. Emiliani reported that the next NEIU meeting will be on September 22, 2020.

OLD BUSINESS - None

OPEN – Dr. Laura DeLayo, Moosic, had questions about her 8<sup>th</sup> grade student not being transported to school. Mrs. Armstrong stated that Riverside is not providing transportation for Riverside students in grades 7-12. Therefore, Riverside is under no obligation to provide transportation for students in grades 7-12 who attend private school. Dr. DeLayo asked if she could rent a spot for her 8<sup>th</sup> grade student in the Red Top van which is transporting her 5<sup>th</sup> grade student. Mr. Brennan stated this was not allowed due to liability issues. Dr. DeLayo had questions about financial matters relating to transportation. Mrs. Armstrong advised her to submit a Right-To-Know Request.

Tom Geroulo, Taylor, stated that he has prepared wills for several teachers and he is willing to offer his services to all Riverside employees.

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